

Mechanisms of the Development of Allergy (MeDALL)

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Research Areas



Basic Research

At a Glance

- Status: **Completed Consortium**
- Year Launched: **2010**
- Initiating Organization: **European Commission Seventh Framework Programme (FP7)**
- Initiator Type: **Government**
- Location: **Europe**

Abstract

The Mechanisms of the Development of ALLergy (MeDALL) consortium aims to generate novel knowledge on the mechanisms of initiation of allergy from early childhood to young adulthood, in order to propose early diagnosis, prevention, and targets for therapy. MeDALL encompasses 23 public and private institutions, including three European small to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), who will combine their efforts to contribute to the elucidation of the mechanisms of allergy-associated diseases. MeDALL is gathering leading experts in clinical allergy (i.e., allergology, asthma, atopic dermatitis, food allergy, pediatrics), epidemiology, genetics, immunology, molecular biology, allergen biochemistry, and bioinformatics.

Mission

MeDALL aims to generate novel knowledge on the mechanisms of initiation of allergy from early childhood to young adulthood, in order to propose early diagnosis, prevention, and targets for therapy. A novel definition of phenotypes of allergic diseases and an integrative translational approach are needed to understand how a network of molecular and environmental factors can lead to complex

allergic phenotypes.

To achieve its objectives, MeDALL is organized into 12 integrated Work Packages (WPs), specifically designed to foster transnational collaboration between experts from different aspects of the development of allergy-associated diseases, as well as integration via the inclusion of leading scientists and SMEs in the field.

Consortium History

January 2012: Annual meeting

January 2013 Annual meeting

January 2014: Annual meeting

May 2015: Final annual meeting

Financing

MeDALL is a collaborative project supported by the European Union under the Health Cooperation Work Programme of the Seventh Framework Programme (grant agreement no. 261357).

Impact/Accomplishment

In 2015, two new MeDALL papers were published. In one study MeDALL researchers assessed more than 17,000 children at four years and 14,500 at eight years from 12 ongoing European population-based birth cohort studies conducted in Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, and Sweden. The study recorded information on allergic diseases from parents and doctors and collected IgE antibodies to six allergens in blood samples (sensitization). The study showed at the population level, asthma, rhinitis, and eczema can be classified together as an allergic comorbidity cluster (Garcia-Aymerich J et al. *Allergy*, 2015 Apr 30. doi: 10.1111/all.12640. [Epub ahead of print]).

In another study, a review of MeDALL results and the literature puts forward the hypothesis that allergic multimorbidities and IgE polysensitization are associated and related to the persistence or re-occurrence of foetal Type 2 signaling (Bousquet J et al. *Allergy*. 2015 Apr 24. doi: 10.1111/all.12637.

[Epub ahead of print]).

Links/Social Media Feed

Homepage <http://medall-fp7.eu/index.php>

Points of Contact

Project Coordinator

Jean Bousquet

CESP U1018 INSERM

16 Av Paul Vaillant Couturier

94807 Villejuif Cedex - France

email: jean.bousquet@inserm.fr

Scientific Coordinator

Josep M. Antó

Centre de Recerca en Epidemiologia

Ambiental (CREAL)

Parc de Recerca Biomèdica

de Barcelona (despatx 192)

Doctor Aiguader 88

08003 Barcelona - Spain

email: gpunyet@creal.cat

Project Manager

Delphine Smagghe

Inserm Transfert

Paris Biopark

7 Rue Watt 75013 Paris - France

email: delphine.smagghe@inserm-transfert.fr

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