NIH Blueprint Neurotherapeutics Network (BPN): Funding and Resources for the Discovery of Novel Drug Candidates for the Treatment of Neurological Disorders

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ABSTRACT
There remains a high unmet need for novel treatments for CNS diseases. Many academic and industry scientists are eager to undertake novel drug discovery approaches for the treatment of neurological disorders but lack some of the drug discovery infrastructure. To boost and de-risk drug discovery and development in the neuroscience field, NIH Blueprint for Neuroscience Research introduced a series of translational programs to promote neuroscience drug discovery and development efforts to mitigate the current pipeline gaps.

In this presentation, we demonstrate how NIH Blueprint Neurotherapeutics Network (BPN), by providing funding, resources (contract access to medicinal chemistry, DMPK, toxicology, drug manufacturing, and formulation, as well as contract access to perform the Phase I clinical study) and expertise, have contributed to the successful translation of academic and industry discoveries in basic disease biology into novel drug candidates in clinical testing.