



ABCDx

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ABCDx and Instituto de Biomedicina de Sevilla recruits first patient in the BIO-FAST clinical study

BIO-FAST study aims at validating a point-of-care device (POC) and a panel of biomarkers that differentiate ischemic and hemorrhagic stroke using a blood sample

Geneva, Barcelona – November 20, 2019: ABCDx announces today that the first patient has been recruited in the BIO-FAST study run in Sevilla.

The BIO-FAST (*Biomarkers for Initiating Onsite and Faster Ambulance Stroke Therapies*) study aims at validating a point-of-care device (POCT) and a panel of biomarkers that differentiate ischemic and hemorrhagic stroke using a drop of blood.

15 million stroke events happen annually worldwide. The WHO estimates that this number will grow to 23 million by 2030. With more than 30% of these patients dying, stroke is the second leading cause of death in the world. In addition, stroke is one of the leading cause of adult acquired disability in the world and the leading cause in developed countries. Most strokes are ischemic (85%) resulting from the occlusion of a cerebral artery, while 15% of strokes are hemorrhagic following the rupture of a cerebral artery.

Dr Joan Montaner, Neurologist, Head of Neurovascular Research at Instituto de Biomedicina de Sevilla, and principal investigator of the BIO-FAST study commented: *“Today, for ischemic stroke patients, reperfusion therapies of the occluded artery are the only useful treatment. The effectiveness of these strategies depends largely on timing, and the need to perform neuroimaging techniques (CT or MRI) to differentiate between ischemic and hemorrhagic stroke makes them impossible to perform at the pre-hospital level and often impossible to perform on a timely basis. Being able to discriminate between these stroke types in the pre-hospital setting is thus key to successful treatment of patients. Our goal is thus to offer a simple point-of-care device (POC) solving this issue. The objective of the BIO-FAST study is to validate the POC and a panel of biomarkers that differentiate ischemic and hemorrhagic stroke using a simple drop of blood.”*

Pr. Jean-Charles Sanchez, co-founder and CEO of ABCDx further commented: *“The BIO-FAST study run by Dr. Montaner’s team in Sevilla, Spain, is one of the first study ever done in ambulances. The POCT device developed by ABCDx is a paradigm change in the field of stroke patient care as it will enable the early discrimination between ischemic and hemorrhagic strokes*

and significantly increase the number of patients who can be treated in a timely basis. Using blood sample, the ABCDx POCT has been designed to be simple to use by ambulance units and do not require any significant up-front investment. We are very excited to be on a path of offering new solutions for this patient population. “

BIOFAST, a collaborative project, among the public network of ambulances at Seville, the Instituto de Biomedicina de Sevilla and the Vall d'Hebron Research Institute at Barcelona, is funded in part by the Spanish government (ISCIII, DTS 19/00135) and incorporates ABCDx biomarkers and POCT technology.

About ABCDx

Based in Geneva, with a subsidiary in Spain, ABCDx is a worldwide leader in blood-based biomarkers development for brain injuries. ABCDx' devices provide data that help healthcare professionals in the triage, diagnosis and treatment decision process at the point-of-care for patients with suspected brain injury, from stroke and trauma to post-injury complications and patient outcome.

About IBIS

The Institute of Biomedicine of Seville (IBIS), was created on March 24, 2006 under an agreement signed by the Ministry of Health of the Junta de Andalucía, the Ministry of Innovation, Science and Business of the Junta de Andalucía, the Andalusian Health Service, the University of Seville, and the Higher Council for Scientific Research. The mission of IBIS is to contribute to strengthening biomedical research in Spain, becoming a high-level research space in southern Europe. The IBIS is conceived as a multidisciplinary biomedical research space, within the complex that houses the *Virgen del Rocío and Macarena University Hospitals*, with the objective of conducting competitive international research on the causes of the most prevalent pathologies in the population and the development of new diagnostic and treatment methods for them.

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