FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Platform Launched to Advance Quantitative Drug Development

Leiden, The Netherlands, 11th of December 2015 – *Today the Drug Disease Model Resources (DDMoRe) consortium launches a new modelling platform targeted specifically at pharmaceutical research and development. This open-source environment provides an easily accessible interface for researchers to reliably and quickly share drug and disease models created in a range of tools.*

DDMoRe's Interoperability Framework is an integrated set of new standards and connectors for many common programming tools and languages currently used by researchers performing Modelling and Simulation. It enables a major transformation towards more productive use of computational models as a basis for informed, quantitative decision-making in research and development for new medicines.

DDMoRe's Model Repository of qualified models provides an open forum for analysts to collaborate and share their knowledge with the wider community.

"Together with the Model Repository, the Interoperability Framework gives us a strong platform to improve the use of modelling and simulation in discovering and developing new medicines" said Niels Rode Kristensen, Interoperability Framework product manager.

The new integration standards - Model Description Language (MDL) and Pharmacometric Markup Language (PharmML) - are at the heart of the Interoperability Framework. *"MDL and PharmML make the translation of models to different software tools much easier, with the interoperability framework providing a consistent environment for researchers to work in, using the modelling tools that they feel comfortable with, while at the same time opening up their work to others through a standard language for describing models"* said Mike Smith, one of the lead developers of the new framework.

Wendy Aartsen, Scientific Officer DDMoRe: *"We are excited to see how new opportunities for collaboration will develop now that this platform is available for stakeholders such as academia, industry and health authorities. We are very keen to involve anyone with an interest in the use or further development of the platform".*

Anyone can download the Interoperability Framework from ddmore.eu for evaluation, using models from the repository as examples; there are many models to work with, provided by colleagues from the modelling community. Comments and suggestions for enhancements can be contributed through the moderated DDMoRe forum at ddmore.eu/forums or sent to info@ddmore.eu

About DDMoRe

The focus of the DDMoRe consortium is to deliver a set of integrated tools, standards and training to improve the quality, efficiency and cost effectiveness of model-informed decision making for pharmaceutical R&D. The DDMoRe consortium is a five-year project of the Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI, www.imi.europa.eu) with 26 stakeholders from the pharmaceutical industry, small and medium-sized enterprises and academic research organizations.

About the Interoperability Framework

The DDMoRe Interoperability Framework is comprised of a user interface (MDL-IDE) that allows users to script seamless workflows integrating a wide range of software tools within modelling and simulation - currently Monolix, NONMEM, Xpose, PsN, and Simulx/MlxR. In future releases, software tools for Bayesian analysis and optimal design will be included. Within the MDL-IDE, models are specified using the Model Description Language (MDL), stored in the Pharmacometric Markup Language (PharmML) standard. Workflows are scripted in the R statistical computing language. All functionality of R is therefore also available in the MDL-IDE. Detailed documentation and explanatory videos are available from the DDMoRe website, together with information about other DDMoRe products, forthcoming webinars and training sessions.

About the Model Repository

The DDMoRe Model Repository is an open, publicly-available, free-to-use instance and supported by peer-review. Together with DDMoRe's unique Interoperability Framework, these tools facilitate the collaborative development of computational models.

For more information

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