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Award Number: W81XWH-10-1-0361

TITLE: Emerging Therapies in Parkinson's Disease: From Microscope to Marketplace

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CONTRACTING ORGANIZATION: Parkinson's Action Network
Washington, DC 20005

REPORT DATE: July 2010

TYPE OF REPORT: Final Proceedings

PREPARED FOR: U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command
Fort Detrick, Maryland 21702-5012

DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT: Approved for public release; distribution unlimited

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Report Documentation Page

Form Approved
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Public reporting burden for the collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington VA 22202-4302. Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to a penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number.

1. REPORT DATE JUL 2010		2. REPORT TYPE		3. DATES COVERED 24-05-2010 to 24-06-2010	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE Emerging Therapies in Parkinson's Disease: From Microscope to Marketplace				5a. CONTRACT NUMBER	
				5b. GRANT NUMBER	
				5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER	
6. AUTHOR(S)				5d. PROJECT NUMBER	
				5e. TASK NUMBER	
				5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER	
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) Parkinson's Action Network, Washington, DC, 20005				8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER	
9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)				10. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S)	
				11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)	
12. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT Approved for public release; distribution unlimited					
13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES					
14. ABSTRACT					
15. SUBJECT TERMS					
16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:			17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT Same as Report (SAR)	18. NUMBER OF PAGES 6	19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON
a. REPORT unclassified	b. ABSTRACT unclassified	c. THIS PAGE unclassified			

REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

Form Approved
OMB No. 0704-0188

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1. REPORT DATE (DD-MM-YYYY) 01-07-2010			2. REPORT TYPE Final Proceedings		3. DATES COVERED (From - To) 24 MAY 2010 - 24 JUN 2010	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE Emerging Therapies in Parkinson's Disease: From Microscope to Marketplace					5a. CONTRACT NUMBER	
					5b. GRANT NUMBER W81XWH-10-1-0361	
					5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER	
6. AUTHOR(S) Amy Comstock-Rick E-Mail: acomstock@parkinsonsaction.org					5d. PROJECT NUMBER	
					5e. TASK NUMBER	
					5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER	
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) Parkinson's Action Network Washington, DC 20005					8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER	
9. SPONSORING / MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command Fort Detrick, Maryland 21702-5012					10. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S)	
					11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)	
12. DISTRIBUTION / AVAILABILITY STATEMENT Approved for Public Release; Distribution Unlimited						
13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES						
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15. SUBJECT TERMS Drug development pipeline, emerging therapies, Parkinson's disease						
16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:				17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT	18. NUMBER OF PAGES	19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON USAMRMC
a. REPORT U	b. ABSTRACT U	c. THIS PAGE U	19b. TELEPHONE NUMBER (include area code)			
				UU	6	

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INTRODUCTION:

On June 24, 2010 PAN hosted a panel discussion at Georgetown University featuring leading experts in the field of research. This discussion focused on the drug development pipeline, and how the different stages of drug development can work together in a better way to hasten the development of new drugs and therapies. Over 500 people from across America have viewed the Webcast to-date. We expect more people to view the archive of the Webcast on the PAN website here:

<http://www.parkinsonsaction.org/parkinsons-disease/emerging-therapies-webcast> . The discussion on the program was not specific to Parkinson's disease and is applicable to clinical research generally. PAN hopes this will prove to be an invaluable resource, not only to the Parkinson's disease community, but all communities focused on speeding the development of new drugs and therapies.

BODY:

The Parkinson's Action Network (PAN), like many other disease-focused organizations, is concerned about the lack of therapies that reach the stage of clinical testing and the even smaller number of therapies that ultimately are approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and made publicly available. Through the generous support of the US Army Medical research and Materiel Command (USAMRMC), PAN hosted a Webcast public panel discussion in Washington, DC on the emerging therapies in Parkinson's disease treatments on Thursday, June 24, 2010 to educate the Parkinson's community about this issue. More than 500 individuals have viewed this two and one half hour Webcast entitled ***Emerging Therapies in Parkinson's Disease: From Microscope to Marketplace*** and the feedback from viewers has been very positive

On June 24, leading experts in the field of research joined PAN at Georgetown University for a panel discussion on the drug development pipeline. This insightful discussion provided participants with a better understanding of how research is moved through the pipeline and ultimately into the hands of patients in the form of new therapies and drugs.

The panel consisted of:

Howard Federoff, M.D., Ph.D.

Executive Vice President for Health Sciences and
Executive Dean of the School of Medicine, Georgetown University -- Moderator

James P. Bennett, Jr., M.D., Ph.D.

Chair, Department of Neurology and Founding Director of the
Virginia Commonwealth University Parkinson's Disease and
Movement Disorders Multidisciplinary Research and Clinical Center

Story C. Landis, Ph.D.

Director, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke,
National Institutes of Health

Raymond T. Bartus, Ph.D.

Executive Vice President and Chief Scientific Officer, Ceregene, Inc.

Jackie Hunt Christensen

PAN Minnesota State Coordinator and Clinical Trial Participant

Janet Woodcock, M.D.

Director, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration
422 people participated in the Emerging Therapies Webcast live and an additional 80 people have viewed the Emerging Therapies Webcast archive which is available online at <http://www.parkinsonsaction.org/parkinsons-disease/emerging-therapies-webcast>. The discussion on the program was not specific to Parkinson's disease and is applicable to clinical research generally. PAN hopes this will prove to be an invaluable resource, not only to the Parkinson's disease community, but all communities focused on speeding the development of new drugs and therapies.

The lively panel discussion generated far more questions than the panelists were able to respond to. As a way to address these questions, PAN created a discussion page where a selection of questions from the Webcast is posted. PAN encouraged researchers and clinicians to take this opportunity to respond to these questions and for others to post new questions arising from this Webcast.

KEY RESEARCH ACCOMPLISHMENTS/REPORTABLE OUTCOMES:

- Live Emerging Therapies Webcast held on June 24, 2011 viewed by 422 individuals throughout the country.
- Archived Emerging Therapies Webcast viewed by more than 80 additional individuals to-date available online at <http://www.parkinsonsaction.org/parkinsons-disease/emerging-therapies-webcast>.
- Discussion page created for researchers and clinicians to answer questions of those who viewed the live Webcast.

CONCLUSION:

PAN has received very positive feedback from this pioneering Webcast project. Because this Webcast was so successful, PAN plans to launch a series of three one-hour Webcasts on specific emerging therapies sub-topics in 2011. Each panel in the series will include experts in the specific topic areas. Each panel will also have a studio audience of 50 people and be broadcast via webcast throughout the country to hundreds of people with Parkinson's disease, their families, caretakers, as well as physicians, researchers and leaders in the Parkinson's community.