

Chewing gum family behind smoking cessation research

The well-known chewing gum family Bagger-Soerensen is establishing their own science center to explore new and more effective products for smoking cessation.

Nicotine Science Center (NSC) is the name of the Danish company Fertin Pharma's new science center, which was officially opened 2/5-14.

The purpose of the NSC is to enable the development of more effective nicotine replacement products; nicotine chewing gum etc. According to the company – that develops and produces nicotine chewing gum and is owned by the wealthy Bagger-Soerensen family (previous owners of DANDY) – it is vital to ensure progress within the understanding of nicotine and its release into the body.

The goal of the NSC is to improve the understanding of nicotine and its delivery. The center will accomplish this through collaboration with leading scientists, universities and other relevant organizations and by supporting scientific research through grants.

Next generation products

The center is already involved in development projects together with Danish and European universities, further, a branch with three employees will be established in Mumbai, India. Towards end 2014 the NSC will establish an application fund of 1 mill. DKK for research into nicotine.

“For more than 25 years Fertin Pharma has worked consistently on the development of effective nicotine chewing gum for smoking cessation”, explains Soeren Birn, CEO Fertin Pharma and continues “we need dedicated partners and scientists within our research areas to realize our ambition of constantly developing next generation products, enabling us to offer our customers more and more effective products. This is the reason that we have decided to finance and facilitate this important development through the NSC”.

Advisory board

Senior principal program manager, Ph. D. Kent Albin Nielsen, explains that the center has an advisory board consisting of three leading scientists within nicotine related research and oral drug delivery forms.

The Advisory Board comprises:

M.D. Ph.D. Danish Center for Sleep Medicine – Mr. Philip Tønnesen, Chairman of the Advisory Board

Professor and Head of Center for Chemistry and Biomedicine Innsbruck University – Mr. Andreas Bernkop-Schnürch

Professor of Pharmaceutics, Freie Universität Berlin - Mr. Rainer H. Müller

Present collaboration partners: University of Copenhagen, University of Aalborg, Technical University of Denmark, Münster University and Lund University.