

No.2
May 2016

AETIONOMY - CONSORTIUM MONTHLY UPDATE



General Information

Recruitment Update				
Site	PD	AD	Controls	Screening
ICM	30	0	6	0
KI	15	0	3	0
UKB	3	0	0	0
Neurorad	0	4	8	16
Oxford	0	0	0	Not started
EPAD	0	0	0	Not started
TOTAL	48	4	17	16

Upcoming Meetings

- WP 3 & 5 – at ICM in Paris – 23 May 2016, 10h00 -17h00
- SC Meeting - at ICM, Paris, 24 May 2016, 9h00-12h00
- WP 3 & 5 – Barcelona– 10 October 2016, 10h00 -17h00
- Taxonomy Workshop, Barcelona, 11 October 2016
- 3rd General Assembly – at Sanofi, Paris on 1 & 2 Dec 2016
- AD/PD – Vienna, - 29 March – 2 April 2017

Deliverables due to IMI in June 2016 (or late)

- D5.1.3.4 : Minutes from the choice of biomarker for final protocol meeting (M27)
- D2.2.1.1 Enhanced Image Ontology (M30)
- D3.3.2 Webinar and report to review the pathophysiology graphs and potential hypotheses to be tested (M30)

WP1 – Governance & Coordination

- The 2nd Periodic Report feedback has been received and we are requesting all partners to provide responses ASAP. The longer we wait, the delay in receiving funds.
- Version 3.0 of the Description of Work has been submitted to IMI and we are awaiting final approval of v3.3_17 Feb 2016 from the lawyers.
- Interim Review Responses – our responses have been approved as per the AR2 report..
- Proposal for new members voted at the last SC and will now be proposed to the GA. Stay tuned.

Publications Update

- DNA methylation in Parkinson's disease (Wüllner U, Kaut O, deBoni L, Piston D, Schmitt I.) Accepted for publication in Journal of Neurochemistry.

Reminder to use the mandatory IMI funding statement and send all papers to the PO prior to submission as per the Project Agreement

WP2 – Knowledge & Data Management

- The WP2 members continue working on integrating the various analysis tools and implementing exchange of data between these systems and workflows.
- The WP2 hackathon organised for this specific purpose, in Sweden by KI (Gordon and David), was a valuable meeting where the developers of the AKB could meet with some of the analytical providers. Likewise, the outcome of analysis such as Heat Diffusion, SNP selection and Imaging Processing, were exposed and discussed the best manner to handle and present it on the AKB.
- Furthermore, ApiNATOMY developers could interact intensively with the group, guaranteeing that adopted ontologies such as BRCT could be loaded and represented as tiles within ApiNATOMY. Further actions will be reported in the minutes.

WP3 – Knowledge Integration & Mining

- The WP3-WP2 Hackathon meeting at Karolinska produced the following outcomes:
 - 1: Improved communication between partners in understanding respective data and technical resources;
 - 2: Development of interfaces between ApiNATOMY, transMART and the SCAI knowledgebase;
 - 3: Optimisation of analysis methodologies based on a better understanding of requirements;
- Fraunhofer put forward hypotheses generated by BEL-based methods: 10 for AD and 10 for PD;
- The WP3-WP5 Leader's meeting in Paris resulted in:
 - 1: Agreement on the priority of WP3's analytic steps for May;
 - 2: Discussion of advances in generating leads for mechanisms and stratifying markers for clinical, radiological and molecular indices;
 - 3: Planning for the plenary WP3-WP5 meeting on May 23rd.

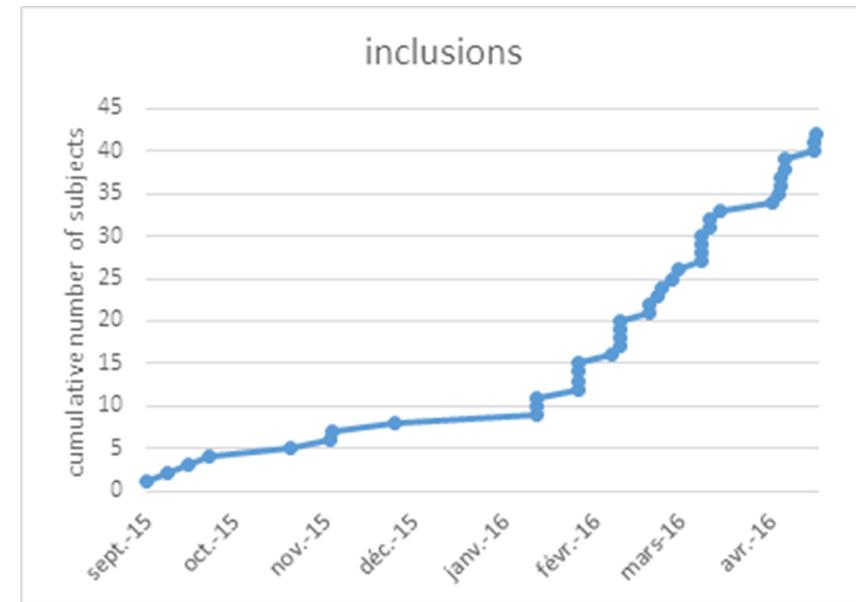
WP4 – Ethical & Legal Governance

- WP4 continues to assess the data flows of clinical information that will be required as the project develops. LUH will prepare the required data sharing agreements to cover these flows, as a supplemental aspect of the existing data protection framework for the project.
- LUH and Alzheimer Europe continue to cooperate closely on the ethical issues surrounding the collection of prospective data and samples in the WP5 observational study. They are also involved in monitoring the proposed sourcing of Alzheimer data from the EPAD project. They are also progressing with a joint dissemination article, which will build upon their work in Task 4.4 (data processing and patient stratification in non-curable diseases), and that they aim to publish in an academic journal in the area of medical law and ethics.

WP5 – Clinical Validation

- EPAD has received approval in Spain and the UK for the protocol so the DSA with AETIONOMY become very important now, especially as first patient is expected in May.
- An amendment of the AETIONOMY protocol is currently being submitted to EC in order to align both protocol regarding clinical and neuropsychological assessments
- A workshop between WP3 (Bernard De Bono and his team) and WP5 (JC Corvol and his team) has been held on April 28 in Paris, ICM, to progress on clinical indices mapping to the human brain in PD.
- Next big workshop with WP3 will be held in ICM on the 23rd May...it is expected that we progress on hypotheses ranking and the choice of biomarkers to be tested in the AETIONOMY Study!
- Agreement between UCB and Dr Chrystalina Antoniades of Oxford University has been signed to provide clinical data associated with DNA and Plasma samples from up to 200 patients with early PD, Late PD and Progressive Supranuclear Palsy. The clinical data will be integrated in the AKB and samples will be available for the consortium to generate data to support key mechanisms.
- Congratulations as UKB has started to recruit and now has 3 patients! In addition, they are currently hiring 2 students to help facilitate the clinical work

Clinical Study Recruitment



Pharmacologia: We further pursued the involvement of syndecan, a conserved family of heparan sulfate proteoglycans in ApoE biology. The aim is to characterize the interaction of syndecans with various ApoE isoforms and their contribution to cellular uptake of ApoE. In the last months we compared the cellular uptake efficacy of the various ApoE isoforms (2,3 and 4) and their interaction with syndecans. These new data help to understand the involvement of ApoE isoforms in the pathomechanism of neurodegeneration.