

The NILVAD Group

The NILVAD consortium is formed by renowned researchers from 17 institutions and organizations in 10 EU member states and the USA, each one with a strong scientific and/or clinical background in the fields of Alzheimer's disease and dementia.

Excellent research standards - including the latest scientific and technological advances - will be the basis for the NILVAD Project.



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NILVAD Partners

- Trinity College Dublin (IRL)
- Molecular Medicines Ireland (IRL)
- Alzheimer Europe (L)
- Archer Pharmaceuticals Inc Corp (USA)
- Newsweaver (IRL)
- University College Dublin (IRL)
- GABO:milliarium (D)
- King's College London (GB)
- Istituto di Recerche Farmacologiche Mario Negri (I)
- Centre Hospitalier Regionale et Universitaire de Lille (F)
- Universität Ulm (D)
- University of Szeged (H)
- Goeteborgs Universitet (S)
- University College Cork (IRL)
- Aristotelio Panepistimio Thessalonikis (G)
- Stichting Katholieke Universiteit (NL)
- St. James's Hospital (IRL)

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NILVAD



NILVAD

A clinical study for a new treatment in Alzheimer's disease





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NILVAD in Figures

Project start date: 1st January 2012

Project duration: 5 years

EC funding: € 5,999,978

Prospective recruitment window:
January 2013 to December 2015



The Challenge

Alzheimer's disease (AD) is the most common form of dementia for which currently there is no cure available. Early symptoms include memory loss and mild cognitive impairment, often attributed to stress or aging. As the disease progresses, symptoms worsen to affect all areas of brain function, such as memory, behaviour, language and motor skills. In the final stages of Alzheimer's disease, the patient is completely dependent upon caregivers.

With more than 15 million individuals affected worldwide (5 million in Europe), Alzheimer's disease is an ever-increasing public health concern among the aging population, causing a great burden to patients and their caregivers. The economic costs of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias are estimated at more than €180 billion in Europe each year.

Even modest therapeutic advances that delay disease onset and progression could significantly reduce the global burden of the disease and the level of care required by patients. While there are symptomatic-based drug therapies available for AD, these medications do not delay onset, slow progression or prevent the disease process itself. There is therefore an imperative to

develop new treatments for AD that have disease modifying effects.

Aim of NILVAD

The aim of NILVAD is to conduct a European multicentre double-blind placebo-controlled phase III trial of nilvadipine in Alzheimer's disease. Nilvadipine is a licensed blood pressure medication with a proven safety record in people with high blood pressure and more recently has been shown to be well tolerated and safe in older people with Alzheimer's disease. There is preliminary evidence for clinical benefit in individuals with cognitive impairment and strong scientific support for an anti-amyloid effect in an animal model of Alzheimer's disease. The NILVAD study will recruit 500 people with mild to moderate Alzheimer's disease to examine the effect of taking nilvadipine compared to taking placebo on the rate of deterioration in patients' memory and cognition over an 18 month period.

If this trial is successful, nilvadipine would represent an advance in the treatment of Alzheimer's patients and would have a major impact on the health and social care costs incurred in Europe by this neurodegenerative disorder.