Rare Partners presents a poster on Rapamycin project

RP announcement

Rare Partners, the Italian non profit dedicated to rare diseases, has presented a poster entitled Exploring the potential of Rapamycin (Sirolimus) in patients with beta-thalassemia" at the 6th European Conference on Rare Diseases & Orphan Products(ECRD), held from 23 to 25 May 2012 in Brussels, Belgium.

The authors of the poster are Marco Prosdocimi, Managing Director of Rare Partners, Roberto Gambari, Director of Thal Lab at the University of Ferrara, Elio Zago and Michele Lipucci from Associazione Veneta per la Lotta alla Talassemia (AVLT).
The poster highlights the importance of the collaboration between patients organizations, academic research and a pharmaceutical non profit company.

The lead author Dr Marco Prosdocimi commented *"the data here presented clearly show that Rapamicyn in vitro increases the level of Foetal Haemoglobin (HbF) at concentrations fully compatible with blood concentrations potentially achievable in patients. This supports the idea, originally developed by professor Gambari and his coworkers, that patients suffering from Thalassemia may benefit from a Rapamycin treatment. It is known that an increase of HbF in thalassemic patients may result in a relevant clinical improvement, such as a reduced transfusion frequency".*

About Rare Partners

Rare Partners Srl is a non profit company devoted to the development of new therapies and diagnostics in the field of rare diseases. The company was founded in Milan on March 2010 and registered in Italy as "Impresa Sociale". The basic idea of Rare Partners is to match non profit financial resources (public and private) with industrial drug development expertise, provided by the company's organization together with a strong network of consultants.

About Associazione Veneta per la Lotta alla Talassemia

Associazione Veneta per la Lotta alla Talassemia (A.V.L.T.) is a non profit organization established since 1976 in Rovigo, Italy. Its mission is to promote different initiatives aimed at preventing thalassemia and providing the best social and healthcare treatment for thalassemia sufferers.

About University of Ferrara

The University of Ferrara, established in 1391 is one of the oldest universities in Italy, counting with more than 18,000 students and with an outstanding track-record of excellence in scientific research, including life sciences. Professor Roberto Gambari is the founder and Director of the Laboratory for the development of genetic and pharmacogenomic therapy of thalassemia, ThalLab at the University of Ferrara