



Institute for Hepatitis and Virus Research

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Pennsylvania's Commonwealth Institute

The Institute for Hepatitis and Virus Research (IHVR), also called "The Pennsylvania Commonwealth Institute" is an independent biotechnology research organization, located in Bucks County, PA.

Although IHVR scientists focus on cancer and chronic hepatitis, through affiliations with The Hepatitis B Foundation (HBF), Drexel University (DU), and The University of Oxford (UK), world-class research, outreach and teaching is accomplished that covers a wide range. This report highlights the year.

State of the Art Biotechnology Center Scheduled to Open

With its partner, Delaware Valley College, The HBF/IHVR is converting an abandoned, 64,000 ft² warehouse into a thriving biotechnology facility. The partners are spending more than \$18M to create an environment where non-profit organizations and biotechnology start up companies will spin out new opportunities. The facility is already slated for more than 90%



occupancy and expected to host more than 150 jobs in a revitalized warehouse space, which saw 135 jobs lost. Now, that's economic re-vitalization!!!

Biotechnology Accomplishments

- Active Cell, Immunotope's, Discovery Labs, Buckingham Life Sciences, ImmuneX, others expected to locate in the new Biotechnology Facility!!! More than 30 new jobs expected.
- Nucleonics, Immunotope, Buckingham Life Sciences, Callisto, all spun-off, or significantly result of our work from the past 3 years, with a total value of more than \$75M
- Annual Biotech Meeting attracts more than 140 regional biotech movers and shakers
- Continued partnership with Ben Franklin Technology Partners of SE PA



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**“IHVR Biomarkers are two of the best new discoveries for
detecting cancer early”**

-John Niederhuber, Deputy Director, National Cancer Inst.



Dr. Baruch Blumberg, Nobel Laureate, visited the IHVR, and met with Dr. Timothy Block.

Outreach Accomplishments

- National Awareness Month Declared
- Partnership with NCI planned for October, 2006 for Cancer Detection Workshops
- National Patient Conference hosted in Doylestown, June, 2006
- Reaching out with thousands of email and telephone consults, tutorials and public briefings.
- Reaching in with nearly 1 million visits to the website, which has become the global portal for info on HBV

**IHVR
Spin-Offs are
responsible in part
or in total for more
than \$75,000,000
total value and 100
new jobs!**

**Our Method of
Glycoproteomic
Cancer Discovery
was the Feature
Story in
Proteome
Research!**

The IHVR Helps Young Scientists Develop their Skills!

In August of 2005, another group of interns completed their training in the labs at the IHVR/Drexel Institute.



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2006 IHVR Research Accomplishments

- NCI Deputy Director identifies 2 of our Liver and Colorectal Cancer biomarker discoveries among the 11 leading NCI early detection markers to be followed!!! (March 21, 2006, Philadelphia, Dr. John Niederhuber)
- New Biomarker of cirrhosis discovered, tested in more than 100 human samples
- IHVR scientist initiated compounds now in Phase IIA human trials for treating hepatitis C & B
- Over 90,000 compounds tested for activity against West Nile Virus, 3 chosen for further testing
- New mechanisms of interferon action, cancer initiation and chronic hepatitis proposed in peer reviewed publications and presentations
- Our proteomic methods now being used by others and us for prostate and ovarian cancer
- More than 15 peer reviewed publications
- The County's only graduate biomedical research center: Home to a Drexel Ph.D. and Masters program, home to college graduate and undergraduate trainees, including summer high school student programs