The Neuro-Immunology of Psychiatric Disease

Dutch Royal Academy of Sciences
Kloveniersburgwal 29
1011 JV Amsterdam

Dates: September 26th-27th 2014

Organized by the EU MOODINFLAME and PSYCH-AID consortia

Apart from serving as the final official meeting of the MOODINFLAME consortium and the half term meeting of PSYCH-AID, this meeting is organized as a gathering of all who are interested in the field of the Immunology of Psychiatry and want to actively participate.

Scientific Advisory Board:
Prof. Dr. V. Arolt
Prof. dr. W.A. Nolen
Dr. Aye-Mu Myint
Background

There is increasing evidence that the immune system plays an important role in the pathogenesis of the various major mood disorders, schizophrenia and related syndromes.

Over the past 5 years two major EU projects (MOODINFLAME and PSYCH-AID) have investigated the role of the immune system in psychiatric disease both in patients and animal models. Enormous progress has been made during these 5 years in and outside the projects. So, it is time to try and integrate the in MOODINFLAME/PSYCHAID gathered data with those of other psycho-neuro-immunologists to arrive at more comprehensive views and new working hypotheses.

The one and a half day meeting in historic Amsterdam at the beautiful venue of the Dutch Royal Academy of Sciences at the Kloveniersburgwal is particularly meant to fulfil this aim. All scientists who are interested in the field of the Immunology of Psychiatry are cordially invited to attend and contribute to the meeting with presentations, posters and discussions.

Particularly young investigators are invited to send in abstracts. The abstracts which fit the best into the already planned 4 sessions will be selected for oral presentation. There will be ample time to present the work on poster. Poster walks will be organized and posters will be integrally discussed in the general discussion at the end of each session.

The fee has been kept at a minimum of 70,- Euro (for the established researchers) and 30,- Euro for PhD students, postdocs. For those related to MOODINFLAME or PSYCHAID projects the entrance fee is free. Amsterdam offers accommodation from economical to luxury/expensive, go to the general hotel web sites for booking your own accommodation.

Contact address:

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Registration: Please complete the registration form included with this invitation and send this to Angelique van Rijswijk, a.vanrijswijk@erasusmc.nl.

Abstracts: A form for completing the abstract is included with this invitation.
Program

Session 1. The Immune Pathogenesis of Psychiatric Disease

Friday, 26 September 2014, 9.00 hrs - 12.30 hrs

Background will be provided on the lineage of monocytes/macrophages and T cells, their role in the inflammatory response and their support function for surrounding cells and the breakdown of these functions in two animal models of psychiatric disease (the MIA model and the NOD mouse model).

9.00-9.20  Leenen (Rotterdam): The differentiation and maturation of macrophages and dendritic cells from precursors and the M1/M2 concept.


9.40-10.00  Vergaelen/Claes (Leuven): 22q11 deletion syndrome, T cell deficiency, autoimmunity and psychiatric symptoms

10.00-10.15  McGuiness/Harkin (Dublin): The NOD mouse model of depressive-like behavior. The abnormal differentiation, maturation and inflammatory set point of the monocyte and microglia lineage

10.15-10.30  Bessis (Paris): The MIA model. The lack of the production of axon guidance molecules by inflammatory activated microglia

10.30-10.45  From abstracts selected presentation

10.45-11.00  From abstracts selected presentation

11.00-11.50  Coffee and poster session with organized poster walks

11.50-12.30  General structured discussion

Lunch (12.30 hrs-13.30 hrs)
Session 2. The Immune Profile in Psychiatric Disease

Friday, 26 September 2014, 13.30 hrs - 17.00 hrs

The abnormal set point, i.e. the abnormal expression of inflammation related genes, surface markers and cytokines) of monocytes, macrophages, microglia and T cells in psychiatric patients will be presented and discussed in relation to disease phenotype and activity.

13.30-13.50 Sumaski/Arolt (Muenster): The profile of serum immune and growth factors in relation to immune cell abnormalities in major depression

13.50-14.10 Bergink/Drexhage (Rotterdam): Circulating monocytes and T cells in severe mood disorders

14.10-14.30 Benedetti (Milano): The profile of serum immune and growth factors in relation to Imaging

14.30-14.45 Hillegers/Nolen (Utrecht): The immune profile in children at risk for a major mood disorder

14.45-15.00 Haarman/Nolen (Groningen): The Immune profile and PET scan in bipolar disorder

15.00-15.15 From abstracts selected presentation

15.15-16.00 From abstracts selected presentation

16.00-16.30 Coffee and poster session with organized poster walks

16.30-17.00 General structured discussion

17.00-18.00 Key note lecture Prof. Wayne C. Drevets, M.D.

18.00-20.00 Social Event (Canal Boat Trip). Optional
Session 3. Neuro-immuno-endocrine communication networks

Saturday, 27 September 2014, 9.00 hrs - 12.30 hrs

The interactive influence of the abnormally regulated immune system with other homoeostatic systems, such as with the HPA-axis, the tryptophan metabolism, the glucose metabolism, the dopaminergic system, etc. etc. will be presented and discussed. Special attention will be paid to the link with somatic comorbidities (such as the metabolic syndrome). Interventions aiming at altering the abnormal set point of the neuro-immuno-endocrine system will also be presented and discussed.

9.00-9.20 Tomasik/Bahn (Cambridge): The profile of serum immune, growth and endocrine factors in psychiatric disease: Diagnostic and prognostic possibilities and impossibilities

9.20-9.40 Pariante (London): HPA-axis, steroid resistance and immune activation in major mood disorders

9.40-10.00 Myint (Brasschaat/Muenchen): The tryptophan break down pathway in relation to immune parameters in major psychiatric disease

10.15-10.30 Carvalho (London)/: Atherosclerosis and Depression

10.30-10.45 Pouwer (Tilburg): Diabetes and Depression

10.30-10.45 From abstracts selected presentation

10.45-11.00 From abstracts selected presentation

11.00-11.50 Coffee

11.50-12.30 Drexhage (R’dam): Summing up MOODINFLAME and PSYCHAID.

12.30-12.50 Weidinger/Muller: COX-2 inhibitors as a putative treatment for psychiatric disorders

12.50-13.10 deWitte/Sommers/Kahn: Anti-inflammatory treatment and schizophrenia

End of the meeting

Lunch (13.10 hrs-14.00 hrs)