

PRESS RELEASE

11 May, 2018

University of Cologne begins patient recruitment for the MOPEAD project

The University of Cologne (Germany) is the second site to have started its patient recruitment for the MOPEAD (Models Of Patient Engagement for Alzheimer's Disease) project.

Recruitment has started with the pre-screening of 34 patients using the 'Open House' strategy. Seven of them have been referred for a formal diagnosis that should be given once these patients have given their informed consent.

The recruitment using the 'Primary care-based' strategy has also just begun.

The pre-screenings help detect people with mild Alzheimer's disease (AD) dementia or prodromal AD. They can take place in a memory clinic setting ('Open House'), during an endocrinologist (tertiary care) or GP (primary care) routine visit, or on-line ('Citizen Science'). People suspected of having AD are then invited to undergo more complete tests before they receive a final diagnosis.

The tertiary care and Citizen Science recruitments are due to start within the next few weeks.

MOPEAD is a 33-month project funded by the Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) that aims to deliver a step-change in Alzheimer's disease (AD) patient engagement strategies and a paradigm shift from late-stage diagnosis to early-stage diagnosis.

The four patient engagement strategies will be tested in five clinical sites in Germany, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the Netherlands. The strategies will be compared and contrasted to identify ways to improve the early detection and diagnosis of AD. The findings will enable models of patient access to be established and used in the broader AD community.

Fundacio ACE (Barcelona Alzheimer Treatment and Research Centre) is one of the project clinical sites, based in Barcelona, Spain.
(<http://www.fundacioace.com/en/>)

Why MOPEAD?

MOPEAD will contribute to the imperative to find interventions to halt AD. Dementia affects over 35 million people globally, a figure set to rise to over 115 million by 2050 due to the ageing of the population. AD puts a huge and growing burden on health and social systems, and the families and carers of those affected. Despite decades of research, there is still no treatment nor cure for the disease. It is therefore crucial to develop new interventions that will

help identify hidden cases of AD. MOPEAD will do this through evaluating four patient engagement strategies and providing new insights for therapeutic interventions in clearly identified populations.

MOPEAD will respond to the urgency of finding interventions to halt AD by stimulating a faster recruitment of patients into clinical trials.

MOPEAD partners are Fundació ACE Institut Català de Neurociències Aplicades, Eli Lilly and Company Ltd, ASDM Consulting, AstraZeneca AB, European Institute of Women's Health, GMV Soluciones Globales Internet S.A.U., Karolinska Institutet, Modus Research and Innovation Ltd, Spomincica—Alzheimer Slovenia, University Hospital of Cologne, University Medical Centre Ljubljana, Fundacio Hospital Universitari Vall D'Hebron—Institut de Recerca, Stichting VUmc, Alzheimer Europe.

www.mopead.eu

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About Innovative Medicines Initiative

The Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) is working to improve health by speeding up the development of, and patient access to, the next generation of medicines, particularly in areas where there is an unmet medical or social need.

It does this by facilitating collaboration between the key players involved in healthcare research, including universities, pharmaceutical companies, other companies active in healthcare research, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), patient organizations, and medicines regulators. This approach has proven highly successful, and IMI projects are delivering exciting results that are helping to advance the development of urgently needed new treatments in diverse areas.

IMI is a partnership between the European Union and the European pharmaceutical industry, represented by the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA).

Through the IMI 2 programme, IMI has a budget of €3.3 billion for the period 2014-2024. Half of this comes from the EU's research and innovation programme, Horizon 2020. The other half comes from large companies, mostly from the pharmaceutical sector; these do not receive any EU funding, but contribute to the projects 'in kind', for example by donating their researchers' time or providing access to research facilities or resources.

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