

A NOVEL AND SAFE APPROACH FOR TREATING COGNITIVE AND SLEEP DISORDERS

A unique GABAA receptor antagonist that specifically counteracts neurosteroid activation of GABAA receptors, for the treatment of hepatic encephalopathy and idiopathic hypersomnia.

SALSS CONTACT

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Umecrine Cognition is a Karolinska Development (Nasdaq Stockholm: KDEV) portfolio company, focused on the development of small molecule drugs for cognitive and sleep disorders. GABAA receptor antagonism is a well-established approach to improve cognition and reduce sleepiness. However, the side effects of current drugs are a major limitation of their use, e.g. seizures due to excessive receptor blockade.

OUR PRODUCTS & SERVICES

Hepatic encephalopathy (HE) is a severe disorder with a large and growing unmet need. Liver cirrhosis affects up to 1% of the US and EU populations. The clinical symptoms are widely variable, extending from confusion, impaired motor skills, disorientation, and in its more severe form, stupor, coma and even death. Once HE develops, mortality reaches 22-35% after 5 years.

The company's lead compound, GR3027, is a novel, orally active small molecule GABAA receptor antagonist currently in Phase1b/2a clinical trials. It is being developed for the treatment of HE in patients with cirrhosis and for the treatment of excessive daytime sleepiness in patients with idiopathic hypersomnia (IH). GR3027 has been shown to normalize cognitive and psycho-motor function as well as improve sleep abnormalities in two accepted models of HE.

WHAT MAKES US UNIQUE

Our unique approach is to develop a GABAA receptor antagonist that specifically counteracts neurosteroid activation of GABAA receptors. Neurosteroids such as allopregnanolone are strong endogenous activators of GABAA transmission.

In contrast to current GABAA receptor antagonists this approach is not expected to cause complete blockage of the GABAA receptor and may thus not cause the target related side effects seen with the traditional GABAA receptor antagonists.

Umecrine has been granted patent protection for GR3027 in the major territories US, EU and Japan, as well as in several additional territories. The company is continuously developing its patent portfolio and further applications in the portfolio are on file.

WHY YOU SHOULD MEET US

Our goal is to develop GR3027 through early clinical validation and the company is open for financial investors to support co-development. Once proof of principle in man has been achieved, we will seek a commercial development and marketing partner.

KEY TEAM

Magnus Doverskog,
MBA, PhD

- CEO
- Broad knowledge from discovery and development projects of both small molecules and biologics
- Previous positions at Astra Pain Control and Biovitrum AB, and most recently as CEO of IMED AB

Torbjörn Bäckström
MD, PhD

- CSO
- Professor at the Department of Clinical Science, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Umeå University
- Head of Umeå Neurosteroid Research Center
- 400+ scientific publications on topic of effect of sex and stress hormones on the brain and conditions induced by these hormones

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