

Automated Functional Screening of IgGs for Diagnostics of Neurodegenerative Diseases
A U T O I G G
April 15 & 16, 2019, Jarnac, France

AUTOIGG MIDTERM MEETING MINUTES

AUTOIGG Midterm Meeting (Grant Agreement 778405) “Automated Functional Screening of IgGs for Diagnostics of Neurodegenerative Diseases”, organizer University of Belgrade FACULTY OF BIOLOGY, was held in Jarnac, France on April 15 & 16, 2019.

Present

Pavle R. Andjus, Lidija Radenović, Mina Perić, Dunja Bijelić, Andrej Korenić, Aleksa Marković, Danijela Bataveljić – FBUB (Serbia)

Abdulkerim Çapar, Neşe Altuncu, Burcu Kurt Vatandaşlar, Gizem Dursun, Bilal Ersen Kerman (*via Skype*) – ARGENIT (Turkey)

Lydie Jeux – ELVESYS (France)

Gulderen Yanikkaya Demirel, Başak Aru, Türkay Şimşek – YEDITEPE (Turkey)

Rashid Giniatullin, Nikita Mihailov – UEF (Finland)

BENEFICIARIES

Michael Hernandez, Reinaldo Pereira Reyes – LANOTEC (Costa Rica)

PARTNERS

Research Executive Agency / Project Officer (PO): Berta Vizcarra-Mir

Welcome and Introduction of Agenda

- ❖ Midterm Meeting was officially opened by prof. Dr Pavle Andjus (coordinator).
- ❖ All participants briefly introduced themselves to the others at 14h.
- ❖ Agenda was adopted by participants at 14:20.

Meeting Minutes

April 15

1. **Coordinator’s Report: general status of the project** – presented by prof. Pavle Andjus (coordinator) starting at 14:25. He gave an overview of the knowledge sharing in light of the research and innovation objectives and implementation of WP1-5. He also reported on AUTOIGG overview from Annual meeting with up-to-date achievements.
2. **WP1: Ca²⁺ imaging standardization** – presented by Dunja Bijelić (FBUB) on state-of-the-art of the fluorescence calcium measurements and its standardization accomplishments.

3. **WP1: Benchmarking protocols in Ca²⁺ imaging** – presented by Abdulkerim Çapar (ARGENIT) on image segmentation and trace analysis.
4. **WP2: Unitary microfluidics biochip design for the pilot platform** – presented by Lydie Jeux (ELVESYS) on chip design and know-how transfer via secondment personnel.
5. **WP3: Report on Workshop No1** – presented by Gulderen Yanikkaya Demirel (YEDITEPE). Proposal and discussion for the Workshop 2 on Autoantibodies (September 2019) in Turkey. Official proposal announcement with participants, lecturers, and the program is expected promptly following MTM.
6. **WP3: Report on Training School No1** – presented by Rashid Giniatullin (UEF).
7. **Secondment implementation vs. Gantt chart planning** – presented by Lidija Radjenović (chair of Secondments Committee). She presented all secondments: finished (with overall outcomes), ongoing and planned till the end of 2019, as well as justification for all types of changes in secondments plan. Updated Gantt chart (prepared by Andrej Korenić) was also presented along with percentage calculation of planned vs. realized secondments (until April 2019 and until the end of the year). During discussion with PO (@17:00) several topics were covered, including:
 - visa issue for secondments in ELVESYS (Serbia, Turkey; more generally *e.g.* for non-EU staff to EU, permits of stay *etc.*) – PO will address this issue with EU superiors,
 - changes in personnel in Partner organization (LANOTEC, ELVESYS),
 - amendment of USA partners (UCHIC/NWU),
 - finding adequate personnel for all planned secondments,
 - secondment organization (technical aspects),
 - organization of workflow between partners,
 - more frequent (real-time) communication between partners (*see below* Slack app)
8. **Financial aspects** – prepared by Anita Simić (project admin) and presented by Pavle Andjus. He presented an updated table of flow of funds. It was underlined by the PO that B funds can be used to supplement A funds, but not *vice versa*.
9. **Open Discussion (@17:35)**
 - *chip design*: upright vs. inverted microscope, number of chambers, scanning method, unitary chip, announcing upcoming voltage sensitive dyes measurements standardization
 - *optical device*: simpler, miniature, automated version of standard fluorescent scanning microscope,
 - necessity for a secondment from ARGENIT to UEF (or *vice versa*) was underlined – PO stressed out that Gantt chart plan should be followed, however amendments could be adequately justified
 - *IgGs and patients' samples*: using standard cell lines to describe response to IgGs; augmenting IgG pool, having more samples, more patients
10. *End of discussion @18:15*

April 16

1. Secondees' presentations (9:45 – 10:45)

- Burcu Kurt Vatandaşlar — ESR seconded to FBUB
- Nikita Mihailov — ESR seconded to ELVESYS
- Türkey Şimşek — ESR seconded to ELVESYS
- Aleksa Marković — ESR seconded to ELVESYS
- Başak Aru — ESR seconded to ELVESYS
- Andrej Korenić — ER seconded to ARGENIT

2. Management – presented by Pavle Andjus (FBUB). He described management structures and procedures, Management Core Group, Supervisory board, Secondment Committee, Research and Innovation Council as well as addressing the foreseen and unforeseen risks and contingency measures. Overall conclusions of the open discussion included:

- It was noted again that more activities of project committees are necessary. Also, should stick to more regular meetings, by teleconferencing if necessary – by Pavle Andjus (coordinator).
- Electing Nikita Mihailov (UEF) for Management Committee as ESR member.
- Electing Rashid Giniatullin (UEF) as the fourth member of the Secondment Committee.
- Discussing import / export of material and samples, as well as ethical permissions.
- Proposal that Başak Aru (YEDITEPE) should remain in the Research and Innovation Council for another year and help activate the Committee also by organizing on-line meetings while informing the Consortium about outcomes.
- Nikita Mihailov (UEF), Lydie Jeux (ELVESYS), Başak Aru (YEDITEPE) and Andrej Korenić (FBUB) will work on forming a social network group for the real-time exchange of information and experiences via app “Slack: Where work happens”.
- It was suggested by the PO to use “SharePoint, Team Collaboration Software Tools” instead of DropBox for more secure deposition of the majority of deliverables and reports that are supposed to be published as confidential and restricted to the members of the consortium. Andrej Korenić (FBUB) and Başak Aru (YEDITEPE) will work on this matter.
- It was suggested by the PO to advertise AUTOIGG on social networks like Twitter and LinkedIn – Andrej Korenić (FBUB).
- Follow up project introduction by Pavle Andjus.

End of the discussion @11:40

3. Meeting between seconded staff members and the REA Representative (all seconded or currently seconded staff present)

Record of the Minutes: *Andrej Korenić*

Revised by: *Pavle Andjus*

Date: April 19, 2019, Belgrade, Serbia