GENETICS OF TREATMENT RESPONSE IN DEPRESSION

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Summary: Up to 60% of depressed patients do not respond completely to antidepressants (ADs) and up to 30% do not respond at all. Genetic factors contribute for ~50% of the AD response. During recent years, the possible influence of a set of candidate genes as genetic predictors of AD response efficacy was investigated by us and others. They include the cytochrome P-450 superfamily, the P-glycoprotein (ABCB1), the tryptophan hydroxylase, the catechol-O-methyltransferase, the monoamine oxidase A, the serotonin transporter (5-HTTLPR), the norepinephrine transporter, the dopamine transporter, variants in the 5-hydroxytryptamine receptors (5-HT1A, 5-HT2A, 5-HT3A, 5-HT3B, and 5-HT6), adrenoreceptor β-1 and α-2, the dopamine receptors (D2), the G protein β3 subunit, the corticotropin-releasing hormone receptors (CRHR1 and CRHR2), the glucocorticoid receptors, the c-AMP response-element binding, and the brain-derived neurotrophic factor. Marginal associations were reported for antagonists I-converting enzyme, circadian locomotor output cycles kaput protein, glutamatergic system, nitric oxide synthase, and interleukin 1-β gene. In conclusion, gene variants seem to influence human behavior, liability to disorders, and treatment response. Nonetheless, gene x environment interactions have been hypothesized to modulate several of these effects.

Disclosure of Interest: None declared.

ETHICS AND PRIVACY OF BIOBANKS

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Summary: The advances in genetics and informatics have stimulated research involving biobanks. Research using samples and data involves privacy risks. Identifiability and its degrees have implications on determining the risk/benefit ratio of a research project. Although the need to protect confidentiality and to put in place security measures is widely recognized, terminological confusion and philosophical differences dominate the ethical and legal discussion about confidentiality of data and samples. Different mechanisms, such as coding or anonymization, influence not only privacy risks of those who supplied the biological samples but also determine whether it will be possible to communicate the results of any genetic analysis back to the research participants. Moreover, it is generally admitted that donors have the right to opt out of a biobank. This means that they may ask for destruction or unlinked anonymization of samples and data. Both can only be carried out if a link is kept between the donors and their samples and data.

In this presentation, different strategies of anonymization and coding will be described and ethical and legal arguments in favor and against them will be discussed, based on the framework of international ethical guidance and human rights implemented in Europe.

Disclosure of Interest: None declared.

MEDIATOR (BENFLUOREX), A FRENCH AND WORLDWIDE PUBLIC HEALTH DISASTER

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Summary: Mediator® (benfluorex), a French and worldwide public health disaster

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Benfluorex (brand names Mediator®, Medialax®, Lipascor®, drug company Servier) was marketed in France and worldwide until 2009. This marketing authorization was held while the compounds