World Wide Alzheimer’s Disease Neuroimaging Initiative

Teleconference Meeting Minutes
November 28/29, 2012

I. Attendance and Welcome

Maria Carrillo
Martin Bednar
Adam Schwar
Hong Zheng Wang
Chahin Pachai
Deb Gustafson
Chris Rowe
Bob Umek
Andrea Baruchin
Erika Tarver
Leslie Shinobu
Sandra Black
Susan DeSanti
Jerry Novak
Seong Yong Kim
Nina Silverberg
Mike Weiner
Chantal Bazenet
Silvia Vasquez
Andrew Saykin
Jun Wang
Salvador Guinjoin
Richard Margolin
Cassandra Szoeke
Adam Simon
Robert Green
Johan Luthman
Holly Soares
Victor Lobanov
Jerry Novack

II. WW ADNI Progress Updates

ADNI 2 Update/ WGS Update

Michael Weiner

ADNI 2 is continuing to enroll volunteers, including individuals with subjective memory complaint. Canadian ADNI is part of NA-America and is focused on the recruitment of volunteers with AD and subjective complaint. Robert Green gave an update on the Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS) ADNI project to sequence subjects from NA-ADNI (818 individuals). This was launched in record time due to the support of the Brin Wojciki Foundation and the Alzheimer’s Association. Robert Green, Andrew Saykin and Art Toga are working with Illumnia to process data and make it publically available for analysis. At this point, Illumnia is sending the hard drives of data to Art Toga, who is then copying and sending the data to Indiana and Boston. Data is being QCed and will first be available in VCF files in spring/summer 2013. A distribution plan is being put in place for scientists around the world to be able to use these data from around the world.
Open access to data is an important component. Maria Carrillo gave an update on GAAIN (Global Alzheimer’s Association Interactive Network). In addition, she shared on-going conversations with other organizations, including a recent meeting with IBM. Adam Simon shared highlights from this meeting. The discussion focused on how natural language processing could be used in the AD space. IBM has a number of suites of tools, showing several case studies of their cohort case studies.

**E-ADNI Update**

Giovanni Frisoni was unable to join the call.

**Japan-ADNI Update**

Takeshi Iwatsubo gave an update on the J-ADNI program, now its 6th year. To date, they have included 545 individuals comprised of normal, MCI and AD and have completed over 3,200 visits (approx. 80% of the total estimated visits). All visits will be completed by early 2014. Currently, they are working on data cleaning and the QC for the clinical/cognitive data – this will be a few more months before they can catch up on this process. In addition, J-ADNI 2 received funding - $3M US dollars per year for possibly 5 years and will be recruiting 100 late MCI and 100 early MCI and 150 AD. J-ADNI 2 will be incorporating amyloid PET.

**AIBL Update**

Chris Rowe gave an update on AIBL. They are continuing to recruit and follow up with volunteers with subjective memory complaints and early MCI. In addition, they are incorporating amyloid imaging with a range of tracers – PiB (300) and Flutemetamol (200) and Flubetapir (200) and Florbetaben (200) and CSF sampling. Another complementary study, they are including 200 new people in a veterans study. The 3 year baseline imaging data for 288 volunteers at baseline will be released on January 15, 2013. The AIBL funding cycle runs out at the 4.5 year follow up and they are working on continuing follow up for next steps of AIBL funding.

In the healthy controls, 13% over 3 years have progressed to MCI or dementia; 15% MCI progressed to AD; and 5% to other dementia. Memory function is the strongest predictor of progression for AIBL participants.

**China-ADNI Update**

Jun Wang gave an update on the progress of China ADNI. They have completed the validation and training of cognitive testing in Chinese and English. China ADNI has received IRB approval and started clinical enrollments. As of today, they have had 16 volunteers; after inclusion/exclusion screening, have 8 individuals enrolled that they are collecting
genetic and laboratory data. One of the difficulties they are having is to get agreement for CSF use.

**Korea-ADNI Update**

Seong Yoon Kim gave an update on the Korean ADNI progress. The government approved the grant for Korean ADNI to launch and the project will officially start next month. Funding is about $2M dollar/ year for 6 years. They plan to enroll 500 volunteers – 100 cognitively normal; 200 MCI (100 amnestic MCI and 100 vascular MCI); 200 AD (100 AD and 100 cortical vascular dementia). The inclusion of Vascular MCI and cortical vascular dementia are unique aspects of Korean ADNI and will be unique contributions to WW ADNI data. For next year, they will establish infrastructure of imaging and lumbar puncture and bio specimen sample logistics. Actual data will be collected end of 2013 for 2 years and then 500 subjects to be followed up for 3 years. Special thank you to Mike Weiner and Maria Carrillo for helping with the launch of Korean ADNI.

**Argentina-ADNI Update**

Salvador Guinjoan, Gustavo Sevlever and Silvia Vasquez from Argentina joined the call to provide an update. They are halfway through their enrollment of initial target. To date, 12 volunteers underwent LP and 4 who did not (3 refused). Due to other circumstances, they are unable to do imaging using AV45, but are not proceeding without it and are using PiB imaging. There is a single site. Silvia shared that they expect to start imaging at first quarter 2013. Their initial recruitment categories include: 30 MCI, 15 AD and 15 normal controls. Recruitment about half of these goals - 13 MCI, 5 AD and 7 cognitively normal recruited today.

**Taiwan-ADNI Update**

Although the team was unable to join us this morning, they shared an update. The Taiwan ADNI team passed the Joint IRB. They are now dealing with some logistics in the use of specific reagents outside of the hospital, but hope to have this resolved in early 2013. Chang Gung Memorial Hospital will start analysis in January, 2013.

**Brazil ADNI Update**

Sonia Brucki was unable to join the teleconference.

**AddNeuroMed Update**

Chantal Bazenet shared that AddNeuroMed is finishing GWAS of AD individuals and this includes imaging data. They are working now on harmonizing this data, which they hope to have finished in a few months. In terms of biomarker studies, they are working on gene expression data,
protein biomarkers in plasma and associated conversion patterns data. In addition, there is some preliminary data on cytokines that confirm previous results. Chantal also gave an update on a new initiative – EMIF, which will provide health data across all Europe. EMIF will launch in January and future meetings will include updates on the progress of these initiatives.

IV. Update from the Global Biomarker Standardization Consortium
Co-Chairs: Kaj Blennow, Henrik Zetterberg, Holly Soares
Holly Soares gave an update on behalf of the GBSC. The GBSC is working on reference material and reference methods for CSF AB and tau assays. They are working on the development of a reference method independent of reference material for AB. In addition, there is some progress on mass spec AB assay development. The group has another work stream ongoing with the IFCC and IRMM – working group developed and plan for moving forward. One of the labs recently finished commutability test on how AB behaves. Overall, the GBSC is making forward progress and will share on-going updates in future meetings.

V. New Business
Maria Carrillo reminded that an e-mail was sent for open public comment on the Alzheimer’s Association and the SNMMI amyloid imaging appropriate use guidelines (AUC); open comment is through December 6. Chris Rowe gave update on the AUC workgroup; a draft document is developed and there will be some impact on funding for use of amyloid imaging possibly. There is a MEDCAC (evidence development committee) meeting scheduled on January 30, which will have some interesting discussions. The Alzheimer’s Association was invited to speak at the morning session. Sandra Black asked whether EMA is having these same discussions, and the group agreed that an update will be shared on the next meeting.

There was discussion about a possible blog or other update to share information about the on-going progress. Maria indicated that we will follow up on other mechanisms to increase communication. The meeting minutes will be sent and will include the links where all of this information is available online.

In addition, Erika Tarver thanked the Association for including the PPSB ADNI in this call and will continue to extend this invite moving forward. Erika will distribute the open comment link

VI. Next Meeting: Face to Face at AAIC 2013 in Boston, MA, USA
- Date: Friday, July 12, 2013 (all day)
- Location: Westin Convention Center, Boston (Room TBD)