

news

TI PHARMA



Four project agreements signed



In December 2006 TI Pharma launched its first project, a study on pain aimed at the development of new, more effective pain killers. Recently, the contracts for 3 more TI Pharma projects have been signed in the areas of psychosis (T5-209), pneumonia (T4-101) and HIV (T4-212). The goal of the first project is to find new and better medicines to treat psychotic patients. Only a very limited number of drugs is available for such patients, and these often have severe side effects. The second project's goal is to find a novel way to eradicate the *Klebsiella* bacterium. This bacterium causes a severe and deadly form of pneumonia and is resistant to most existing antibiotics. The third project will attack the difficult and largely unsolved problem of finding the optimal medication for HIV-infected young children is investigated. For more information, please visit [our website](#).

Recruitment challenge

Top Institute Pharma is looking for 300+ ambitious researchers to staff our projects. Our challenge is to raise interest among ambitious PhD-students and post-docs for research at TI Pharma. We recently organized a meeting to share experiences with our partners, with a focus on the best way to recruit high-quality researchers. Moreover, TI Pharma participates in recruitment events such as the Intermediar PhD Career and BioCareer event. A portfolio of recruitment tools is available for our partners. One of these tools is the TI Pharma recruitment film (duration: 7 minutes). To order our film or for more information, please contact Karin Huiberts, HR manager (karin.huiberts@tipharma.com).



Education & training: drug development simulated

TI Pharma's education and training program tops existing educational programs with a state-of-the-art simulation course on drug discovery and a course on drug development. These simulations have demonstrated their success at the biopharmaceutical company Organon and are tailor-made for TI Pharma Fellows. The first drug development simulation is planned in the 4th week of **October (22-26, 2007)**. For more information, or to request a copy of the film, please contact Karin Huiberts, HR manager (karin.huiberts@tipharma.com).

Dutch Minister of Health visits TI Pharma



On April 23 2007 Ab Klink, the new Dutch Minister of Health, visited our headquarters in Leiden. In addition to presenting the Institute and our strategic research program, we spoke with the Minister about TI Pharma's special attention for the WHO report "Priority Medicines for Europe and the World". The Minister met two of the investigators involved in our research program, Canadian post-doc Marie-Andr e Yessine (OctoPlus) and Dutch PhD Anke Laskewitz (Groningen University Medical Center).

Workshop: tailor-made drug treatment for children

The use of unlicensed and off-label medicines for children is widespread and has caused increasing concern over the last few years. Approximately 70% of the drugs prescribed for children are unlicensed or used in an off-label manner, with percentages up to 90% for newborns. Dosages of drugs for children are often empiric and/or extrapolated from adult dosages, despite profound differences in response between children and adults and between children of different ages. In addition, many drugs are not currently available in suitable formulations for administration to children.

To address these problems, TI Pharma will organize a meeting in October to discuss possible ways to improve the drug treatment of children. This meeting will be of interest to physicians/paediatricians, pharmacists and pharmaceutical scientists (from industry and academia), as well as colleagues from WHO, Ministry of Health and regulatory authorities. The location is the museum Naturalis, the Dutch museum of natural history, in Leiden. The date: Friday **October 19th 2007**. For more information, please contact Hanneke Heeres, communications manager (hanneke.heeres@tipharma.com).

PSWC 2007: Amsterdam hosts over 2000 pharmaceutical scientists



The Third Pharmaceutical Sciences World Conference (PSWC 2007) was held in Amsterdam on April 22-25. The conference was officially opened by the Dutch Minister of Education & Science, Ronald Plasterk. Over 2000 registered participants attended this successful conference chaired by Daan Crommelin, Scientific Director of TI Pharma. The scientific programme offered a clear view on the dynamics of our discipline, spanning the full breadth of the pharmaceutical sciences. TI Pharma manned a booth at the exhibition to draw attention to the many PhD. and post-doc positions presently available in our Institute. A highly successful pre-satellite meeting of PSWC 2007 drew 400 PhD students and post-docs and TI Pharma showed its presence there as well by sponsoring a 'best poster award'. More information can be found at www.fip.org/PSWC.

Third meeting of the International Scientific Review Committee

The third meeting of TI Pharma's International Scientific Review Committee (ISRC) was held on April 12th and 13th. In this meeting three Principal Investigators presented their projects and plans for education & training were discussed. The reports of the first and second ISRC meeting can be downloaded [here](#). The report of the third meeting will be published at this site as soon as it has been approved by all ISRC members.

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