FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New partner and opportunities for DDMoRe

Leiden, The Netherlands, 10th of October 2014 - The Drug Disease Model Resources (DDMoRe) consortium recently got a green light to invest another 1.6 million euro from a successful proposal for the IMI call "explore new scientific opportunities (ENSO)". This enables several new objectives that will serve as pillars to drive the adoption and use of DDMoRe's output:

- Ensure that there is a continued focus on maintaining and developing the existing DDMoRe tools, working to a strategic vision and plan that will enable uptake and derive financial returns. The overall objective is to establish DDMoRe as a sustainable undertaking beyond the official end of the project.

- Leverage the Pharmacometrics Markup Language (PharmML) for connectivity of a range of environments. PharmML offers the long-awaited versatile technology that can provide a universal representation of models, data and outputs, compatible with virtually every common modelling platform. DDMoRe will actively support the "state of the art" by considering the impact of new tools and methodologies as they become available, allowing optimal integration of unique applications and complex interactive workflows.

- Develop a comprehensive and "all-encompassing" repository that will support safety modelling to facilitate benefit-risk assessment, which is critically important to many stakeholders;

- Establish a Modelling Review Group (MRG) as an editorial board responsible for certifying DDMoRe models. This MRG will also set standards for model review and certification. DDMoRe will proactively and prospectively engage with regulatory health authorities and scientific journals in shaping this certification process, to broaden the use and acceptance of Modelling and Simulation (M&S)-based inferences during drug development and regulatory decision-making. We believe that our approach can provide a mechanism for enhanced use of clinical trial data, enabling greater collaborative modelling efforts.

Twenty-five DDMoRe partners, now including the new partner Takeda Pharmaceuticals International GmbH, support these pillars according to IMI rules of EFPIA contributions matching the European Union investment. This joint effort is in line with DDMoRe's vision to encourage the use and re-use of certified models in order to simplify M&S analyses, and to promote good analysis practices, with the overall aim of reducing the time taken to develop new life-saving medicines.

About DDMoRe (or standards and tools for modeling and simulation)

The DDMoRe consortium is a 5-years IMI project (www.imi.europa.eu), involving 27 partners (drawn from the Pharmaceutical Industry, Academia and Small to Medium Enterprises). In 2011, DDMoRe (www.ddmore.eu) has been formed to address the current lack of common tools, languages and standards for informed decision making throughout drug discovery and development. DDMoRe aims to facilitate M&S by a) establishing a set of standards for both model and workflow encoding, and for storage and transfer of models and their associated metadata, b) developing a fully searchable, public drug and disease model repository that will accommodate model descriptions, algorithms, code, and data, as well as relevant metadata, assumptions, Bayesian priors, and links to references, c) developing an open source interoperability framework which will provide access to existing modelling tools and those of the future, d) developing the Modelling Description Language (MDL). So far, key achievements include the creation and release of MDL, MDL-IDE, PharmML (www.ddmore.eu/pharmml) and an encoding of published models in core therapeutic areas: diabetes, oncology, CNS, infectious and inflammatory diseases.

For more information,

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