Abstract

The PROMEMORIA project focuses on the role of cell recognition processes in normal and dysfunctional plasticity, learning, and memory with the aim of developing compounds with a beneficial effect on diseases involving cognitive impairment. The consortium expects to discover new genes and proteins, identify novel pathogenic mechanisms and define new therapeutic strategies. The consortium consists of 18 leading teams from 11 countries, two of which are new EU-member states. It is composed of 14 academic partners and 4 SMEs. The partners cover a wide range of expertise and technical competencies required to address in an ambitious manner the full scope of the call. Thus, the consortium contains teams specialized in genetics, protein chemistry, neurophysiology, neuroanatomy, neurobiology, animal models of learning and behavior, in vivo test systems for a very broad range of behavior and learning phenomena.

Mission
The aim of the PROMEMORIA project was to investigate the role of neuronal Cell adhesion molecules (CAMs) in neuronal plasticity, learning and memory. This included the establishment of in vitro and in vivo models for the evaluation of the role of neuronal CAMs in impaired neuronal plasticity and CNS disorders. Moreover, it was the aim to develop new strategies for modulation of synaptic plasticity in order to create novel therapeutics improving learning and memory and neuroregeneration.

Structure & Governance

The project was coordinated in Denmark and overseen by the European Commission’s 6th Framework Programme.

Financing

Funded under the European Commission’s 6th Framework Programme.

Impact/Accomplishment

The main exploitable results of the PROMEMORIA project has been the filing of 31 patents of which 18 have been published. These patents concern compounds with a beneficial effect on learning and memory impairment, specifically in animal models of Alzheimer’s disease. Most patented compounds are at the moment in the discovery phase, but a number have passed the discovery phase and are currently being submitted to determination of pharmacokinetics and toxicology. Three compounds have already been tested in a phase I clinical safety trial. Based on the knowledge achieved through the preparation of these compounds, two new pharma/biotech enterprises have been founded developing compounds for the treatment of inflammation, neurodegeneration, and cancer.
Points of Contact

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Sponsors & Partners

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