Epilepsy in the Developing Brain: How to make progress ?

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OBJECTIVES

- **Understand** the biological basis of pediatric epilepsy, **ameliorate** its diagnosis and prognosis

- Improve the **quality of care** in children with epilepsy

- Improve the **quality of life** of children with epilepsy

How to make progress ?

1. To improve knowledge:

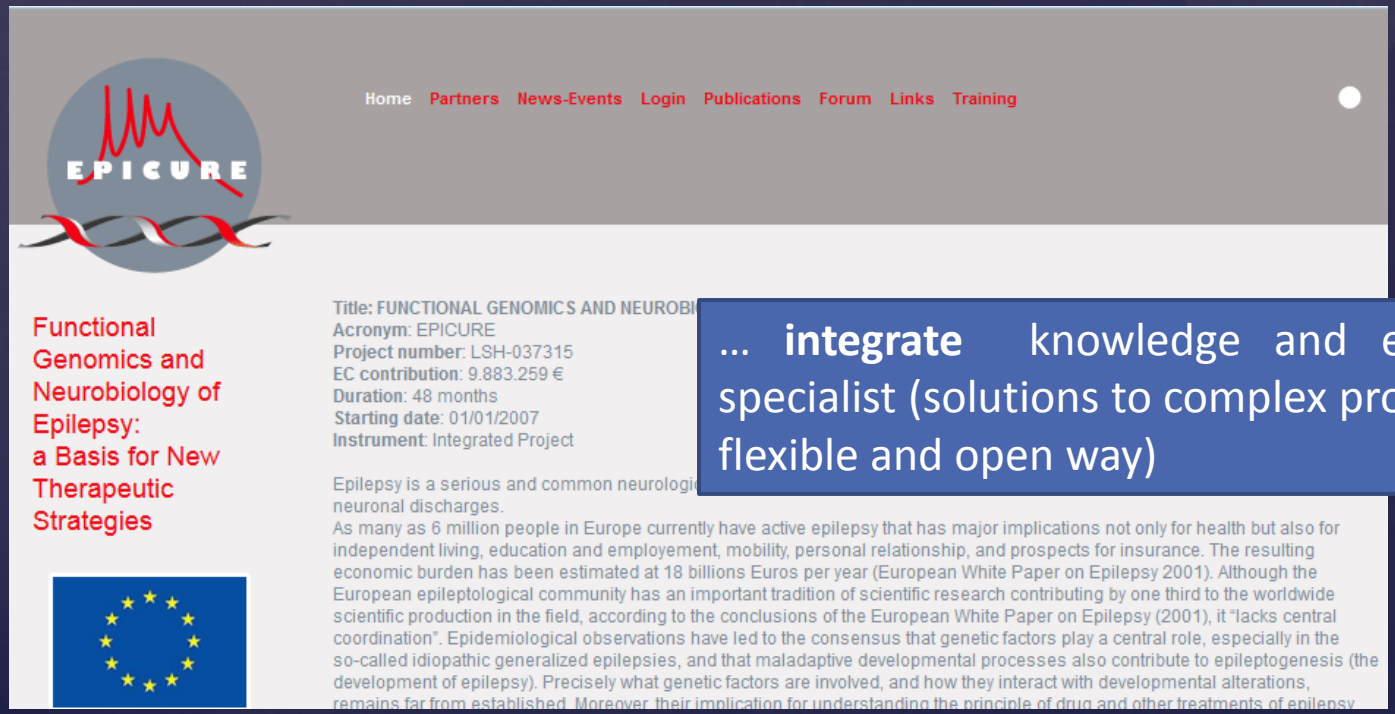
- Brain development vs epileptogenesis; Why is the immature brain more vulnerable to develop epilepsy? What are the causes of early and late-onset epilepsy?
- Causal heterogeneity of pediatric epilepsy
- Develop new experimental models that are best adapted to pediatric epilepsy.
- Evaluate the impact of epilepsy on cognitive outcome and morpho-functional brain development

How to make progress ?
2. To act:

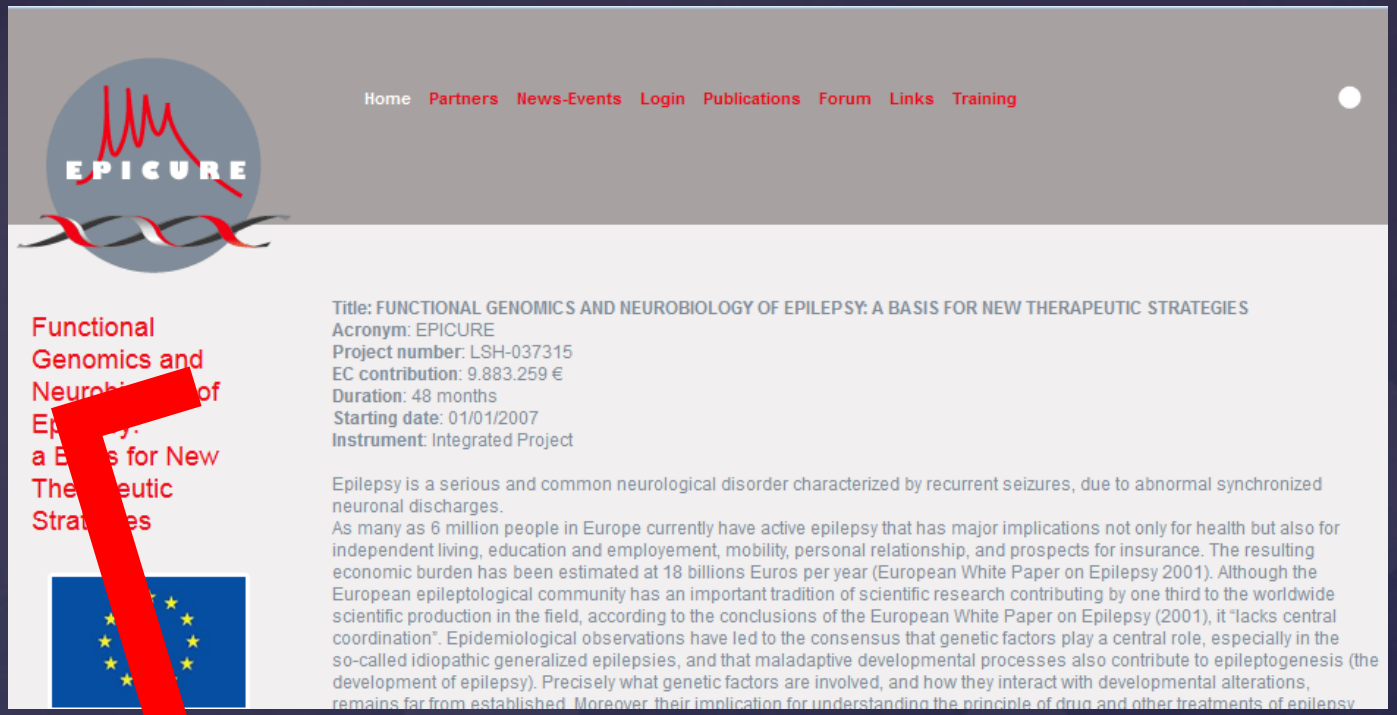
- Invest in and reinforce investigations of childhood epilepsies.
- Develop EU-wide consortia of basic and clinical scientists with different backgrounds.
- Develop post genomic research of developmental brain disorders (from bench to bedside and back).
- Reinforce human tissue based research and Epilepsy Brain/Tissue Banks.
- Perform trials in age-related epileptic syndromes. Develop innovative trial designs.
- Identify age- and disease-specific drug targets and translate these into drug discovery.
- Design new strategies for preventing and cure childhood epilepsy and preventing cognitive deterioration.

Actions to be taken:

a) Develop EU-wide interdisciplinary consortia of basic and clinical researchers with different backgrounds



… **integrate** knowledge and expertise of each specialist (solutions to complex problems offered in a flexible and open way)



Allow long term actions by renewal of epilepsy calls

Actions to be taken:

b) Teaching programs (continuous training programs on pediatric epilepsy)

14-26 July, 2013
11th San Servolo Course on Epilepsy: Brain Exploration and Epilepsy Surgery
San Servolo, Venice, Italy

18-23 August, 2013
The 7th Baltic Sea Summer School on Epilepsy
Tallinn, Estonia

27-28 August, 2013
Neurosurgical Aspects of Epilepsy in Southeastern Europe
Ljubljana, Slovenia

16 - 20 September, 2013
1st International Summer School for Neuropathology and Epilepsy Surgery
Universitätsklinikum Erlangen

3 - 9 November, 2013
7th Migrating Course on Epilepsy
ILAE Cyprus Epilepsy Society
Nicosia, Cyprus

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Inspiring and attracting young scientist and pediatricians to development & epilepsy research