Giuseppe Lauria Pinter

AGORA
Chronic neuropathic pain (clinic, neuroimaging, biology, neurophysiology) - harmonizing protocols

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AGORA partners will use their multidisciplinary expertise to identify key variables contributing to clinical trial outcomes in chronic neuropathic pain (CNP), with the aim of advancing the current standard of care with improved clinical trial guidelines pursuing a higher rate of responders. Experts from different research areas will collaborate with early career researchers (ECRs), patients' representatives and other key players in the field to identify essential variables affecting symptomatology, wellness and Quality of Life (QoL) of patients. A Delphi process will allow the consensus on relevant variables through which patients can be stratified in CNP endophenotypes, allowing the development of better tailored clinical trials. Recommendations for harmonization of clinical procedures, experimental methodologies and data management will also be delivered. AGORA will impact on future biomedical research by creating synergies between ECRs and established experts in the field, promoting the concept of CNP as a person-related condition, and bridging preclinical and clinical findings to provide effective treatments. The expected outcomes for the community will be the QoL improvement for patients and their families, through a more comprehensive diagnosis and targeted treatments, optimizing the cost-effectiveness of pharma-company investments and healthcare system, improving quality and reducing costs of public assistance.