

Five new partners join Open PHACTS

The Open PHACTS consortium is pleased to announce that ConnectedDiscovery, the European Bioinformatics Institute, Janssen, the Netherlands Bioinformatics Centre, and the Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics have joined the project as new consortium members.

The addition of these partners – bringing together respected drug discovery and bioinformatics expertise from academic institutions, a small start-up, and an EFPIA company – demonstrates the progress and promise of this project as it nears its halfway point.

About Open PHACTS

The Open PHACTS consortium is building a semantic data integration platform for pharmacological data, to give answers needed to identify new drug targets and pharmacological interactions. The Open PHACTS platform will provide a user-friendly tool to answer the critical pharmacology questions defined by nine major pharmaceutical companies.

While the semantic approach has been delivered in small-scale and targeted approaches so far, its promise for multiscale data integration has remained largely unfulfilled - Open PHACTS is a major project including many of the top semantic web experts, committed to deliver on this promise.

Open PHACTS is a 3-year knowledge management project of the Innovative Medicines Initiative, running from March 2011, and will deliver a sustainable service to continue after the project funding ends. The project consortium consists of leading academics in semantics, pharmacology and informatics, driven by solid industry business requirements: 27 partners, including 9 pharmaceutical companies and 3 biotechs.

The project is on track, with new partners joining the project in July 2012 and an internal prototype was delivered to the consortium members on schedule in March 2012. A public alpha release is planned for Autumn 2012.

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