



PROGRAMUL DE COOPERARE ELVEȚIANO-ROMÂN
SWISS-ROMANIAN COOPERATION PROGRAMME

Integrative Translational Research Network for Lung Cancer (Iasi – St. Gallen)

Starting Date 01.01.2013
Duration 36 Months
Discipline Pulmonary Medicine / Oncology



Main Goals

Establish a Swiss-Romanian lung cancer research network by extending the St. Gallen Lung Biopsy Biobank to the Medical University of Iasi. The combined biobanking effort offers a synergistic solution to perform large scale genomics studies dedicated to the improvement of the treatment and management of lung cancer patients.

Activities

In the initial launching phase of the project (2013), the main biobanking infrastructure was set in order to guarantee a successful extension of the St. Gallen Lung Biopsy Biobank at the Medical University of Iasi. In the early 2013, the Swiss team visited its Romanian partners in Iasi, set up the basis of the new Lung Cancer Biobank. From June 2013, the first biological materials from patients who signed informed consent were included. Until today, about 60 patients were included in the Romanian biobank, corresponding to a set of ca. 1000 samples (biopsies tumor and normal tissues, blood, plasma, serum, buffy coat). Several projects resulted from the current Swiss/Romanian collaboration. Members of the Romanian team visited the Cantonal Hospital St. Gallen. They were trained and participated in the validation phase of a study involving the identification of predictive and prognostic biomarkers in advanced non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC).

Expected results

Challenges remain in the setup and maintenance of the long term biobank mainly due to very different environments. This includes collecting clinical data from the patients, the routine collection of samples, a better understanding of ethical issues by the patients, the automated management of samples and storage conditions. Future projects (second half of 2015) that will benefit from our collaboration include the identification of exon-level biomarkers related to the response and resistance to EGFR-targeted treatment in NSCLC.

Swiss Coordinator

Name Brutsche Martin
Department Pulmonary Medicine
University Kantonsspital St. Gallen
E-Mail Address martin.brutsche@kssg.ch
Homepage www.pneumologie.kssg.ch

Romanian Coordinator

Name Grigoriu Bogdan
Department Thoracic Oncology
University Iasi
E-Mail Address: b_grigoriu@hotmail.com
Homepage -