

European Gram-Negative AntiBacterial Engine

Newsletter n°2

Editorial

As 2016 just ended, it is time for ENABLE to summarize the progresses made during the last few months.

We held our 3rd Annual Meeting in Stockholm continuing our commitment towards the development of new therapeutic options against Gram-Negative infections.

To do so, new partners recently joined to help us move forward into preclinical development. Our portfolio has undergone its periodic review, strengthening our portfolio.

We are proud of what we have achieved over the last year and look forward to 2017 and its new challenges.

We would also like to wish you all the best for this New Year.

In brief

Here are key events that happened within ENABLE over the past months

- **Our third annual meeting took place last September**

The third ENABLE Annual meeting took place in the heart of Stockholm's Old Town from September 12th to September 13th, 2016.

This two-day meeting allowed 77 representatives from ENABLE partners to get an overview of ENABLE's achievements as well as insight in the different running programmes. By meeting face-to-face, ENABLE teams were able to define plans for the next period.



To read the full report, please visit our website www.nd4bb-enable.eu or [click here](#).



David Pompliano, co-founder and CSO of **Lodo Therapeutics**, gave a great talk around the exciting field that is "Microbial Metagenomics - based Antibiotic Discovery".

To learn more about LodoTherapeutics, please visit www.lodotherapeutics.com or [click here](#).

- **ENABLE consortium co-organized the Frontiers in Antibiotic Drug Discovery (FiADD)**

Together with the Swedish Pharmaceutical Society, the ENABLE consortium co-organized a two-day meeting in Stockholm on September 14-15, 2016.

By gathering 120 participants from over 15 countries, this conference showcased future opportunities for antibacterial drug research through lectures, posters and lots of discussions.

After the success of this edition, the organizers may organize a second edition in the near future. We will keep you updated.

Six main topics were addressed:

- Finding new chemical entities for antibacterials,
- Gram-negative antibacterial entry,
- Economics and policy of drug discovery & development,
- Antibacterial resistance,
- Alternatives to traditional antibiotics, and
- Industry experience of developing antibiotics.

- **ENABLE consortium welcomed five new partners**

As part of our rolling open calls, new partners were selected upon their expression of interest.

To learn more about the Open Call Process, please visit our website www.nd4bb-enable.eu or [click here](#).

We are happy to welcome **SPERO Therapeutics, Helperby, Saint-George University of London, University of Zurich and Juvabis**.

To learn more about SPERO Therapeutics and read full press release, please visit www.sperotherapeutics.com or [click here](#).

To learn more about Helperby and read full press release, please visit www.helperby.com or [click here](#).

To learn more about Juvabis and read full press release, please visit www.juvabis.com or [click here](#).

Please remember that the Open Call Process is continuously running.

If your research programme meets the ENABLE criteria, please submit your expression of interest through our website.

Click [here](#) to learn more about our selection criteria and process.

- **We also welcomed Dr Anneli Hällgren to the ENABLE consortium**



Anneli is a **pharmacist with a PhD in physiology** from a department located within the same building in which she now sits today, 20 years later, alongside the rest of the Uppsala ENABLE team.

She gained her **pharma experience working on non-clinical safety and project management within AstraZeneca**, before moving into SME biotechs, where she managed preclinical organisations and project portfolios.

Since 2012, Anneli has become an **independent consultant in non-clinical development**, guiding small pharma companies in non-clinical strategy, in planning and execution of studies, and in interactions with authorities such as the EMA and FDA. She will retain this job part time alongside her ENABLE role.

She got attracted to ENABLE because of the **challenge and rewarding aspects of finding novel anti-infectives**, a worthwhile contribution to an important topic which has relevance for everybody, inside and outside the scientific community. Since she joined, Anneli has been saying how impressed she is about **what the ENABLE team has been able to build by combining diverse “cultures” and people**, yet all driven with great dedication towards a common goal to make ENABLE a success.

Her job will be to ensure that ENABLE programmes reaching candidate nomination have been appropriately de-risked with regards to drug safety and that proper non-clinical plans have been designed and will be executed for a **smooth transition into clinical trials**. Anneli is also in charge of **extending the ENABLE capability in terms of regulatory toxicology and safety**.

ENABLE welcomes Anneli in the Consortium Management Office and looks forward to her **contribution to accelerate programmes towards the clinic** in the next three years of the project.

Focus on

Let us introduce one of the partners who make it possible for ENABLE to exist.

Nosopharm, an ENABLE partner since December 2015



Nosopharm is a French biotechnology company founded in 2009 by both **Philippe Villain-Guillot** and **Maxime Gualteri**.



*“Being selected for **ENABLE** strengthens Nosopharm’s position among the most innovative companies in the antibacterial R&D community”,*

said Philippe Villain-Guillot, president of Nosopharm.

The core of Nosopharm activity is to develop a **novel class of antibiotics, called the Odilorhabdins** and that is active against multidrug-resistant Gram-negative bacteria. Odilorhabdins were discovered by Nosopharm’s **innovative proprietary drug discovery platform** based on the screening of an extremely original bioresource: the bacterial genera ***Xenorhabdus*** and ***Photorhabdus***.

*“The **ENABLE** consortium adds significant resources for the preclinical and clinical development of our Odilorhabdin program, and provides helpful expertise from the **EFPIA** pharmaceutical companies involved in antibacterial drug discovery and development”,* he added.

To learn more about Nosopharm please visit www.nosopharm.com or click [here](#).

To read the full press release on its entry in ENABLE, please click [here](#)

ENABLE in action

Alongside the project ENABLE, our partners are deeply involved in the anti-microbial R&D community.

- Anders Karlén (Uppsala University and Leader of the Managing entity of ENABLE) presented the ENABLE project during the “World Anti-microbial Resistance Congress USA 2016” who gathered key influencers such as BARDA, NIH, FDA, grant agencies, pharma, hospitals, and academia for two days in Washington D.C, USA, on **September 8-9, 2016**.
- Robert Stavenger (GSK and EFPIA coordinator for both ENABLE and TRANSLOCATION) presented a poster “The European Gram-Negative AntiBacterial Engine” at the Bill and Melinda Gates Grand Challenges Annual Meeting, London, UK, on **October 23-26, 2016**.
- Robert Stavenger also did an oral presentation “IMI TRANSLOCATION and ENABLE: Collaborative Drug Discovery in Action” at the Workshop to Take Aim at Bacteria, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA, USA, on **November 18, 2016**.
- Thanks to our partner Miguel Vicente, (Research professor at the Universidad Computense de Madrid, Spain), ENABLE was acknowledged outside Europe during the 38th Chilean congress of microbiology held in Valdivia, Chile, on **November 22-25, 2016**.
- Anders Karlén presented ENABLE project in a meeting about IMI activities hosted by Vinnova, a funding agency responsible for many EU-related activities in Sweden, on **December 2, 2016**. This meeting was attended by Pierre Meulien, executive director of IMI, representatives of EFPIA and of Swedish research organisations.
- Eric Bacqué (Sanofi and ENABLE EFPIA co-coordinator) presented the ENABLE consortium during the Joint Programming Initiative on Antimicrobial Resistance workshop on Early Discovery of new Antibiotics which took place in Paris, France, on **January 12-13 2017**.

ENABLE within ND4BB initiative

As part of the New Drug for Bad Bugs initiative, we would like to keep you updated with the other projects.



During our annual meeting, Carl Anderson Kronlid presented the scope of his PhD work on **“Strategies for antibiotic R&D – processes and mechanisms in inter-organizational collaboration”** which is based on ENABLE as a case study.

Carl Anderson Kronlid graduated with a MSc in Industrial Management and Innovation from the University of Uppsala where he met **Prof Enrico Baraldi**, his current PhD supervisor together with **Prof Francesco Ciabuschi**.

Carl has just started collecting information and more interviews are needed before he can really provide us with insights on how to improve ENABLE management. Nonetheless, while being interviewed Carl confessed that he was amazed by the size and complexity of the ENABLE consortium. Noteworthy enough, he noticed that overall the 20 ENABLE representatives he interviewed were **highly positive and confident about the initiative’s probability of success**.

He is also convinced that collaboration is the best way to reach full potential in R&D and find the best options to fight antibiotic resistance.

The choice of the ENABLE as a case study for his PhD is not really a coincidence. Indeed, as part of the division of industrial engineering

and management at the Uppsala University, Carl is also working full time within the DRIVE-AB consortium, another ND4BB initiative.

DRIVE-AB aims at developing **new economic models to incentivize antibiotic discovery and development activities** while safeguarding the efficacy of antibiotics by researching and **advocating their appropriate use**.

DRIVE-AB is initiating its final year and published a few policy briefs including the last one ***Importance of Multinational Coordination and Increased Public Financing for Antibiotic Innovation*** which was disseminated during the “High-level meeting on Antimicrobial Resistance” organized at the United Nation Headquarters in New-York, last September.

Within DRIVE-AB, Carl and some of his Uppsala colleagues are involved in testing and simulating the reward and business models developed by the consortium, depending on the R&D antibiotic landscape which is increasingly shaped by R&D collaborations such as ENABLE.

We are looking forward to reading their final report and to learning how public-private partnerships could be even more efficient in enabling new antibiotic research and development.

- To learn more about DRIVE-AB please visit the website drive-ab.eu or click [here](#).

- To read the #3 Policy Brief “The Importance of Multinational Coordination and increased Public Financing for Antibiotic Innovation”, please visit or click [here](#)

Thanks for following our initiative!

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