



## Press release

### Greenlight for the project National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)

**By the decision of Minister of education, youths, and sports dated 25 November 2011 the project entitled National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), which will be realized within the frame of Operational Project of the EU Program „Research and Development for Innovation“ (R&D4I), has been approved. NIMH project reflects necessity of a regional R&D Centre in the field of Mental Health (MH) which would represent the issues in full-range and contribute significantly to the sustainable development of the Czech Republic.**

**Main goal of the project is to build a competitive reference research facility in the field of mental health and applied neuroscience and to move the contemporary institution Prague Psychiatric Centre (PCP) to the newly built premises in the town Klecany.**

*„There is lacking Centre like this in the Czech Republic what leads to several consequences involving fragmentation and low coordination of clinical and R&D activities in the field of MH“ says prof. MUDr. Cyril Höschl, DrSc., FRCPsych., director of the Prague Psychiatric Centre and of the project of NIMH.*

Specific **aims of the project** include:

- Erection of a modern, clinically oriented research facility in the field of mental health.
- Introduction and launch of the top technologies as well as concentration of top experts to meet world trends and to match scientific outcome standards in the field of MH - at latest until the end of 2015.
- Until the end of 2015, in comparison with PCP, to double the number of scientists involved in the research of neuropsychiatric disorders from a molecular level to clinical applications and evaluation of epidemiological data and population trends.
- Until the end of 2015 to set-up in the Centre a system of both pre- and postgraduate studies in MH R&D which will bring higher participation of young researchers in the field of neuropsychiatry.
- Centre development will in the region induce a productive, intellectual and cultural atmosphere, attractive enough for both domestic and foreign talented experts which would become members of NIHMH team.
- To establish a new model of supra-regional MH information system that would process data from domains of clinical characteristics, genetics, and brain imaging. The system will from 2015 provide „evidence based“ decision algorithms of personalized medicine in psychiatry.

The **core activity** of the Centre will be divided into several programs that reflect the needs of patients as well as the latest research trends:

- 1) Investigation in the **neurobiology of ageing, drug dependence, and severe mental disorders.**
- 2) Strategic **planning in MH** and epidemiology of mental disorders
- 3) National **electronic system** in MH and brain monitoring
- 4) **Centre of epidemiological and clinical research** of drug dependence
- 5) **Sleep disorders and circadian rhythmicity** in neuropsychiatric disorders
- 6) Applied **electrophysiology of the brain**
- 7) **NIMH clinical centre**

As an expert and information service centre for government and payers in this field NIMH will substantially contribute to the effective organisation and policy in **MH care**, importance of which increases hand in hand with demographic development and increasing prevalence of mental disorders in the population. Neuropsychiatric disorders represent the highest social burden in comparison with other diseases.

*„Now is the time for a country such as the Czech Republic to afford a high-quality neuropsychiatric research comparable with that in the world,“ said prof. MUDr. Cyril Höschl, DrSc., FRCPsych., director of the Prague Psychiatric Centre and of the project of NIMH.*

Registration number of the project: <a href="#">CZ.1.05/2.1.00/03.0078</a>
Title of the project: <b>National Institute of Mental Health</b>
Beneficiary: <a href="#">Prague Psychiatric Centre</a>
Date of project finalization: <a href="#">31/12/2015</a>
Director of the project (director of the Centre): <a href="#">Prof. MUDr. Cyril Höschl, DrSc. FRCPsych.</a>
<b>Total amount of grant: 971 mio CZK</b> (incl.: 825.5 mio CZK from EU and 145.5 mio CZK from the Czech national budget)

Note: 1 EUR= approx. 25 CZK