

GNN-research seminar:

Neuroplasticity and neurogenesis in mood disorders

Thursday October 9th, 2008

Time: 10 – 16

Place: Lille Auditorium, Domus Medica, University of Oslo, campus Gaustad (Rikshospitalet University hospital).

Aims:

The main aim of the meeting is to present projects with a translational perspective based on cooperation between basic science and clinical research. At this seminar we will discuss the current state of the art with regard to neuroplasticity and neurogenesis in mood disorders with emphasis on methodological and interpretative issues. If the meeting could lead to a closer collaboration between some of the participants, it would be great.

Organizer:

The meeting is organized by the Gaustad Neuroscience Network (www.gnnet.no)-website is under construction). GNN was established in 2004 with the aim of strengthening research at Rikshospitalet University hospital and the Institute of Basic Medical Sciences by improving the interaction between the two institutions. The GNN was established at the initiative of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Oslo (http://www.uio.no/english/about_uio/) and the Center for Molecular Biology and Neuroscience (<http://www.cmbn.no/>). Responsible for the program of the present meeting is Department of Neuropsychiatry and Psychosomatic Medicine, Division of Clinical Neurosciences (Director: Professor Ulrik Fr Malt, MD PhD).

Sponsor:

Institute of Psychiatry, University of Oslo and Department of Neuropsychiatry and Psychosomatic Medicine, Division of Clinical Neurosciences. Rikshospitalet University hospital.

Registration:

Participation is free, but pre-registration is required in order to plan the catering part of the seminar. Contact: Mrs Bjørg Høgnnes, telephone (+47) 230 74920; e-mail: bjorg.hognes@rikshospitalet.no

Program

Moderator: Leif Gjerstad, MD PhD. Professor of Neurology, University of Oslo and Director of Research, Division of Clinical Neurosciences, Rikshospitalet University hospital, Oslo

- 09.30 - 10.00 Registration / coffee /tee
- 10.00 - 10.10 **Wellcome and introduction**
Ulrik Fr Malt, Professor of Psychiatry, University of Oslo and Director Dept of Neuropsychiatry and Psychosomatic Medicine, Division of Clinical Neurosciences, Rikshospitalet University hospital, Oslo
- 10.10 – 10.50 **Animal models of neuroplasticity in depression.**
Professor Fritz Henn, MD, PhD. Associate Laboratory Director for Life Sciences at the U.S. Department of Energy's Brookhaven National Laboratory.
- 10.50 – 11.05 Discussion
- 11.05 – 11.15 Break (coffee / tea / softdrinks)
- 11.15 – 11.55: **The role of synaptic plasticity in the pathophysiology of depression in humans**
Senior consultant Claus Norman, MD; Department of Psychosomatic Medicine and Psychotherapy, University of Freiburg
- 11.55 – 12.10 Discussion
- 12.10 – 12.50 **Antidepressants and plasticity in the adult brain.**
Professor Eero Castren, MD; PhD Neuroscience Center, University of Helsinki
- 12.50 – 13.05 Discussion
- 13.05 – 14.00 Lunch
- 14.00 – 14.10 **Studies on neuroplasticity and neurogenesis in humans with bipolar disorders.**
Torbjørn Elvåshagen, MD; Ph-research fellow Department of Neuropsychiatry and Psychosomatic medicine, Division of Clinical Neurosciences, Rikshospitalet University hospital; Institute of Psychiatry, University of Oslo and the TOP-project.
- 14.10 - 14.20 Discussion
- 14.20 - 14.30 **Variations in the neurotrophin receptor (NTRK-3) gene associated with hippocampal function, verbal learning and schizophrenia**
Mona Kolstø, MD; Research fellow. TOP-project, Institute of Psychiatry, University of Oslo and Ullevål University hospital.
- 14.30- 14.40 Discussion
- 14.40- 14.50 Break (coffee / tea / softdrinks)
- 14.50- 15.10 **Neuroplasticity and neurogenesis in neurological disorders.**
Espen Dietrichs, MD, PhD. Professor of Neurology, University of Oslo and Director Dept of Neurology, Division of Clinical Neurosciences, Rikshospitalet university hospital, Oslo
- 15.10- 15.20 Discussion
- 15-20- 16.00 **Perspectives on future research strategies**
General discussion (Moderator: O.P.Ottersen, MD; PhD. Professor and Director, Center for Molecular Biology and Neuroscience, University of Oslo).