

# (PRM) Proteome Sciences

## Discussion

[Post message](#)

[List](#) [Previous](#) [View thread](#)



[Respond](#) [Vote up](#) [Email to a friend](#) [Neighbourhood Watch](#)

Author	traumatek <a href="#">View Profile</a> <a href="#">Add to favourites</a> <a href="#">Ignore</a>
Date posted	today 11:15
Subject	new diagnostics for Alzheimer's disease
<a href="#">Votes for this Posting</a>	
Message	

Skuldtech secures EUR 1 million to develop new diagnostics for Alzheimer's disease

Skuldtech and AB Science to renew their collaboration agreement, as part of a project financed by Bpifrance, to bring to market a new treatment for Alzheimer's disease and a companion diagnostic

Montpellier, France, September 11, 2013 - Skuldtech, a genomic biomarker company specialized in developing diagnostic tests, announces today that it has secured EUR 1 million in funding from Bpifrance (French public financing structure) as part of a project on Alzheimer's disease that has received funding of EUR 8.6 million in total. The program is planned to last for four years, with the first results expected in 2018.

Skuldtech has joined forces with AB Science for this program, with the aim of developing a new therapy for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease. As part of the program, Skuldtech will develop a companion diagnostic for AB Science's masitinib molecule and a diagnostic for the validity of cognitive tests and tests to predict the progression of Alzheimer's disease.

Using blood samples taken as part of the Phase III trial of masitinib in Alzheimer's disease, Skuldtech will identify the blood biomarkers that will help make simple, reliable diagnostic tests available as a matter of routine. This will result in treatments that can be tailored to the patient and the ability to monitor sufferers as their disease progresses. The clinical trial of masitinib was launched in Europe and other countries in May 2013. It expects to recruit a total of 400 patients. Blood samples from these patients will contribute to the development of a companion diagnostic by making it possible to identify those individuals most likely to benefit from the treatment.

This approach has already proven successful in the development of a new treatment for pancreatic cancer that combines gemcitabine and masitinib, where Skuldtech identified new biomarkers predicting a favorable response to treatment. The results of this clinical study led to an application to the European Medicines Agency for Marketing Authorization (MA) for masitinib in combination with companion biomarkers.

Using further blood samples, Skuldtech will also develop a diagnostic for the validity of cognitive tests and tests predicting the progression (slow or rapid) of Alzheimer's disease.

This project builds on Skuldtech's recent success in identifying blood biomarkers associated with a cognitive score. The company identified two sets of new blood markers, each associated with two trisomy 21 patient populations with low and high IQs respectively. The results of this study were published in the European Journal of Human Genetics in February 2013 (i). By describing the blood transcriptional profile of each group, Skuldtech identified specific biomarkers corresponding to a level of response in cognitive tests. The company hopes to emulate this result in the Alzheimer's disease program.

Skuldtech is keen to use the funding to capitalize on its broadband sequencing-based technological platform, pairing it with proprietary bioinformatics and biostatistics programs to measure and confirm the stage of progression of Alzheimer's disease.

"This new partnership to work on Alzheimer's disease will strengthen Skuldtech's position in the field of personalized medicine and in the development of companion diagnostics associated with new treatments in phases of clinical trials," said Didier Ritter, CEO, Skuldtech. "As well as bringing new diagnostics to market, we are also open to similar partnerships with other biotech companies or with pharmaceutical laboratories."

Alzheimer's is the most frequently occurring neurodegenerative disease in the world, affecting around 6 per cent of over-65s. In the US, it is the sixth most common cause of mortality in the population (Source: American Alzheimer Association).

---

[Respond](#) [Vote up](#)  [Email to a friend](#) [Neighbourhood Watch](#)

[List](#) [Previous](#) [View thread](#)



#### [Respond](#)

The content of the messages posted represents the opinions of the author, and does not represent the opinions of Interactive Investor Trading Limited or its affiliates and has not been approved or issued by Interactive Investor Trading Limited. You should be aware that the other participants of the above discussion group are strangers to you and may make statements which may be misleading, deceptive or wrong. Please remember that the value of investments or income from them may go down as well as up and that the past performance of an investment is not a guide to its performance in the future.

The discussion boards on this site are intended to be an information sharing forum and is not intended to address your particular requirements. Whilst information provided on them can help with your investment research you need to consider carefully whether you should make (or refraining from making) investment or other decisions based on what you see without doing further research on investments you are interested in. Participating in this forum cannot be a substitute for obtaining advice from an appropriate expert independent adviser who takes into account your circumstances and specific investment needs in selected investments that are appropriate for you.

[Discussion Board Terms & Conditions](#) [FCA'S FSA Market Abuse Fact Sheet](#)