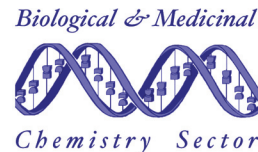


# Malcolm Campbell Memorial Prize 2025 Announcement of Winner



The Royal Society of Chemistry's Biological and Medicinal Chemistry Sector (BMCS) is proud to announce the winners of the Malcolm J. Campbell Memorial Prize for 2025. The prize has been awarded to **Dr. Nicolas Guisot of Redx Pharma**, on behalf of the team behind the discovery and early development of pirtobrutinib (Jaypirca), the first FDA and EMA approved reversible inhibitor of Bruton's tyrosine kinase (BTK) for the treatment of mantle cell lymphoma.

BTK was validated as a cancer target by first generation irreversible inhibitors such as ibrutinib that covalently modify the Cys481 residue. However, mutations of this residue were observed in patients treated with covalent inhibitors, leading to tumour resistance. Redx Pharma initiated a program to identify selective reversible BTK inhibitors that are equally potent against wild-type and C481S mutants. The drug candidate RXCo05 was nominated in 2016 before eventually being acquired by Eli Lilly and received clinical approval as pirtobrutinib in 2023. This success story showcases the capability of the UK biotech industry to deliver innovative small molecule medicines that address unmet healthcare needs.

BMCS congratulates the team on their success in producing second-generation BTK inhibitors that overcome limitations of the earlier compounds and provide promising clinical benefit for lymphoma cancer patients.

The Malcolm Campbell Memorial Prize is awarded biennially by the Biological and Medicinal Chemistry Sector of the Royal Society of Chemistry to commemorate Professor Campbell's outstanding contributions in a broad range of chemistry and their applications to biomedical science.

