BIOMARKAPD

Biomarkers for Alzheimer's disease and Parkinson's disease

Project lifespan: 2012-2015

WHY?

Drugs aimed at inhibiting neurodegenerative processes seen in Alzheimer's disease (AD) and Parkinson's disease (PD) are likely to be most effective if treatment is initiated early. Biomarkers are currently our best bet for such early diagnosis.

However, while AD and PD biomarkers have been identified, there remains a lack of standardisation, which has limited their use.

OBJECTIVE

BIOMARKAPD aimed to develop evidence-based guidelines for the measurement and use of biochemical biomarkers for AD and PD in clinical practice.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Bringing together 52 partners from 21 countries, BIOMARKAPD resulted in more than 135 publications in peer-reviewed journals.
- The project developed and validated protocols for the analysis of known biomarkers, namely CSF Aβ, P- and T-Tau (AD markers) and aSyn (PD marker) for both clinical practice and clinical trials.
- In parallel, the project implemented a staff training programme, so that most centres in Europe now perform these procedures in a common, standardized way.
- BIOMARKAPD also identified two new biomarkers: Neurogranin as a new marker for AD and DJ-1 in CSF as a new biomarker for PD.

NEXT STEPS

The members of BIOMARKAPD are continuing their work as the "CSF Society," an initiative that was established at the end of the project. This society aims to work with additional centres in order to reach standardization all across Europe.

CONTACT

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