

# 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**

Rémy 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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# Conference Introduction

## CNS Drug Development

### 15th - 16th December 2008, London, UK

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<sup>1</sup>.

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 spiraling. 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<sup>2</sup>.

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 embryo 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

## 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
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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:

- Hosting a networking drinks reception
- Taking an exhibition space at the conference
- Advertising in the delegate documentation pack
- Providing branded bags, pens, gifts, etc.

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<sup>1</sup>NeuroInsights, (2008). *The Neurotechnology Industry 2008 Report*.

<sup>2</sup>Forman, M. et al., (2004). Neurodegenerative diseases: a decade of discoveries paves the way for therapeutic breakthroughs. *Nature Medicine*, **10** (10), pp. 1055-1063.

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 heterogenous 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**

**Rémy Luthringer**

Chief Executive Officer  
**Forenap Pharma**

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

### Focus on stem cell and regenerative therapies in CNS drug discovery

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 Translating neural stem cells into clinical products: where are we now?

- Addressing product issues: designing a manufacturing, testing and release strategy
- Addressing preclinical issues: can we ever prove implanted stem cells are not a safety concern?
- Addressing clinical concerns: has Europe got it right with the ATMP regulations?

**John Sinden**

Chief Scientific Officer  
**ReNeuron**

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.

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, CR&D  
**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

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## CNS Drug Development

### 15th - 16th December 2008, London, UK

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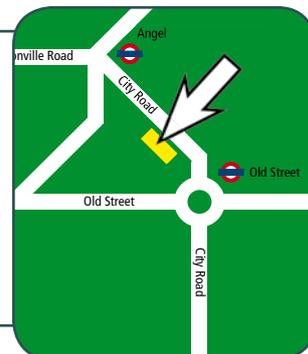
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### CNS Drug Development

#### 15th - 16th December 2008

**Location:** BSG Conference Centre

**Address:**  
226 - 236 City Road  
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United Kingdom



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BSG House  
226-236 City Road  
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#### General information

**Venue:** Directions: BSG Conference Centre 226 - 236 City Road, London, EC1V 2TT, United Kingdom. Closest tube station is Old Street (Northern Line). Accommodation: Travelodge London City Road Hotel, 7-12 City Road, London, EC1Y 1AE, Tel: 0871 984 6333, Fax: 0207 628 2503, [http://www.travelodge.co.uk/search\\_and\\_book/hotel\\_overview.php?hotel\\_id=340](http://www.travelodge.co.uk/search_and_book/hotel_overview.php?hotel_id=340)

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