What partners of the "**N**on-**I**nvasive Bio**m**arkers of Meta**b**olic **L**iver Diseas**E** (NIMBLE)" project are saying…

Allergan

"Allergan is proud to support the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH) Biomarkers Consortium '**N**on-**I**nvasive Bio**m**arkers of Meta**b**olic **L**iver Diseas**E** (NIMBLE)' project. The goal of NIMBLE is to standardize biomarkers and help diagnose Non-Alcoholic SteatoHepatitis (NASH), the most common and underdiagnosed chronic liver disease affecting up to 16.5 million Americans. By comparing imaging and blood-based biomarkers to liver biopsy, we intend to define the best tools for diagnosing NASH and, thus, identify patients who are most likely to progress to liver cirrhosis and require a treatment intervention. Currently, liver biopsy is the only way to confirm the diagnosis of NASH."

Laurent Fischer, M.D., Head Liver Therapeutic Area, Allergan

Bristol-Myers Squibb

"Validated non-invasive biomarkers are needed to diagnose patients with NASH, a disease that often goes undetected. Bristol-Myers Squibb is proud to support the NIMBLE project, which aims to standardize non-invasive biomarkers with the goal of creating easier, more broadly accessible methods for NASH diagnosis. Ultimately we hope to see these efforts improve outcomes in patients with NASH."

Melissa Harris, PharmD, Development Team Lead, Fibrosis, Bristol-Myers Squibb

Echosens SA

"There is a major medical need for non-invasive, effective and scalable biomarkers in the management of patients with NAFLD/NASH, both for drug development and for routine clinical practice. Echosens is proud to drive innovation in this field and to support the NIMBLE project in qualifying and validating biomarkers that will transform research and care."

Céline Fournier, Ph.D., Chief Medical Officer, Echosens SA

Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (FNIH)

"The FNIH Biomarkers Consortium received resounding support for the launch of NIMBLE, as the public and private sectors recognized a unique opportunity to work together to improve the lives of NASH patients. Together, we will uncover the most promising non-invasive biomarkers for this deadly liver disease that will make diagnosis more accurate. The results of this work will benefit patients and save lives."

Joseph Menetski, Ph.D., Associate Vice President of Research Partnerships, FNIH

Intercept Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

“The NIMBLE project is an important initiative and Intercept is proud to be a contributing partner. There is a broad consensus on the need to validate safe and simple approaches to replace biopsy for diagnosis and staging, and as a way to monitor the liver health of patients with NASH over time. We will get there faster if academic institutions, patient groups, drug developers, regulators and public health agencies all work together to pool our data, resources and knowledge.”

Gail Cawkwell, M.D., Ph.D., Senior Vice President, Medical Affairs, Safety & Pharmacovigilance, Intercept Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Novo Nordisk

“Novo Nordisk is proud to support NIMBLE as this important initiative will open new avenues for patient-friendly biomarkers to diagnose NASH. We are committed to developing effective and safe medicines for NASH - medicines that may change the lives of people with this serious chronic disease. NIMBLE has the potential to greatly accelerate these efforts.”

Martin Holst Lange, Senior Vice President, Global Development, Novo Nordisk

Pfizer

“Pfizer is delighted to be part of the NIMBLE project for qualification of non-invasive markers for non-alcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH). We share the urgency to advance potential therapies in NASH as it will soon be the leading cause of liver transplant. Today, a key challenge to care is identifying the patients who are in need of potential treatments. Finding a solution to this challenge is a public health imperative that we are proud to support. NIMBLE will help galvanize the entire field in our pursuit of an accurate, scalable, non-invasive tool for the diagnosis and staging of NASH.”

Morris J. Birnbaum, M.D., Ph.D., Senior Vice President, Chief Scientific Officer of Internal Medicine, Pfizer