

ECNP Research Internship 2017

21st August -1st September, 2017

Intern: Spyridon Sifis

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Host Institution: Prof. Gitte Moos Knudsen

**Neurobiology Research Unit (NRU), University of Copenhagen and Rigshospitalet,
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My name is Spyridon Sifis, a psychiatry resident from Greece. My sphere of interest includes antipsychotic-induced metabolic side effects and patient stratification based on neurobiology and biomarkers. I am honored to have been selected for the ECNP Research Internship at Neurobiology Research Unit (NRU), Copenhagen University Hospital, Copenhagen, Denmark, under the supervision of Prof. Gitte Moos Knudsen.

During the internship, I followed the project NP1 of NeuroPharm, Center of Experimental Medicine Neuropharmacology. NP1 aims to predict response to antidepressant treatment by combining multimodal neuroimaging, genetic, biochemical and neuropsychological markers. I had the opportunity to become familiar with theoretical principles of multimodal neuroimaging. In addition, I observed different types of brain scans (fMRI, SPECT and PET) and I was involved in their analysis. Besides, I was introduced to the laboratories of SPECT, data analysis, neuropsychology and preclinical research, and attended the weekly meetings and scientific presentations at NRU. For me, a psychiatry resident, it was an outstanding chance to participate in research from bench to bedside, which integrates neuroimaging with clinical psychiatry. It has also allowed me to get familiar with the Danish health and research system and expand my knowledge in radiotracers, kinetic modeling, neuropsychological batteries and neuroimaging.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all the members of NRU for the warm welcome to their vivid, kind and exceptional team, as well as the ECNP for providing me this unique opportunity. I am looking forward to continuing the collaboration with NRU and apply this multidisciplinary approach to my future projects.

