



Edinburgh and Lothian
**Prostate Cancer
Support Group**

Patients Supporting Patients

YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED TO OUR NEXT MEMBERS' MEETING
7.00 pm on Thursday 6th September 2018
Maggie's Centre, Western General Hospital, Edinburgh

Our main speaker will be Simon Mackay, Professor of Medicinal Chemistry in the Strathclyde Institute of Pharmacy and Biomedical Science at the University of Strathclyde. He has 25 years' experience of research and teaching in the application of medicinal chemistry to drug discovery. In terms of research, his primary interest is cancer drug discovery, and he is the Principal Investigator for a £3m. CRUK-funded programme to identify small molecule inhibitors for the treatment of prostate cancer. The title of his presentation will be: **Why is it so difficult to discover new drugs and develop new medicines?** Since the invention of modern computers, we have seen massive advances in many science and technology sectors worldwide. Moore's Law is a computing term from the 1970s which states that overall processing power for computers will double every two years. In other words, according to Ray Kurzweil: "So what used to fit in a building now fits in your pocket, what fits in your pocket today will fit inside a blood cell in 25 years." However, in the science of drug discovery, the opposite appears to apply: Eroom's law, which is the observation that developing new medicines is becoming slower and more expensive over time, despite improvements in technology. Why is it so difficult to find new drugs to treat the many illnesses and diseases in our society? Simon Mackay will offer a personal perspective on these challenges.

In addition we will hear from **Iain Sime**, our member who runs the ELPCSG walking group, now that we have reached the milestone of 30 walks!

As ever, this will be a busy meeting so please arrive in good time - refreshments available from **6.45 pm**. There will be time for discussion, to catch up with friends and colleagues, and to hear about recent developments in prostate cancer. On arrival, please register your attendance in the entrance area.

After our September meeting, future members' meeting dates for 2018/19 are:

• Thursday 8th November 2018	• Thursday 14th February 2019
• Thursday 11th April 2019	• Thursday 13th June 2019

More information on our website: www.elprostatecancersupport.co.uk

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