

GAINS Newsletter

The Global Alliance of Independent Networks (GAINS) is comprised of more than 19 stroke networks from around the globe to form one large, collaborative “network of networks”. Great minds, working together, sharing best practices, funding opportunities, and educational efforts to accelerate the pace and success of stroke clinical trials, with the ultimate goal of improving outcomes of stroke patients everywhere. The noble charge GAINS leadership has taken up is to help facilitate, strengthen, and educate stroke trialists, stroke trial networks and stroke trials worldwide. If your network would like to join GAINS in this effort, please **Contact us** today.

Current GAINS Executive leadership includes:

Joe Broderick Andrew Demchuk, Michael Hill, Pooja Khatri, Scott Janis, Jordan Elm, Gary Ford, Tom Robinson, Jeyaraj Pandian, Kazunori Toyoda and Silke Walter.

THE INTERNATIONAL GAINS NETWORK

A NETWORK OF NETWORKS



The next **GAINS Global Trials Forum** will be held in **January 2023**. Date and time TBD.

If you are interested in presenting a trial; please contact us by 30-November 2022.

<https://www.globalstroketrials.org/>

The most recent **GAINS Global Trials Forum** took place on 8-September 2022. **Prof. Dr. Urs Fischer, MD**, Chairman, Department of Neurology, University Hospital Basel, presented the **TECNO** study, a multi-center prospective, randomized, open label blinded endpoint study - Safety and Efficacy of intra-arterial **Tenecteplase** for **non**-complete reperfusion of intracranial **occlusions**. The primary objective of this trial is to determine the safety and efficacy of IA TNK in patients experiencing an acute ischemic stroke due to a large vessel occlusion with incomplete reperfusion with residual occlusions after MT.

The second presentation was an intriguing study from Shanghai University of Traditional Medicine. **LUSA**, from PI **Prof. Jian PEI, PhD, MD**, Chief Doctor, Department of Acupuncture, Shanghai, China, is a multi-center randomized controlled trial combining acupuncture with Chinese herbs asking the question: Do patients with motor dysfunction in the acute phase of ischemic stroke benefit from treatment with LU's acupuncture combination with Chinese herbs?

Both presentations were very well received and a robust discussion ensued. If you are interested in viewing the Forum, and learning more about these two very interesting trials, please visit our website to view the recorded presentations.

Our thanks to both PIs for sharing their studies. Please contact Rose at beckmare@ucmail.uc.edu if you would like to be put in contact with either PI.

If you or someone you know is interested in presenting a new or emerging global trial at our January 2023 Forum, please reach out to us before 30-November 2022. Sharing your trial could result in additional study sites, new ideas/perspectives, or perhaps even funding opportunities from interested institutions or countries.

Global Grant Reviewers

The GAINS Executive Committee continues to seek volunteer **global grant reviewers** to assist funding agencies identify individuals for thoughtful and swift grant review. If you have expertise in the areas of acute, prevention and/or recovery and rehabilitation, and are able to provide an external review for a funding agency evaluating a clinical trial grant, please contact us at your earliest convenience.

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Global Cardiovascular Research Funders Forum (GCRFF) Multinational Clinical Trials Initiative

Applying to the **Global Cardiovascular Research Funders Forum (GCRFF) Multinational Clinical Trials Initiative** has proven to be a worthwhile effort for many investigators. A recent article in *Endovascular Today*, told the benefit of one PIs GCRFF endorsement (see link below). The article states that “the GCRFF endorsement allows them to move forward and seek priority funding from their partner organizations. The investigators also hope for support from industry for specific aspects of the trial and/or associated registry.”
<https://evtoday.com/news/warriors-randomized-trial-will-aim-to-examine-early-evar-in-women>

GAINS members have also applied to the **GCRFF** for endorsement. **Prof. Dr. Götz Thomalla**, PI of Early treatment of Atrial fibrillation for Stroke prevention Trial in acute STROKE (**EAST-STROKE**), which will be presented at the next GTF, reported that,

“We were among the first round of applications to the GCRFF Multinational Clinical Trials Initiative with EAST-STROKE and obtained endorsement for full application. This was accompanied by valuable reviewer comments from a large panel of international experts. We are excited to see how the national funders will coordinate their decisions on the full proposals submitted in the participating countries. We believe that the GCRFF Multinational Clinical Trials Initiative is an important and timely initiative, as funding opportunities for multinational clinical trials in the field of stroke and cardiovascular disease are rare.”

Upcoming GCRFF Deadlines and Panel Dates

March 2023

- Expression of Interest submission deadline – Friday 27th January 2023
- Expert Advisory Panel meeting – 23rd March 2023

July 2023

- Expression of Interest submission deadline – Friday 26th May 2023
- Expert Advisory Panel meeting – 20th July 2023

November 2023

- Expression of Interest submission deadline – Friday 29th September 2023
- Expert Advisory Panel meeting – 30th November 2023

To learn more, please visit <https://www.bhf.org.uk/for-professionals/information-for-researchers/gcrff-multinational-clinical-trials-initiative>

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Upcoming Meetings/Conferences



American
Heart
Association.

International Stroke Conference
8-10 February 2023
Dallas, TX

The American Heart Association is planning its International Stroke Conference 2023 as a hybrid event, 8-10 February 2023 in Dallas, TX.

<https://professional.heart.org/en/meetings/international-stroke-conference/submit-science>



European Stroke Organisation Conference
24-26 May 2023
Munich, Germany

The 2023 ESOC will take place from 24 – 26 May. The ESO has decided that it will move forward with the planning of a **full onsite conference**, to stimulate stroke researchers from all over the world to travel to Munich and enjoy all aspects of this yearly large stroke conference.

<https://eso-conference.org/>