Commercial partnership between BioArctic and Eisai in the Nordic region

BioArctic is looking forward to the potential launch of Leqembi in the Nordic region. In the autumn of 2023, the details pertaining to a local partnership with the marketing organization of our Japanese partner, Eisai, were worked out. Preparations ahead of a launch in the Nordic market are now underway, with our forces combined.

A positive response from the European Commission on approving Leqembi would mean that health care gains access to the first new treatment in the field of Alzheimer's disease in 20 years. The process from potential approval to patients gaining access to treatment goes through several steps, and in recent years BioArctic's commercial organization has been built up in order to provide a process of this kind with the best possible support in all Nordic countries. In addition to the health economics assessments and the value-based pricing done in every Nordic country, extensive efforts are also under way to support the changes in health care that are required in order to ensure that the patients who could be helped by Leqembi are also offered treatment.

Major shift for health care

Alzheimer's care today has been allocated resources and structured in accordance with the conditions that have prevailed in recent decades – not only in the Nordic region but globally as well. The lack of disease-modifying treatments has led to a health and medical care system that focused on treatments to alleviate symptoms and nursing care. Leqembi is the first

new drug for Alzheimer's disease to be launched in several decades, and with the possibility of providing disease-modifying treatments at an early stage come also new requirements for health care to find patients in the early stages of the disease. An introduction of Leqembi therefore requires a dramatic shift, both within diagnostics and treatment and as regards monitoring patients. In the Nordic region, advances are clearly being made in diagnostics today and new diagnostic methods and tools are already being evaluated in clinical practice. BioArctic supports the development of new diagnostic methods in external research projects, both financially and using the company's competence. For example, BioArctic supports the Real AD study, which is evaluating the possibility of performing screening for Alzheimer's disease based on biomarkers and cognitive tests, as well as the Prominent project, which is a digital platform for precision medicine to improve diagnosis and treatment of neurodegenerative diseases using such tools as artificial intelligence (AI).

Commercial partnership with Eisai

In the autumn of 2023, BioArctic and Eisai signed a co-promotion agreement on a partnership around commercializing and marketing lecanemab in the Nordic countries after potential approval. The joint commercialization plan is based largely on the lessons drawn from the launches in the US and Japan that are already under way. Eisai will be the marketing authorization holder (MAH) in Europe, and will be responsible for distribution and pricing with the intention of BioArctic becoming the local proxy after the pricing and subsidy procedures are completed. At launch, the expectation is that approximately 30 individuals will be working on commercialization, the majority of whom will be employed at BioArctic.

Through the launches already underway in the US and Japan, Eisai has drawn several lessons and produced training materials that will be translated and be made available for use in the Nordic countries. Eisai's solid experience, together with BioArctic's unique competence in the Nordic region, are creating the best conditions for a successful launch.