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**Press release**

**Date: December, 11th 2013**

**A TIRCON patent has recently been filed**

Recent developments in the TIRCON consortium have resulted in a new candidate compound for the treatment of PKAN. One of the major objectives of TIRCON is to preclinically develop panthethine and its derivatives to restore Coenzyme A levels. Abnormal Coenzyme A levels are thought to be one of the primary defects in PKAN and they might be restored with the new identified candidate. A patent application covering the compound and its synthesis has been filed by the TIRCON partners UMCG and Acies Bio (EP Appl. No. 13191457.4). Additional development is necessary before clinical trials can be initiated to prove a beneficial effect and normalize primary deficiencies in PKAN.

Within the TIRCON consortium a large investigator driven randomized clinical trial is currently ongoing with deferiprone. Deferiprone is another potential therapy for PKAN and focuses on the decrease of brain iron levels in NBIA.