

Dr. Daniel Drucker



TREATMENT | BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH

Project: Studies of whether new GLP-1 medicines used to treat people living with type 2 diabetes and/or obesity may also reduce the growth rate of cancers in preclinical studies

Thanks to our generous donors and together with our funding partner, the Canadian Cancer Society, we are supporting critical research that will end diabetes.

Through your support, Dr. Daniel Drucker – an internationally renowned endocrinologist based at the Lunenfeld-Tanenbaum Research Institute at Mount Sinai Hospital, Professor of Medicine in the Division of Endocrinology at University of Toronto, and Banting and Best Diabetes Centre-Novo Nordisk Chair in Incretin Biology – is bringing us one step closer to improving the health of people with type 2 diabetes.

People living with type 2 diabetes or obesity are at increased risk of developing more than a dozen different types of cancer. Dr. Drucker and his lab are studying whether there are common biological mechanisms and linked pathways in the body underlying the development of obesity and diabetes that also promote cancer growth.

Using animal studies, Dr. Drucker's project will determine whether a group of GLP-1 medicines currently used to treat type 2 diabetes or obesity may have unanticipated additional benefits to reduce the growth rates of cancers. The team will also look at whether these benefits result from the weight loss associated with these medicines or through a separate cancer specific action. This research will potentially unveil a new type of medicine that can be used to reduce cancer growth to prevent cancers.

This project may lead to additional clinical studies to determine whether GLP-1 medicines are ideally suited to reduce cancer risk in individuals with type 2 diabetes or obesity.