CNS Drug Development

The future of neuropharmacology

Focus on stem cell and regenerative therapies in CNS drug discovery

15th - 16th December 2008, BSG Conference Centre, London, UK

BOOK NOW!

Key Speakers

Jackie Hunter, Senior Vice President, Science Environment Development, GlaxoSmithKline
Johan Luthman, Global Head Exploratory Medicine, Poc Management & Liaison, Merck Serono
Mark Tricklebank, Director, Senior Research Fellow- Psychiatric Disorders Drug Hunting Team, Lilly UK
Simon Lovestone, Director NIHR Biomedical Research Centre for Mental Health, Institute of Psychiatry, King’s College London
Simone Braggio, Director, Neurosciences CEDD DMPK, GlaxoSmithKline
Keith Wesnes, Chief Executive, Cognitive Drug Research
Remy Luthringer, Chief Executive Officer, Forenap Pharma
Claude Wischik, Executive Chairman, TauRx Therapeutics
Hinnerk Boriss, Chief Executive Officer, Sovicell
Ann Hayes, Owner, The Ann Hayes Consultancy
François Iris, Founder and Chief Scientific Officer, Bio-Modeling Systems
Peter Jenner, Chief Scientific Officer, Proximagen
Anders Haegerstrand, Chief Scientific Officer, NeuroNova
John Sinden, Chief Scientific Officer, ReNeuron
Ian Pike, Chief Business Officer, Proteome Sciences
Kevin Craig, Chief Medical Officer, P1vital
Aaron Chuang, Scientific Manager, Stem Cell Research, GlaxoSmithKline
Leslie Iversen, Visiting Professor, Department of Pharmacology, University of Oxford
John Hardy, Professor of Neuroscience, University College London
Stephen Minger, Senior Lecturer in Stem Cell Biology, King’s College London
Jose de Leon, Professor of Psychiatry, College of Medicine, University of Kentucky
Steve England, Associate Research Fellow, Pfizer
Will Spooren, R&D Leader, CReD, F. Hoffmann-La Roche
Fabrizio Gasparini, Senior Research Investigator, Novartis

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Dear Colleague,

In the middle of the global credit crunch, the central nervous system drug market is booming. Population growth, better diagnosis and unmet clinical needs mean 70 companies are competing for a market spanning from pain to schizophrenia to obesity. And, as we all live longer, the number of people with neurodegenerative diseases is spiralling. In Europe and the US alone, this will mean 13.2 million Alzheimer’s and 16.2 million Parkinson’s disease sufferers by 2050; a 300% increase on numbers today. If effective therapies are not found soon, the financial, societal and emotional costs of these disorders will be staggering. At the same time, many basic needs in CNS R&D remain unmet, such as reducing production schedule and compound attrition rates. How can such inter-related challenges be overcome?

By attending this conference you will understand how these and other issues are being resolved, including:

• How can drug delivery across the blood-brain barrier be improved?
• Have new biomarkers been identified to track disease existence or progression?
• Will human-animal hybrid embryonic research bring new therapies for neurodegenerative diseases? And what role will stem cell and other regenerative therapies play?
• How can new medicines that improve cognition be validated in clinical trials?
• Should ‘smart drugs’ be available to the general public?
• Is there a future for pharmacogenomics in psychiatry?
• How can we overcome patient heterogeneity?

To answer these questions, Visiongain has assembled an august selection of senior representatives from top ten big pharma companies, industry and academia. These include ‘expert’s experts’ in translational research, molecular neuroscience, and regenerative medicine.

I look forward to meeting you at the conference.

Yours sincerely,

John Shah
Conference Producer

The global CNS pharmaceuticals market, worth £55bn a year with 8% growth in 2007, is poised to become the number one target for drug development during the next decade.1


About Visiongain:

Visiongain is a specialist business information company focused on providing cutting edge products and services across the Pharmaceutical/Biotech, Telecommunications, Defence and Finance sectors, which include reports, conferences, online daily news and offline news analysis and bespoke consultancy. With a commitment to innovation and excellence, visiongain offers flexible solutions to meet our clients’ business intelligence needs, providing the right information at the right time to facilitate the commercial decision-making process. Our pharmaceutical products include PharmaWeb.com, Future Pharmaceuticals magazine is geared to create a deep penetration into a highly targeted and responsive audience, bridging the gap between the industries’ top issues and the solutions top-tier vendors can provide.

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Sponsorship and exhibition opportunities:

This event offers a unique opportunity to meet and do business with some of the key players in the pharmaceutical and biotech industries. If you have a service or product to promote, you can do so at this event by:

• In-Pharmjobs, hosting a networking drinks reception
• Taking an exhibition space at the conference
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If you would like more information on the range of sponsorship or exhibition possibilities for visiongain’s CNS Drug Development conference, please contact us:

Patricia Gallegos, +44 (0)20 7549 9952
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Who will be there?

Senior VPs, Heads, Directors, CSOs and Project leaders in:

• CNS Clinical Discovery/Nervous System Research
• Neuroscience
• Neurology
• Psychiatry/Molecular Psychiatry
• Drug Discovery/Drug R&D/Drug Design
• Emerging Targets/Lead Optimisation
• Stem Cell Research
• Therapeutics and Molecular Profiling
• Pain Management
• Protein Technologies
• Pre-Clinical/Clinical R&D
• Genomics/Proteomics/Informatics/Neuroimformatics
• Translational Medicine
• Global Marketing and Medicine
• Disease Genetics
• Pharmacology
• Imaging
• Immunology/Immunotherapy
Day 1
CNS Drug Development
Monday 15th December 2008

09:30 | Registration and refreshments

10:00 | Opening address from the chair
Simon Lovestone
Director NIHR Biomedical Research Centre for Mental Health,
Institute of Psychiatry, King's College London

10:10 | CNS drug discovery- where are we and what are the prospects for the future?
• Medical needs and commercial opportunities in CNS diseases
• Success rates for CNS drug discovery and development
• Difficulties and potential solutions – exemplified by programmes from several CNS diseases
• Some exciting new areas in CNS drug discovery
Ann Hayes
Owner, The Ann Hayes Consultancy
Formerly Director of Drug Discovery, GlaxoWellcome

10:50 | Overcoming the blood-brain barrier in CNS pharmacotherapy
• Physicochemical barriers to brain penetration- new insights from in silico, in vitro and in vivo models
• Biological barriers to brain penetration: P-glycoprotein and other transport modulators
• Establishing the link between blood concentration, receptor occupation and behaviour in preclinical & clinical trials
Simone Braggio
Director, Neurosciences CEDD DMPK
GlaxoSmithKline

11:30 | Morning refreshments

11:45 | TRANSIL Brain Absorption: A novel in vitro model for predicting CNS penetration
• Prediction of brain availability (logBB and fu brain)
• Prediction of concentration at receptor site in brain
• Classification of CNS+/CNS- compounds
• Fast: 2 min incubation time
• Easy: First ready-to-use assay kit
Hinnerk Boriss
Chief Executive Officer
Sovicell

12:05 | Biomarkers in CNS diseases: can serendipity lead to relevance?
• What relevance do biomarkers identified by statistical occurrence have for heterogeneous CNS diseases?
• Overcoming methodological problems to obtain physiologically relevant biomarkers
• Novel and unique approaches to developing CNS experimental medicine models to accelerate drug discovery.
Chair:
François Iris
Founder and Chief Scientific Officer
Bio-Modeling Systems
Kevin Craig
Medical Director
P1vital
John Hardy
Professor of Neuroscience
University College London

12:45 | Translational medicine and explorative clinical trials in neurology
• The challenges of transitioning preclinical CNS projects to human trials
• The usefulness of in vitro and animal data, to build a comprehensive PK/PD package and identify disease indication
• The challenges to reach early proof of mechanism and proof of concept understanding for CNS therapeutics
Johan Luthman
Global Head Exploratory Medicine, PoC Management & Liaison
Merck Serono

13:25 | Networking lunch

14:30 | Research potential of pluripotent stem cells for CNS discovery
• Current strategies for the generation of pluripotent stem cells
• Modelling of human CNS disorders using pluripotent stem cells
• Use of human pluripotent stem cells for target discovery in CNS research
Stephen Minger
Senior Lecturer in Stem Cell Biology
Stem Cell Biology Laboratory, King's College London

15:10 | Translational medicine and explorative clinical trials in neurology
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Johan Luthman
Global Head Exploratory Medicine, PoC Management & Liaison
Merck Serono

15:50 | Afternoon refreshments

16:10 | Exploring neurogenesis mechanisms for novel CNS therapeutics
• Opportunities for neurogenesis therapy in CNS diseases.
• Regulation of proliferation & differentiation of neural stem cells.
• Autocrine versus paracrine regulation of neural stem cells.
Aaron Chuang
Scientific Manager, Stem Cell Research
GlaxoSmithKline

16:50 | Neurogenesis and neuroprotection in Parkinson's disease and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis
• The impact of altered stem/progenitor cell activity in neurodegenerative disease
• sNN0031/PDGFBB - towards the clinic to promote neurogenesis and dopamine system restoration
• sNN0029/VEGF165 - towards the clinic to protect motor neurons
• Direct application of protein drugs to the CNS- pros and cons
Anders Haegerstrand
Chief Scientific Officer
NeuroNova

17:30 | Closing remarks from the chair

17:40 | Networking drinks
Take your discussions further and build new relationships in a relaxed and informal setting.
Day 2
CNS Drug Development
Tuesday 16th December 2008

09:30 Registration and refreshments

10:00 Opening address from the chair
Simon Lovestone
Director NIHR Biomedical Research Centre for Mental Health,
Institute of Psychiatry, King’s College London

10:10 New insights in neuropathic pain relief
• Key insights from sodium channel blockers
• Identifying new drug targets
• Molecular epidemiology of pain: a new discipline for drug discovery
Steve England
Associate Research Fellow
Pfizer

10:50 Using biomarkers to support drug development in Alzheimer’s disease
Ian Pike
Chief Business Officer
Proteome Sciences

11:10 Panel discussion: new targets in Alzheimer’s disease
• Non-tau approaches: un embarras de richesse?
• The tangle pathology of AD as a pharmaceutical target
Jackie Hunter
Senior Vice President, Science Environment Development
GlaxoSmithKline
Claude Wischik
Executive Chairman
TauRx Therapeutics

11:50 Morning refreshments

12:05 Understanding the future treatment of Parkinson’s disease – a preclinical perspective
• New symptomatic treatments
• Non-dopaminergic therapies
• Neuroprotection
• Neurorestoration
Peter Jenner
Chief Scientific Officer
Proximagen

12:45 Harnessing pre-clinical behavioural neuroscience for drug discovery and bridging the gap to clinical research
• What are the current obstacles to neuroscience drug discovery?
• Overcoming problems of preclinical model validation
• Go-it-alone or go-by-consortia: making the whole more than the sum of the parts
Mark Tricklebank
Director, Psychiatric Disorders Drug Hunting Team
Lilly UK

13:25 Networking lunch

14:25 Cognitive testing in clinical trials
• Latest methodological advances in assessing cognitive function
• Identifying cognition enhancement: the state of the art
• Determining the magnitude, profile and everyday relevance of changes to cognitive ability
Keith Wesnes
Chief Executive
Cognitive Drug Research

15:05 Panel discussion: recent discoveries in affective CNS disorders
• mGluR5 allosteric antagonists: identification, characterization and potential for therapeutic applications
• Anxiolytics: new results from animal and clinical trials
• NK3 receptor antagonists – a novel class of anti-psychotics?
Fabrizio Gasparini
Senior Research Investigator
Novartis
Will Spooren
R&D Leader, CReD
F. Hoffmann-La Roche

15:55 Afternoon refreshments

16:10 Pharmacogenomics: the promise of personalised medicine for CNS disorders
• First generation pharmacogenetic tests in psychiatry
• Current challenges in applying pharmacogenomic tests in clinical practice
• Future research directions
Jose de Leon
Professor of Psychiatry, College of Medicine
University of Kentucky

16:50 The future of cognition-enhancing drugs
• Drugs and attention-deficit disorders
• Preparing for drugs that improve memory, concentration and learning
• Can ‘smart drugs’ ameliorate cognitive decline and boost memory and creativity?
• Treating or enhancing? Ethical implications
Leslie Iversen
Visiting Professor, Department of Pharmacology, University of Oxford
Formerly Director of the Neuroscience Research Centre
Merck Research Laboratories

17:30 Chair’s closing remarks

17:40 End of conference

* Invited
Registration Form
CNS Drug Development
15th - 16th December 2008, London, UK

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