EU Initiatives in the field of Neurodegenerative Diseases
The role of the European Commission in research

Shaping and implementing research policies
- proposes and implements research policies such as the European Research Area, the Europe 2020 strategy and the Innovation Union

Funding research and innovation
- Manages the 7th Framework Programme for Research & Technological Development – FP7
- FP7 supports research done by a wide range of participants
- Aims at strengthening the S+T base, increasing the competitiveness of industry and improving lives of citizens
FP7: 2007 – 2013

Total FP7 budget: € 54,582 billion

*of which Health €6.1 billion
What do we want:

- Improving health of European citizens
- Increasing competitiveness of European health-related industries and businesses
- Addressing global health issues
- Supporting the aims of Europe 2020: the ‘Innovation Union’
  - Collaborative research: FP7 projects
  - Coordinating national research programmes: ERA-Nets, JPND
  - International Cooperation Activities: Programme-Level Cooperation with non-EU countries
What did we do?

- 92 collaborative projects on the brain and its diseases supported
- €465 million invested so far on brain diseases
- Of these, €277 million (59%) devoted to research on neurological diseases.
- €180 million = FP7 Health funding going to neurodegenerative diseases (39% of total funding)
- Additional €60 million are expected to be allocated to neurodegenerative disease research as outcome of the 2011 Health call.
Neurodegenerative Diseases in FP7

- Parkinson’s disease: €42 million
- Dementia and Alzheimer’s disease: €60 million
- Rare neurodegenerative diseases: €33 million
- Retinal degeneration: €18 million
- Motorneuron disease: €15 million
- Mechanisms of neurodegeneration: €12 million

TOTAL = €180 million
Neurodegenerative diseases research - examples

**MEMOSAD:** aims at defining the molecular mechanisms of Abeta- and Tau-induced synaptotoxicity and at developing disease-modifying therapeutics for the prevention of memory loss in Alzheimer disease

€3 million, 10 partners, 6 EU countries

**MEMSTICK:** investigates the role of novel synaptic cell adhesion molecules (CAMs) in memory loss, and the therapeutic value of targeting these CAMs to restore memory function

€3 million, 7 partners, 6 countries
the ERA-NETs - Co-ordination of national research activities

**NEURON:** ERA-NET linking European national and regional research funding programmes in the field of disease-related neuroscience

| PARTNERS: 15 Funding bodies from 12 Countries | 4 years |

**ERA-AGE:** European Research Area in Ageing

| Partners: 12 Funding bodies from 12 Countries | 5 years |
Joint Programming of Research Activities in the field of Neurodegenerative Diseases
Member States engaging

- voluntarily and on a variable geometry basis in the definition, development and implementation of common strategic research agendas based on a common vision on how to address major societal challenges.

It may involve collaboration between existing national programmes or the setting up of entirely new ones.

It entails putting resources together,
- selecting or developing the most appropriate instrument(s), and
- collectively monitoring and reviewing progress.
Joint Programming Initiative on “Neurodegenerative Diseases, in particular Alzheimer” (JPND)

• Launched in July 2008

• Council Conclusions of 3 December 2009: adopted the JPND
Why the focus on neurodegenerative diseases, Alzheimer’s disease?

A global challenge:
7.3 million Europeans suffer from Alzheimer’s disease and other forms of dementia.

The total cost of dementia in Europe in 2005 was in the order of € 55 billion.

And it will get worse:
Over 11 million Europeans will suffer from Alzheimer’s disease and other forms of dementia by 2040.
• Led by France (INSERM): Prof. Philippe AMOUYEL is the Chair of the Management Board
• Addresses basic science, clinical research and healthcare research
• 23 participating countries (all represented at the Management Board)
• Work with an Executive Board and a Scientific Advisory Board (15 experts)

www.neurodegenerationresearch.eu
Mapping exercise has started (contribution of all member countries requested)

3 workshops planned (March 2011): basic, clinical and healthcare

Basis for the Strategic Research Agenda to be completed and approved in 2011
• Discussion on the first pilot call to be launched by the JPND (outside the Strategic Research Agenda)

• Focus on standardization/harmonization of biomarkers in neurodegenerative diseases (*indicative*)

• Potential participation: at least 10 countries, € 6-8 million (*indicative*)
JPND indicative timelines

- 2011
  - Launch of Pilot Call
  - Strategic Research Agenda completed

- 2012
  - Pilot project started
  - Calls from Strategic Research Agenda

- 2013
  - New projects started
Thank you for your attention!