

## TOWARD NEW THERAPIES TO CHALLENGE CHRONIC PAIN IN CHILDREN

Almost one out of five children is affected by chronic pain, and this condition is often associated to other serious disorders. The sad consequence is that such pain is frequently under-estimated and under-treated.

GAPP (GAbapentin in Paediatric Pain) is a new project promoted in Europe with the specific intent to enhance the quality of life of children affected by chronic pain with a neuropathic component. Very few medicines are currently available for them and even these, in most cases, have not been tested in children for safety or efficacy.

Children are often treated with medicines known to work in adults, but this can expose them to unnecessary risks because they may react to the same drugs differently. Paediatric studies are the best way we have to make sure that any medicinal treatment is safe and effective and, if appropriately designed and controlled, to ensure that children rights are safeguarded.

The GAPP project will develop a children-specific, easy for use formulation of gabapentin, a drug which proved effective in the treatment of adult neuropathic chronic pain.

With the support of the European Commission, the project partners will work together to demonstrate that the new paediatric gabapentin formulation is safe and effective in treating chronic pain with a neuropathic component both when used alone or, in the most severe forms, in combination with morphine.

The results of the project will be used to make a properly tested medicine available to children to treat their pain.

## Scientific partners from:

Albania, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Spain, The Netherlands, United Kingdom

Are you interested to know more?

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