Repligen neuro research attracts major grant funding

Mass High Tech: The Journal of New England Technology

Waltham biopharmaceuticals firm Repligen [1] Corp. has received three grants, totalling in excess of $6 million, to apply to its HDAC inhibitor research for neurodegenerative diseases like Friedreich's Ataxia and Huntington's Disease.

The grants to use in Friedreich's Ataxia research consist of a $218,000 award from the Friedreich's Ataxia Research Alliance (FARA) and $218,000 from Go Friedreich's Ataxia Research (GoFAR).

Repligen also pulled in a grant of $6.05 million, to be distributed over four years, from The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS), which included The Scripps Research Institute in its award designation. These funds are expected to apply to HDAC inhibitor development – including identification, optimization, toxicology and safety testing – for Huntington's disease. Joel Gottesfeld, of Scripps, is serving as the principal investigator for the grant.

In May, Repligen (Nasdaq: RGEN) filed an investigational new drug [2] (IND) application with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for a Phase 1 study of its drug candidate to treat Friedreich's ataxia.

The company had landed a $731,000 grant [3] in December from the Muscular Dystrophy Association as well for the development of its Friedreich's ataxia treatment.

SOURCE [4]

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