

Contacts

Spread:

Charles Boucher
+ 31 30 250 6526 (phone)
+ 31 30 250 5426 (fax)
SPREAD@azu.nl

ABL SA:

Ronan Boulmé
+ 352 2602 2225 (phone)
+ 352 2602 2221 (fax)
3311@ablnetworks.org

For immediate release

HIV European Union SPREAD Committee Selects the Web Based Platform HIV LogiCare from ABL SA

Luxembourg, 02/ 02/ 04 -- Advanced Biological Laboratories (ABL) SA. today announced that SPREAD, an official European Commission supported programme for the strategy to control spread of HIV drug resistance (www.spread-europe.org), has selected the HIV LogiCare software and platform technology developed by ABL (www.ablnetworks.org).

SPREAD partners are using the web based ABL LogiCare platform to provide real-time data collection and reporting of their national data, from their local centres through to their national coordinator. The data collection is linking SPREAD partners with ABL's proprietary database, patient care data entry web forms and warehouse of HIV nucleotide sequences, which are hosted on a secured server. ABL is working closely with the CRP-Santé (Luxembourg), leader of the SPREAD database workgroup, for the hosting, monitoring and maintenance of the web server.

"I'm impressed by the technology ABL developed, robust and efficient, having the patients as the central focus point of this platform technology" stated Charles Boucher, the Spread Project coordinator. "We are very pleased by the performance of LogiCare, as it is used already in the last 12 months to support successfully the enrolment of 500 patients from 16 European countries in SPREAD. No failure was seen in this software since the beginning of the survey" he added.

Ronan Boulmé, Biomedical Information Unit Manager for ABL, said that the scope of the collaboration agreement with SPREAD is the first-step move in the data collection and centralized patient care monitoring sector in HIV/AIDS. "Although the web forms and required fields for SPREAD are unique, the scientific issues for the SPREAD program are representative. You have to solve the problems of linking your systems with those of your partners for a specific study, as well as standardizing the core data set, linking analysis tools and optimising data information delivery for involved teams, and that's what ABL does," he said.

SPREAD is an official European Commission supported program. Within SPREAD clinicians, virologists and epidemiologists from 18 European countries are working together to develop a strategy to control transmission of drug-resistant HIV. SPREAD will collect data to reliably determine the incidence of transmission within the different patient-groups and to identify risk factors enhancing the risk of transmission. Viruses from 4000 newly diagnosed individuals will be collected between 2002 and 2005 and characterized on mutational and phenotypic level by a network of quality controlled national reference laboratories. An extension to Eastern European countries is on the way.

Advanced Biological Laboratories (ABL, Luxembourg) S.A. is developing new information and computerized data systems, electronic decision support devices and clinical and virological databases. At the same time ABL's Luxembourg laboratories are supplying Europe with advanced molecular diagnostic services for both hospitals and pharmaceutical companies.

HIV LogiCare is a web-based system that enables healthcare providers to remotely connect and monitor their patient data from distributed locations at any time. Standardized data reports display clinical data, laboratory values, resistance and treatments. Customized interpretation and treatment guidance tools can be computed on demand and added to HIV Logicare. The HIV LogiCare system can also be installed locally on an intranet. Data can be easily exported to any other information system for sharing data and avoiding repeated data entry.