Stephen Henry

Trained as a medical laboratory scientist specialising in transfusion medicine with research interests in the ABO, Secretor and Lewis carbohydrate blood group systems. During his career he also undertook part-time university studies in science and business, including PhD's in New Zealand (Auckland) and Sweden (Göteborg).

Steve's early research into the ABH, Lewis and blood group secretor systems resolved the serological and biochemical basis of unusual phenotypes and postulated mechanisms of glycoconjugate chain elongation. His postdoctoral research resolved the genetic basis of various ABH, Lewis and secretor phenotypes and his collaborative work on ABO subgroups with Lola Svensson, resolved the chemical basis of several subgroups including the discovery of FORS, the 7th carbohydrate blood group system in man.

Steve subscribes to the belief that commercialisation is an integral partner to research (and as important as academic publication), because commercialised research outcomes are most likely to have utility and receive wide use. In 1996 he formed (and is the CEO/CSO) the biotechnology company KODE Biotech which develops biosurface modification technology (KODE™ technology) he conceived from his background in glycolipids (www.kodecyte.com). KODE™ technology is protected by an extensive intellectual property rights portfolio, is being used by a collaborative global research network, and generating revenue from multiple diagnostics and therapeutic licensed products (with others in the pipeline).

In 2011 Steve was the recipient of the Royal Society of New Zealand, R.J. Scott Medal for "work of great merit by a researcher in engineering science and technology".

Steve holds a professorial chair in Biotech Innovation at AUT University and leads a small academic team in the biosurfaces research and biotech innovation. Steve has published or presented more than 180 scientific articles and is an inventor on a 25 patent family portfolio with >120 patent applications of which >50% have been granted.