

NEWS

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GENOMAS AWARDED \$1.4 MILLION NIH SBIR GRANT TO DEVELOP DNA-GUIDED SYSTEM FOR MANAGEMENT OF PSYCHOTROPIC THERAPY

Product Predicts, Compares Metabolic Side Effects of Antipsychotics for Each Patient

HARTFORD, CT – Genomas[®], a biomedical company advancing DNA-Guided medicine, today announced the award of a Phase II Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Grant totaling \$1.4 million. The grant, entitled “DNA Diagnostics for Minimizing Metabolic Side-Effects of Antipsychotics”, was awarded by the National Institute of Mental Health* as part of its program on “Development of Biomarkers for Mental Health Research and Clinical Utilities”.

Atypical antipsychotic drugs are used in the treatment of schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, obsessive-compulsive disorder, and generalized anxiety disorder. Their drawback is diabetic metabolic syndromes (DiMS) developed by some patients insofar unpredictably, which include elevated serum levels of triglycerides and glucose and abdominal obesity. In recognition of this drug-induced risk, the Food and Drug Administration in 2003 required the labels for each drug in the class to specify the potential risk of diabetes complications as a result of treatment.

Under this program, Genomas will integrate the clinical expertise of its strategic partner, Hartford Hospital, with the company’s proprietary physiogenomics technology to develop DNA-guided clinical management systems that predict and compare an individual’s risk of DiMS among leading antipsychotic drugs. Phyziotype™ Clinical Management Systems are composed of an ensemble of inherited DNA markers genotyped by arrays and interpreted by a biomathematical algorithm in order to convey to physicians predicted comparisons of side effect risk among drugs for the individual patient.

In announcing the award, Gualberto Ruaño, M.D., Ph.D., President and CEO of Genomas commented: “By interfacing complex patient reactions to psychotropic drugs with physiogenomics, we can translate the variability observed in clinical practice into fundamental mechanistic discoveries of metabolic side effects. Our revolutionary Phyziotype™ system to enable the diagnosis and prevention of DiMS induced by psychotropics addresses a high impact medical need in mental health and will be significantly advanced with this major SBIR award.”

The research leading to this award has been published in the renowned journal *Molecular Psychiatry* in May, 2007 (see Bibliographic Reference). Researchers at the Institute of Living (IOL) of Hartford Hospital and at the Department of Psychiatry of the University of Kentucky, Lexington, were co-authors of the publication and are co-investigators in the grant.

Laurine Bow, Ph.D., Vice President for Research at Hartford Hospital noted: “The IOL and Hartford Hospital have received several millions in major research awards for neuropsychiatry, in last year alone. We are pleased that this success is now mirrored in the awarded SBIR grant with Genomas, which paves the way for developing intellectual property and commercialization revenue from fundamental discoveries at the IOL and Hartford Hospital.”

ABOUT GENOMAS

Genomas®, Inc. is a biomedical company advancing DNA-guided medicine and personalized health. The company develops revolutionary PhyzioType™ systems for DNA-guided diagnosis and prevention of metabolic disorders induced by drugs in cardiovascular and psychiatric medicine. PhyzioType™ systems provide physicians with the unprecedented capability to select for each patient the safest drug treatment. Genomas is located in Hartford, CT on the campus of Hartford Hospital. For more information please access www.genomas.net

ABOUT THE INSTITUTE OF LIVING AT HARTFORD HOSPITAL

Founded in 1822, The Institute of Living (IOL) was one of the first mental health centers in the United States, and the first hospital of any kind in Connecticut. Today, as part of Hartford Hospital, it is one of America's leading centers for comprehensive patient care, research and education in the fields of behavioral, psychiatric, and addiction disorders. As a research center, IOL conducts clinical trials of investigational new drugs and is a leader in outcome studies. For more information please access www.instituteofliving.org

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Bibliographic Reference:

Ruaño G., Goethe J.W., Caley C., Woolley S., Holford T.R., Kocherla M., Windemuth A., de Leon J. "Physiogenomic Comparison of Weight Profiles of Olanzapine- and Risperidone-Treated Patients", *Molecular Psychiatry*, 12: 474- 482, 2007

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