

EUGENEHEART COMPETITIVE CALL FOR AN ADDITIONAL SME PROJECT PARTNER

The following project currently active in the *Sixth Framework programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities contributing to the creation of the European research area and to innovation (2002-2006)* requires the participation of a new project partner to carry out certain tasks within the project.

Project contract number	LSHM-CT-2005-018833
Project acronym	EUGeneHeart
Project full name	Genomics of Cardiomyocyte Signalling to Treat and Prevent Heart Failure
Instrument type	Integrated Project

Summary of tasks requested

EUGeneHeart aims to develop new treatment strategies by which maladaptive signalling can be prevented and adaptive signalling can be promoted to inhibit heart failure.

Aims:

- 1) Assisting to break down and identify beneficial and harmful aspects of hypertrophic signalling. The latter includes analysing how hypertrophic stimulation is perceived and connected into intracellular signals by altering transcription and translation.
- 2) Different genomics-based screening techniques such as forward genetics in drosophila and zebrafish as well as genome wide screens in cardiomyocytes will be applied to uncover new candidate targets. These approaches will be exploited to enhance both the understanding of signalling and the development of new treatment strategies in a joint translational research activity. Small molecules will be screened for their potential to alter signalling pathway activation in cardiomyocytes and in engineered heart tissue - a transcriptome and proteome based analysis of differentially expressed genes is to follow. Targeted treatments using conventional drug development and RNAi technology will be developed.
- 3) EUGeneHeart will develop new strategies to inhibit detrimental and promote beneficial hypertrophic signaling. This includes translational research on existing pharmacological interventions, proof of principle studies with molecules, already developed by the consortium as well as the development of new candidate molecules identified within EUGeneHeart.
- 4) Significant gender differences in physiology and pathophysiology of adaptive and maladaptive myocardial hypertrophy will be investigated, expertise or at least the willingness to explore this field is mandatory. The SME is expected to produce therapy targets curing hypertrophy and/or treat heart failure, develop potential drug targets, provide targets (newly generated molecules or molecules already available to the SME, specifically modulating the activity of cardiomyocyte signalling) to be tested by the consortium.

Expertise:

The SME is expected to add value to the EUGeneHeart consortium by contributing to the drug discovery focus in that the major goals can be achieved more rapidly. Thus the expertise should be in the field of providing expertise, technology in the field of drug discovery and development. Since the SME should produce therapy targets curing hypertrophy and/or treating heart failure, a demonstrated set of compounds needs to be available.

Relevant research experience:

The following research experience would qualify an SME as a potential new participant in the EUGeneHeart consortium:

1. Technology and /or know-how on drug discovery, experience in drug delivery would be beneficial,
2. The ability to design and produce specific molecules
3. Access to small molecule libraries,
4. Having small molecule screening platforms available
5. Access to automatization technology would be a plus
6. Access to drug testing platforms would be an advantage
7. Provision of knowledge or technology to the consortium, based on promising candidate targets, candidate drugs, or therapeutic strategies, as well as strategies likely to increase the

chances for development of a candidate drug based on the findings gained from EUGeneHeart Work Packages or knowledge from outside the consortium.

Expected duration of participation in project: from July 2007 to December 2010

Estimated costs and funding for the tasks

Research costs:	420.000 € (to be supported by Commission funding of up to 50%)
Demonstration	0.- €
Training	0.- €
Consortium management costs	30.000 € (to be supported by Commission funding of up to 100%)
Total Commission funding available	240.000.- €

Language in which proposal should be submitted	English
Date of close of call	21.02.2007
Time of close of call	17h00 Brussels time

Web address for further information (call webpage): www.eugeneheart.com
Mail address for further information: administrative.manager@med.uni-goettingen.de

Please note that only paper submission is possible for this call.

The Guide for Proposers as well as the Administrative Proposal Forms are available under www.eugeneheart.com

The existing Consortium Agreement is available upon request

Please note that the **paper version** of your proposal (Part A and Part B) needs to be sent back by February 21 2007 to the following address:

G 1-3 Internationale Beziehungen
D. Balmer, EUGeneHeart office
Bereich Humanmedizin Universitaet Goettingen
Robert-Koch-StraÙe 40
D-37075 Goettingen, Germany

Additional Information:

What is an IP

http://ec.europa.eu/research/fp6/index_en.cfm?p=0_instruments

Conditions on participating: Regulation EC n° 2321/2002

ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/documents_r5/natdir0000030/s_4884005_20051007_141055_6FPL021890en.pdf

Brochure "The 6th Framework Programme in Brief"

ftp://ftp.cordis.europa.eu/pub/documents_r5/natdir0000040/s_1926005_20030402_150735_6FPL021926en.pdf

Model contract

<http://cordis.europa.eu/fp6/find-doc-specific.htm#modelcontracts>