

# SCI Free Public Evening Lecture

## Sir Simon Campbell Science, Art and Drug Discovery, a Personal Perspective



In England in 2014, over 1 billion prescription items were dispensed, a 55% increase in the 10 years since 2004. The average cost of bringing a new drug to the market is \$1.3 billion. Fewer than 1 in 10 medicines that are tested in human clinical trials will be successful.

### Science, Art and Drug Discovery

Drug discovery is big business, the total net ingredient cost of prescriptions dispensed in 2014 was £8.9 billion. It follows that the discovery and development of new drugs to the market is a carefully guarded process, with potential healthcare benefits and profits reaching into billions of dollars each year.

In his lecture, Sir Simon Campbell will illustrate the importance of multidisciplinary teams, challenges that arise and factors that influence key decisions through his experience with Norvasc™ (amlodipine) and Viagra™ (sildenafil). Amlodipine is a calcium-channel blocker used to treat conditions such as high blood pressure and chest pain. There were over 24 million items of this drug dispensed in England in 2014. At the beginning of the research programme that led to its discovery, there were over 90 published patents around the parent structure that posed a significant challenge for drug design. Sildenafil, on the other hand, the drug that became the first oral treatment for male erectile dysfunction, was born out of a research programme for cardiovascular disease.

This lecture will give fascinating insight into a world where key decisions, chance opportunities and creative design can lead to healthcare products that treat millions of people around the world.

### About the Speaker

Sir Simon Campbell is a synthetic organic chemist, receiving his PhD from the University of Birmingham, followed by postdoctoral appointments in Chile and Stanford. From 1969 to 1972, he was Visiting Professor at the Universidade do Sao Paulo in Brazil before joining Pfizer in the UK and retiring in 1998. Sir Simon's scientific contributions have been recognised by the RSC Award for Medicinal Chemistry (1989), the Herschberg Award from the American Chemical Society (1997), the Industrial Research Institute (US) Achievement Award (1997), the CIA Individual Achievement Award (2006), Galen Medal (2007) and the Sir James Black Award for Drug Discovery (2012). He was elected FRS (1999), FMedSci (2002) and was appointed CBE in 2006 followed by a knighthood in 2015, both for 'Services to Chemistry'.

### Next Public Evening Lecture

Sir Colin Berry: What Have They Put in my Food; Should I Worry?  
Tuesday 25 October 2016 at SCI, London, UK

### Sir Simon Campbell Science, Art and Drug Discovery, a Personal Perspective

#### When

Tuesday 27 September 2016

Registration 18:00

Lecture starts 18:30

Drinks Reception after the lecture

#### Where

SCI, 14/15 Belgrave Square,  
London, SW1X 8PS

### About SCI

SCI is an inclusive, inter-disciplinary forum connecting scientists and business people to advance the commercial application of chemistry and related sciences for public benefit.

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