

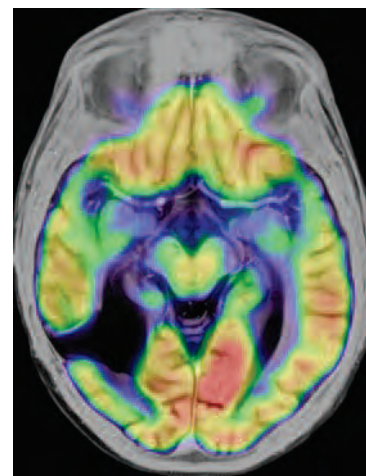
## Trigeminal Neuralgia discussed in House Of Commons Adjournment Debate



On 27th July 2010 Jim Fitzpatrick, MP for Poplar and Limehouse, raised the subject of Trigeminal Neuralgia (TN) in the final Adjournment Debate in the House of Commons. Mr Fitzpatrick is himself a sufferer of TN and member of the active support group TNA UK. Responding, Minister of State for the Department of Health, Paul Burstow, agreed that there was a need for better understanding by policymakers, the general public and clinical staff. He informed the House that he would ask his officials to "look carefully at pain management in the context of the framework for long-term neurological conditions," and announced his intention to meet the Neurological Alliance, an umbrella group representing more than 50 neurological charities and organisations, including the Trigeminal Neuralgia Association UK.

For more information see [www.tna.org.uk](http://www.tna.org.uk)

## World's first molecular MR system unveiled



The Biograph mMR gives spectacular visualisation of organs, their function as well as their metabolism, in a single image. This one shows Brain cancer.

For the first time, a Magnetic Resonance (MR) scanner and PET (Positron Emission Tomography) detection system have been combined to simultaneously capture tissue and cellular data from inside the human body. The Biograph mMR\* system from Siemens Healthcare is a new concept in diagnostic imaging that will revolutionise whole-body scanning. The first clinical installation has just been announced in Germany. The 3 Tesla MR provides exquisite morphological and functional details in human tissue and PET goes further to investigate the human body at the level of cellular activity and metabolism. The innovative system has the potential to be a valuable tool for identifying neurological, oncological and cardiac conditions of disease and in supporting the planning of appropriate therapies. As MRI does not emit ionising radiation, the Biograph mMR may also provide an added benefit of lower-dose imaging. The system also opens new opportunities for research, such as the development of new biomarkers or new therapeutic approaches.

For more information see [www.siemens.com/press/healthcare/Biograph-mMR](http://www.siemens.com/press/healthcare/Biograph-mMR)

## Extension of FDA Priority Review Period for Cladribine Tablets

Merck Serono announced recently that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has extended its review period for Cladribine Tablets as a therapy for relapsing forms of multiple sclerosis (MS) by three months to February 28, 2011.

The FDA granted Priority Review status for Cladribine Tablets in July of 2010, reducing the standard 10-month review period to six months,

which was set to end on November 28, 2010. The FDA extended the review period to provide additional time for a full review of additional information provided under the new drug application (NDA).

For more information contact Merck Serono on T. +44 (0)20 8818 7200.

## SMC approves Zebinix – once daily anti-epileptic treatment

Zebinix® (eslicarbazepine acetate), a treatment for epilepsy, has been accepted for restricted use in Scotland after a decision by The Scottish Medicines Consortium (SMC). Following the new clinical and cost effectiveness decision, Zebinix can now be used as an add-on (adjunctive) therapy in adults with partial-onset seizures, with or without secondary generalisation (where the seizure spreads to both sides of the brain). The Committee adds that Zebinix use should be restricted to patients with hard-to-treat (highly refractory) epilepsy who have been heavily pre-treated and remain uncontrolled with

existing anti-epileptic drugs, contingent upon the continuing availability of the patient access scheme in Scotland.

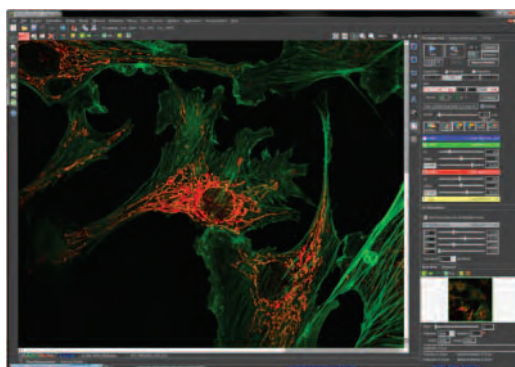
Zebinix was approved for use by the European Medicines Agency in April 2009 for the treatment of adults with partial-onset seizures with or without secondary generalisation. In its first year Zebinix has had over 9,000 months of patient exposure.

Scottish Medical Consortium advice on Zebinix available at: [www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/Home](http://www.scottishmedicines.org.uk/Home).

## Nikon launches NIS-Elements upgrade

Nikon Instruments has introduced version 3.2 of its comprehensive imaging software, NIS-Elements. Following the launch of Microsoft's Windows® 7 operating system, Nikon has developed its software to incorporate many unique features, including improved instrument control combined with enhanced image acquisition and data analysis. Version 3.2 includes updated core features to facilitate customised experiments and evolving protocols and comes with optional software upgrade agreements for easier access to future software updates.

NIS-Elements provides complete control over Nikon motorised microscopes and other devices in four distinct packages scaled to address specific application requirements: AR



– optimised for advanced research applications, with fully automated 6D image acquisition and device control; BR – suitable for standard research applications, such as analysis and photodocumentation of fluorescent imaging through 4D image acquisition; C – enables full integration of confocal specific acquisition controls together with advanced image analysis functionality; and version D which supports colour documentation requirements in bioresearch, clinical and industrial applications with basic measuring and reporting capabilities.

For more information on Nikon microscopes T: +44 (0)20 82471718, E. [info@nikoninstruments.eu](mailto:info@nikoninstruments.eu), [www.nikoninstruments.eu/niselements](http://www.nikoninstruments.eu/niselements)