

What PROGRESS OA partners are saying...

Arthritis Foundation

“We are looking at an opportunity to accelerate patient access to better treatments and answer an imperative voiced during the Arthritis Foundation’s Externally-led Patient Focused Drug Development Meeting on Osteoarthritis,” said Angie Botto-van Bemden, Ph.D., Director of OA Programs, Arthritis Foundation.

Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH)

“Through PROGRESS OA, we are at a critical juncture where our biomarkers for tracking knee joint damage can be submitted for regulatory review. The acceptance of these biomarkers by the FDA and EMA would be a pivotal moment for the field, providing for effective drug development for patients suffering from knee osteoarthritis,” said Joseph Menetski, Ph.D., Associate Vice President of Research Partnerships, Foundation for the National Institutes of Health.

Kolon TissueGene

“We are proud to be a partner in this important initiative, to join with the FNIH to further the understanding of OA, as we move towards the qualification of biomarkers that will improve OA clinical trials, and ultimately advance patient treatment,” said Bumsup Lee, Ph.D., President & Chief Executive Officer of Kolon TissueGene.

Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany

“Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany is pleased to continue collaborating with the FNIH to gain additional insight and knowledge on biomarkers and imaging in osteoarthritis in order to strengthen clinical research in this area. Together with the partners in the consortium, we are looking forward to the results of the analysis of different OA cohorts and the subsequent qualification of imaging and biomarkers for clinical development – important insights to bring better therapies to OA patients,” said Martin Michaelis, M.D., Ph.D., Head Osteoarthritis Research and Early Clinical Development, Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany.

National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS)

“We look forward to building upon our long-standing investment in the identification and validation of biomarkers of osteoarthritis onset, progression and pain. Regulatory qualification of these markers holds promise for new approaches to treatment, prevention and diagnosis of the disease,” said Gayle Lester, Ph.D., Program Director, NIAMS Clinical Research and Diagnostic Tools for Osteoarthritis and Bone Quality Program

Pfizer/Eli Lilly and Company

“Advancements in the treatment of osteoarthritis pain have been challenging, in part due to the lack of effective tools to measure disease progression. Along with our partners at Lilly, we are proud to collaborate on research to identify new biomarkers that may contribute to improvements in care for patients suffering from osteoarthritis pain,” said Rory O’Connor, Senior Vice President, Chief Medical Officer, Internal Medicine, Pfizer.

Samumed

“As a company developing a potential disease modifying drug for knee osteoarthritis (OA), we are proud to support the PROGRESS OA initiative driven by the FNIH Biomarkers Consortium. OA is the most common joint disorder worldwide, so it is essential for industry, patients and regulators to work together and improve current diagnostic and clinical trial tools. These would help us develop the best possible treatment options for those suffering from the disease. We look forward to working with the FNIH and the other PROGRESS OA partners to establish and verify reliable biomarkers for OA with the goal of improving treatment outcomes,” said Jeymi Tambiah, M.D., MBChB, SVP, Medical Affairs, Samumed.