Beredningsgruppens yttrande

2015-02515	Elias Eriksson	Beredningsgrupp: MH-D2

Utlysningsnamn: Forskningsbidrag Stora utlysningen 2015 (Medicin och hälsa)
Projekttitel (svenska): Selektiva serotoninåterupptagshämmare: gåtor och kontroverser
Bidragsform: Projektbidrag
Sökt inriktning: Fri

Novelty and originality 5

1 - Poor, 2 - Weak, 3 - Good, 4 - Very Good, 5 - Very good to excellent, 6 - Excellent, 7 - Outstanding

The project involves several basic and clinical studies of high novelty and originality.
A unique databank on placebo-controlled SSRI trials will be studied post-hoc. An enhanced knowledge of the mechanism of action of SSRIs, administered acutely and during chronic administration has been desirable for a long time and is strived for in the proposed programme.

Scientific quality of the proposed research 6

1 - Poor, 2 - Weak, 3 - Good, 4 - Very Good, 5 - Very good to excellent, 6 - Excellent, 7 - Outstanding

This is an outstanding proposal with high scientific quality, founding on well-thought strategies as well as on a solid background and extensive previous work. There will be many studies of patient-level data on all available industry sponsored trials of SSRIs covering single item (side) effect parameters, dose-response, påredictors for suicide, SSRI in adolescents, predictors of response etc.
Ongoing preclinical studies of SSRIs role for anxiety, aggression, sexual behavior, and motivation will continue. Advanced serotonin-related measures will be used and studied e.g. in brain tissue and CSF. Optogenetics has recently been introduced in the laboratory. Interactions between monoamines and androgens will also be studied. Further clinical studies are in the pipeline.

Merits of the applicant(s) 6

1 - Poor, 2 - Weak, 3 - Good, 4 - Very Good, 5 - Very good to excellent, 6 - Excellent, 7 - Outstanding

PhD 1985.The applicant is an experienced researcher and expert in psychopharmacology. He reports a very large amount of papers since 2009. A recent report on SSRI trials of depressed mood has been accepted for publication in Molecular Psychiatry. There is no co-applicant.

Feasibility 3

1 - Not feasible, 2 - Partly feasible, 3 - Feasible

The applicant has access to a unique SSRI dabase, a well functioning infrastructure concerning animal research and well-known contacts with clinicians for clinical trials.

Previous results for continuation projects 6

1 - Poor, 2 - Weak, 3 - Good, 4 - Very Good, 5 - Very good to excellent, 6 - Excellent, 7 - Outstanding

Several publications since 2013; mainly preclinical studies. A recent report from the above mentioned SSRI trials on HAMD depressed mood. Good networks.

Overall assessment of the scientific quality* 6

1 - Poor, 2 - Weak, 3 - Good, 4 - Very good, 5 - Very good to excellent, 6 - Excellent, 7 - Outstanding

This is an innovative and highly ambitious project - overall an excellent application. The applicant presents a comprehensive project plan covering data-bank studies animal studies and studies of patients -concerning the role and mechanism of action of mainly SSRIs, but also OSU-6162.