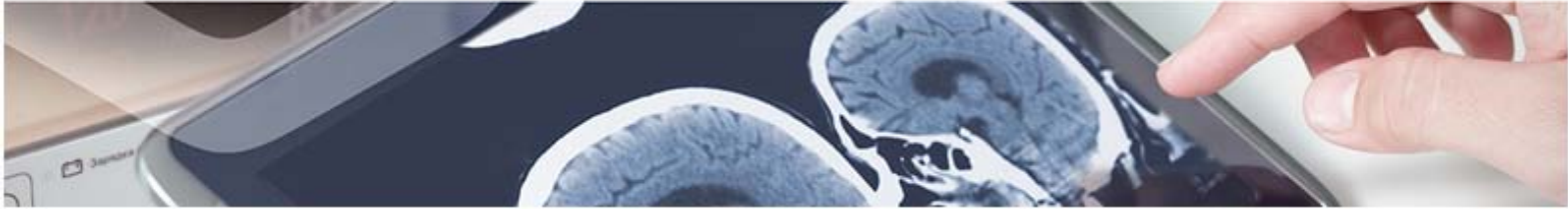**Diagnostic**

Kit for predicting treatment response in patients with genotype 1 chronic hepatitis C

A research group from Andalusian Public Health System (SSPA) has developed a test kit for predicting and/or measuring the treatment response in genotype 1 chronic hepatitis C (HCV-1) patients.

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Description

In early 2012, the use of new direct-acting antiviral agents (DAAs) in combination with standard combination therapy (pegylated interferon and ribavirin) was approved in Spain, resulting in a 25-30% increase in cure rates of both new (treatment naive) patients and previously-treated patients who did not respond correctly.

At present, there are only two predictors of treatment response with standard combination therapy in HCV-1 patients, namely:

1. The presence of a rapid virological response (RVR), and
2. An IL28B-favourable (CC) genotype.

The problem is that, by themselves, these cannot predict which patients will not respond to standard combination therapy.

Currently, there is no sufficiently accurate predictive model that enables a very early suspension of standard combination therapy, and which provides an estimated recommended duration of the therapy.

The research group has developed for the first time a kit based on the development and interpretation of a scale for predicting the response to antiviral therapy in HCV-1 patients. Its aim is to help determine which patients will be cured with standard combination therapy, and in which patients it would be advisable to discontinue this therapy and commence triple therapy.

The studies have been validated across a cohort of 103 patients diagnosed with HCV-1.

Advantanges

1. It offers highly reliable prediction and prognosis of treatment response.
2. Genotype 1 HCV-1 is, along with genotype 4, one of the most difficult to treat. This kit allows you to identify whether or not such patients can or cannot be cured with the different therapy strategies.
3. More effective resource management, by distinguishing who should or should not receive treatment.

Intellectual Property

This technology is protected by patent.

Aims

We are looking for a partner interested in a license and/or a collaboration agreement to further develop and exploit this innovative technology.

Classification

Area: Diagnostic
Technology: Others
Pathology: Infections

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