PharmaCog

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Research Areas

Biomarker Research
Diagnostic

At a Glance

- Status: **Active Consortium**
- Year Launched: **2010**
- Initiating Organization: **Innovative Medicines Initiative**
- Initiator Type: **Government**
- Location: **Europe**

Abstract

Currently approved drugs for patients with Alzheimer's disease only treat symptoms, and their effects are limited or absent in many patients. No drugs have yet been approved that can actually slow disease progression. Trials with candidate drugs take years and cost tens of millions of euros, because the beneficial effect in patients may only become clearly apparent after long treatment because of the insensitivity of the tools available to measure the effect of a drug on disease progression. The prediction of cognitive properties of new drug candidates for neurodegenerative diseases in early clinical development (PharmaCog) project aims to develop and validate new tools to test candidate drugs for the treatment of symptoms and disease in a faster and more sensitive way. Project duration is 60 months.

Mission

PharmaCog aims to tackle bottlenecks in Alzheimer's disease research and drug discovery. PharmaCog will provide the tools needed to define more precisely the potential of a drug candidate, reduce the development time of new medicines, and thus accelerate the approvals of promising new medicines.

Consortium History

January 2010: Project started
March 2012: PharmaCog presented key findings at the European Parliament
July 2013: PharmaCog completed patient recruitment for clinical trial of biomarker matrix

Structure & Governance

The project coordinator is the intermediary between the Innovative Medicine Initiative Joint Undertaking (IMI-JU) and PharmaCog in all scientific and industry-related concerns. The Managing Entity is the second intermediary between the IMI-JU and PharmaCog and is concerned with contractual and funding-related matters concerning the participating academic institutions and small to medium sized enterprises. Each Work Package has a leader and a co-leader from an academic institution or industry. They are jointly responsible for the milestones and deliverables of their WPs and for engaging and communicating with all the partners in the project.

Academic Coordinator
Régis Bordet
University of Lille (France)

Project Coordinator
Jill Richardson
GSK (United Kingdom)

Financing

This project is funded by the Innovative Medicines Initiative, a public-private partnership between the European Union (EU) and the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA), resources of which are composed of financial contribution from the EU Seventh Framework Programme and EFPIA companies' in kind contribution. Large pharmaceutical companies participating in IMI projects do not receive IMI funding. IMI contributed €9.7 million, EFPIA contributed €10.1 million in kind, and other sources contributed €7.9 million, for a total cost of €27.7 million.

Intellectual Property

The IMI intellectual property (IP) policy governs the IP regime of all projects funded by the IMI Joint Undertaking. To assist with specific IP queries, IMI has set up a dedicated IP Helpdesk, which can be contacted by emailing IMI-IP-Helpdesk@imi.europa.eu. The IMI IP policy can be accessed at http://www.imi.europa.eu/sites/default/files/uploads/documents/imi-ipr-policy01august2007_en.pdf

Patent Engagement

Patient representation from Alzheimer Europe is included as a partner in the PharmaCog project.

Data Sharing

According to IMI's IP policy, the participants undertake to disseminate the data as soon as reasonably practicable but not later than one year after the termination or expiry of the project. The project agreement shall include a description of the material, which must be disseminated in accordance with the IP policy and referenced in the grant agreement. If the participants do not disseminate within such time periods without good reason, then the Executive Office has the right to disseminate such results in a manner consistent with the grant agreement.

Impact/Accomplishment

PharmaCog aims to impact and benefit patients by:

Links/Social Media Feed

Other website	http://www.alzheimer-europe.org/Research/PharmaCog
Other website	http://www.imi.europa.eu/content/pharma-cog

Sponsors & Partners

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GlaxoSmithKline Research and Development Ltd.
Greek Association of Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders
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Merck Serono
Novartis Pharma AG
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Updated: **04/08/2016**