



Topic

HEALTH-2007-2.4.1-3: Genomic instability and genomic alterations in pre-cancerous lesions and/or cancer

Funding Scheme

Collaborative Project (Small or medium-scale focused research project)

Project coordinator

Michael Speicher (MUG)

Project Duration

Jan. 2008 – Dec 2010



GENINCA will focus on exploring pre-cancerous and cancer lesions of colorectal and liver cancer and their respective microenvironment. The project addresses genomic instability and explores its underlying mechanisms especially in pre-cancerous and early cancer lesions. In vivo endomicroscopy approaches, sophisticated animal models and large-scale genomic and proteomic analyses, including an in-depth analysis of the corresponding microenvironment, will be employed. Ultimately, GENINCA aims to identify markers for novel therapeutic and/or preventative strategies, as well as facilitating tumor diagnosis, prognosis and monitoring.

Medical University of Graz (MUG)

	AT	UNI
University of Ulm	DE	UNI
IFOM Foundation	IT	REC
Instituto Superiore di Sanità	IT	REC
London Research Institute	UK	REC
First Medical Clinic, Univ. of Mainz	DE	UNI
Universitätsklinikum Hamburg-Eppendorf	DE	UNI
INSERM U872	FR	REC
Oridis Biomed	AT	SME

ORIDIS Biomed is a biopharmaceutical company focused on the commercialization of its proprietary TISSOMICSTM research platform in collaborations with industrial partners. TISSOMICSTM is a proprietary disease-driven research platform enabling the medical validation of drug discovery approaches and biomarkers.

INTERVIEW

How did you experience the project proposal phase?

Michael Speicher (MUG) : “The project proposal phase went very smoothly. The partners were very responsive and delivered their contributions in time so that the majority of the grant was assembled without too much time pressure. In fact, we had many very fruitful discussions, which enabled us to start with some joint projects ahead of the GENINCA starting date. The assistance and the experience of the company Biolution was extremely useful and greatly facilitated the efficient compilation of the grant proposal.

Markus Otte (Oridis Biomed): The proposal phase was straightforward, short in time but quite productive and very well coordinated.

How did you experience the negotiation phase?

Michael Speicher (MUG): GENINCA was very well rated and the reviewers demanded only a small number of changes. However, despite this very favourable initial situation, the negotiation phase was unexpectedly complicated. In part this was caused by one of the partners, who had miscalculated the overhead costs, resulting in some shifts in the budget. All partners readily agreed to these changes in the budget.

Markus Otte (Oridis Biomed): The negotiation phase required from us the preparation and transfer of a few simple documents for further processing to Biolution and the co-ordinator. Well, since it was that easy for us, we are very satisfied.

Do you have any suggestions for other SMEs/Academia that would like to get involved in such projects?

Markus Otte (Oridis Biomed): This and similar calls highlighted nicely the need for well organized and co-ordinated biobank infrastructures in Europe and the availability of corresponding clinico-pathological data. We would recommend everybody starting tissue based research to evaluate the needs of biobank activities in his project planning as early as possible.



Michael Speicher