

**Second ICOD Symposium**

# **Innovative therapeutic approaches for cognitive impairment in Down syndrome**

In occasion of the World Down syndrome Day (21st of march 2023)

**Madrid, March 21st 2023**  
**Hospital Universitario de la Princesa**  
**Madrid, Spain**



The ICOD project has received the funding from the European Union's Horizon research and innovation programme under grant agreement n° 899986

## **International Scientific Committee**

**Diego Real De Asúa** (*Madrid*)

**Fernando Moldenhauer** (*Madrid*)

**Filippo Caraci** (*Catania-Troina*)

**Mara Dierssen** (*Barcelona*)

**Rafael De La Torre** (*Barcelona*)

**Ana Maria Aldea** (*Barcelona*)

**Beatriz Fagundo** (*Barcelona*)

**Stephanie Monlezun** (*Bordeaux*)

**Pier Vincenzo Piazza** (*Bordeaux*)

**Sophie Durand** (*Paris*)

**Renaud Touraine** (*Saint Étienne*)



## **Local Scientific Committee**

**Eleonore Venin, Lorenzo Mercadante**

## Rationale

The **ICOD project** (Improving COgnition in Down syndrome), funded by European Union, **aims to improve the cognitive impairment of individuals with Down syndrome with AEF0217**, a first-in-class new pharmacological treatment developed by the french Biotech Aelis Farma, and specifically designed to this end. The project was launched in February 2021 and a first ICOD symposium was held in Troina, Italy, on the occasion of the World Down syndrome Day 2022 with a strong participation of DS families.

**The second ICOD symposium** will take place in **Madrid** in 2023 at Hospital Universitario de la Princesa on the World Down syndrome Day (March 21st). The symposium will be specifically dedicated to **increase the knowledge about innovative therapeutic approaches to cognitive deficits in DS and promote the involvement of adults with DS in research**. Face-to-face interaction and active discussions between families, associations of individuals with Down syndrome and researchers involved in the ICOD project will be promoted, as well as with other researchers working in the field of Down syndrome.

This event will be **designed in close cooperation with the European Down syndrome Association (EDSA) and associations of each participating European country in the ICOD project**; in particular with Spanish Down syndrome organizations (Down España, Fundación Down Madrid, Down Catalunya, Fundació Catalana síndrome de Down among others), Federation Trisomie 21 France, Association Française pour la Recherche sur la Trisomie 21, Italian Down syndrome organizations (AIPD and Coordown) and the Italian Task Force for DS.

## Monday March 20th 2023

**14:00h - 18:00h**

### **Pre-symposium: the third F2F meeting of the ICOD project**

The European consortium is led by IMIM (Rafael de la Torre, Barcelona, Spain) and AELIS FARMA (Stephanie Monlezun & Pier Vincenzo Piazza, Bordeaux, France) in collaboration with Oasi Research Institute (Filippo Caraci, UniCT, Catania & Oasi Troina, Italy), Institut Jérôme Lejeune (Sophie Durand, Paris, France), Centre Hospitalier Universitaire (Renaud Touraine, Saint-Etienne, France) and Hospital Universitario de la Princesa (Fernando Moldenhauer and Diego Real de Asúa, SERMAS, Madrid, Spain).

## Tuesday March 21st, 2023

**15:00h - 15:10h**

### **Institutional greetings and introduction to the ICOD symposium**

Fernando Moldenhauer (Spain)

**15:10h - 15:30h**

### **Opening lecture**

#### **Down syndrome research in the framework of European Union**

Monica Ensini, European Commission

### **Session 1: Scientific advances in understanding cognitive dysfunction in Down syndrome**

Introduced and moderated by Mara Dierssen & Diego Real de Asúa (Spain)

**15:30h - 15:50h**

### **Neurobiology of cognitive dysfunction in DS: novel treatment targets**

Eugenio Barone (Italy)

**15:50h - 16:30h**

### **AEF0217: an innovative drug for the treatment of cognitive dysfunction in DS**

Pier Vincenzo Piazza, CEO Aelis Farma (France)

**16:30h - 17:00h / Break**

### **Session 2: FAMILY FORUM - New strategies for the treatment of cognitive deficits in DS**

Introduced and moderated by Sophie Durand (France)

**17:00h - 17:30h**

### **The ICOD project: what will it bring to families? Phase I and Phase II studies**

Rafael De La Torre (Spain) & Filippo Caraci (Catania, Troina)

**17:30h - 18:15h**

### **The ICOD project: a research centered on Down syndrome individuals**

- New tools for informing individuals with Down syndrome about clinical studies  
Beatriz Fagundo (Spain)
- Evaluating cognitive deficits in DS: what we have learned from the NIUS Study  
Beatriz Fagundo (Spain)
- Evaluation of drug effects on individuals with Down syndrome: the PICTEA project  
Patricia Diaz Pellicer (Spain)



**Tuesday March 21st, 2023**

**18:15h - 18:45h**

**Discussion with families and associations: expectations on therapies for cognitive deficits**

Introduced and moderated by Marzia Perluigi (Italy)  
& Renaud Touraine (France)

- Expectations about therapy for cognitive deficits: what they know and what they expect
- Treatment of cognitive deficits in adults over 35?
- Timing of therapies for DS: when, what, how long

**18:45h - 19:15h**

**Discussion with families and associations: Involvement of adults with DS in research, ensuring ethical and safety aspects**

Introduced and moderated by Fernando Moldenhauer (Madrid)

**19:15h - 19:30h**

**Concluding remarks**

Rafael De La Torre (Spain)

