NEWSLETTER | SEPTEMBER 2023 | Nº 58

BELGIAN BRAIN COUNCIL



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1. BBC, PATIENTS AND PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES

Here, Eisai presents how the company can highlight the policy it has recently developed to streamline and integrate systems and processes in order to place patients' needs at the heart of its pharmaceutical activities.



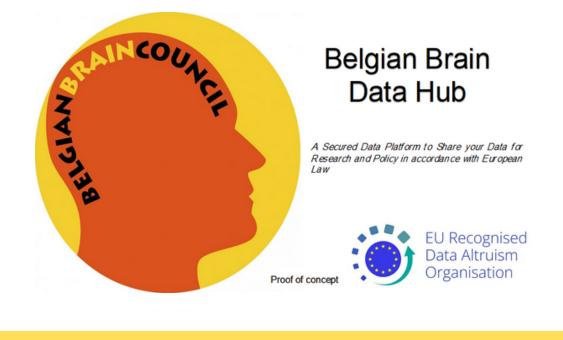
At **Eisai EMEA**, our first thoughts are with patients, their families and carers through our human health care (hhc) philosophy.

Our collective passion and dedication to patient care is the driving force behind our efforts to discover and develop innovative medicines in therapeutic areas of high unmet medical need, particularly neurology. We take a holistic approach to support and care, focusing beyond symptom control on the research and discovery of lifechanging medicines for patients with chronic neurological conditions.

For several years, we have been a trusted partner in the fields of epilepsy and Lennox-Gastaut syndrome, and our aim is to take on the challenge of Alzheimer's disease in the near future.

We are the European centre of Tokyo-based Eisai Co. Ltd. headquartered in Tokyo, and part of a multinational workforce working in a global network of committed R&D facilities, production sites and marketing subsidiaries. Our mission is clear: we strive to make a meaningful and lasting contribution to society in an ethical, compliant and sustainable manner by embodying our hhc philosophy in everything we do.

For more information about Eisai in the EMEA region, please visit <u>www.eisai.eu.</u> June 2023 - BE-NON-23-00003.



2. Belgian Brain Plan Phase 2

Following our AGM and the success of phase 1, our members have given the go-ahead to undertake phase 2. Phase 2 is focused on the launch of the BBC Data Altruistic association and, as with Phase I, our industry partners will bear the cost. The budget will be used to cover, in particular, consultancy and legal fees to ensure compliance with European and Belgian requirements for obtaining the agreement, improvements to the BBC demo, the development of a multilingual version, a communications campaign and the launch of a conference.

The following pharmaceutical companies have already agreed to be sponsors of phase 2:



🖑 Bristol Myers Squibb

3. BBC and the abolition of the use of animals in science



EARA European Animal Research Association

Reminder: the BBC has given its support to the declaration led by European Brain Research: Animal Research and "Pledge for Science" (see newsletter 54 of January 2023) in support of the campaign led by EARA. Many BBC members, individually and on behalf of their organizations, signed the statement, which received 3,680 individual signatures and the support of 58 organizations.

(see https://www.braincouncil.eu/pledge-for-science-brain-research-and-innovation-in-the-eu/)

The statement is a response to the European Citizens' Initiative (ECI) petition entitled "Save cruelty-free cosmetics - Commit to a Europe without animal testing".

The European Commission has responded to this petition. (see <u>https://europa.eu/citizens-initiative/sites/default/files/2023-07/C_2023_5041_EN.pdf</u>)

Kirk Leech, Executive Director of EARA, thanked the biomedical community for its effective campaign to warn of the implications of the ECI and said: "*While the sirens will continue to sound, the European biomedical community appreciates the Commission's recognition that scientific innovation and patient health will remain priorities in the EU, ahead of the unrealistic aspirations of animal rights groups*".

4. COVID long and clinical trials

The NIH (National Institute of Health, USA), which raised \$1.15 billion in March 2021, is (finally) launching clinical trials on the long-standing COVID, which affects 65 million people worldwide. Four phase II trials will evaluate treatments including the antiviral drug Paxlovid, online training programmes, brain stimulation and melatonin supplements. The treatments are designed to reduce the length of time the virus persists in the body, reduce cognitive symptoms such as brain fog, improve sleep quality, combat fatigue and redirect the autonomic nervous system.[1]

5. BBC and Erasmus+ Days



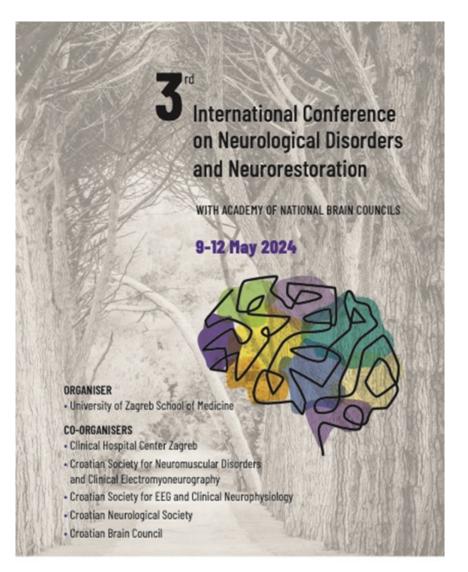
The Erasmus+ programme remains the European Union's flagship programme. The 7th edition of Erasmusdays, to be held from 9 to 14 October 2023, will highlight Europe's cultural diversity and the many learning opportunities it offers.

As a reminder, the BBC is currently a partner in 3 Erasmus+ KA2 projects (key action 2), which are simplified partnership projects designed to widen access to the programme for small players and hard-to-reach people in the field of adult education.edition of Erasmusdays, to be held from 9 to 14 October 2023, will highlight Europe's cultural diversity and the many learning opportunities it offers.

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^{[1] &}lt;u>https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-023-02472-1?</u> <u>utm_source=Nature+Briefing%3A+Translational+Research&utm_campaign=19a64d584c-briefing-tr-</u> <u>20230809&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_872afe2a9a-19a64d584c-47596516</u>

6. Croatian Brain Council and 10th Academy of National Brain Councils



Brijuni National Park / CROATIA

The 10th NBCs Academy will be in Pula (Croatia) on May 8-9, 2024 hosted by Pr. Dinko Mitrecic

The event will take place in the Brijuni national park, an island located 10 minutes by boat from the town of Pula. As well as being a magnificent place (protected nature, golf club, private zoo, etc.), the park will be visited and a dinner will be organised in Pula. A visit and dinner will be organised in Pula.

7. BBC and the Belgian Federal Parliament

The BBC is registered with the House of Representatives' Register of Lobbies.

The registration number is 2023/196.

To date, 164 people have subscribed to the list. (see <u>https://www.dekamer.be/kvvcr/pdf sections/lobby/lobbyisten.pdf</u>)

8. NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

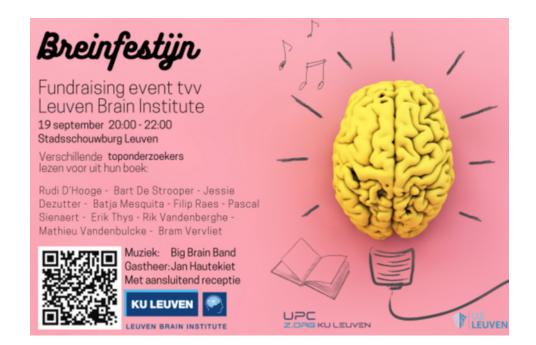
1. The Belgian National Multiple Sclerosis League reports: WHO decision brings hope to multiple sclerosis sufferers worldwide (see https://www.msif.org/news/2023/07/25/whos-decision-brings-hope-to-people-with-ms-worldwide/)

2. Action Parkinson is organizing a conference in Brussels on 18 September



3. Leuven Brain Institute

The Leuven Brain Institute is organizing its first fundraising event with a large number of participants: Beer festival on 19 September in Leuven city centre and LBI fundraiser.



4. Hoofd-Stuck is organizing a campaign to end the stigma attached to migraine.

More details at https://www.hoofd-stuk.be



5. University of Antwerp is organising on 30-31 October the 18th international GEoPD (Genetic Epidemiology of Parkinson's Disease consortium) meeting.

See programme at:

https://www.uantwerpen.be/en/conferences/international-meeting-geopd/programme/

6. On <u>16 November</u>, **the Club des mouvements anormaux** is organising a video session with **SOFMA (Société Française des Mouvements anormaux).**

The programme is readable at: <u>https://www.sofma.net/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/pre-programme-novembre-23.pdf</u>

7. The Belgian Society of Pediatric Neurology is holding its autumn conference in Brussels on <u>17 November</u>.



On this occasion, our President, Laurence Ris, was invited to present the BBC and its interactions with member scientific societies.

See programme at:

http://www.bspn.be/download/20231117-BSPN%20Autumn%20Meeting.pdf

Support Our Actions I BECOME A MEMBER DEVENEZ MEMBRE LID WORDEN 30€ at BE87 7512 0194 0094 with name + email

BBC ACCOUNT : BE87 7512 0194 0094

The BBC is on the following social networks:



12 videos about different BBC activities/meetings/webinars are visible on UTube at: <u>https://www.youtube.com/@BBCBelgianBrainCouncil</u>

Composition of the Executive Committee for the period 2021-2022

Chairman: Professor Laurence RIS General Secretary: Professor Roland Pochet Vice-Chairmen: Dr Gianni Franco, Baron Charles van der Straten-Waillet Treasurer: Baron Charles van der Straten –Waillet Secretary: Mrs Lia Le Roy

Dates to remember

September Henallux Continuing Education 12 September Hoofd-Stuck organizes a campaign to destigmatize migraine

15 September BSC Scientific Stroke Workshop, UZ Brussel 18 September Action Parkinson: lecture by Dr Elena Oprea, neuro-urologist on urological problems. Brussels

19 September KULeuven Breinfestijn 22 September Belgian Stroke Scientific Workshop. UZ Brussel

26 September

Rethinking Alzheimer's disease: Moving towards a new Alzheimer's disease detection and diagnosis pathway in Sweden, Virtual **28 September**

KULeuven distinguished lecture: Molecular Memories by Dr. Oded Rechavi link: <u>https://bio.kuleuven.be/odedRechavi</u> 9-14 October Erasmusdays 2023 26-27 October Brain Innovation Days: The Brain in the 21st Century, Brussels

30-31 October 18th international GEoPD (Genetic Epidemiology of Parkinson's Disease) **meeting.**

UZ antwerpen

16-17 November Société française de mouvements anormaux French-Belgium symposium

17 November Belgian Society of Pediatric Neurology Congress 21 November Leuven Brain Institute Science Day

(see https://www.kuleuven.be/brain-institute/events-andoutreach/lbi-2023-science-day-november-21st-1-6pmneurodiversity)

May 8-9, 2024 10th NBCs Academy in Pula (Croatia)

