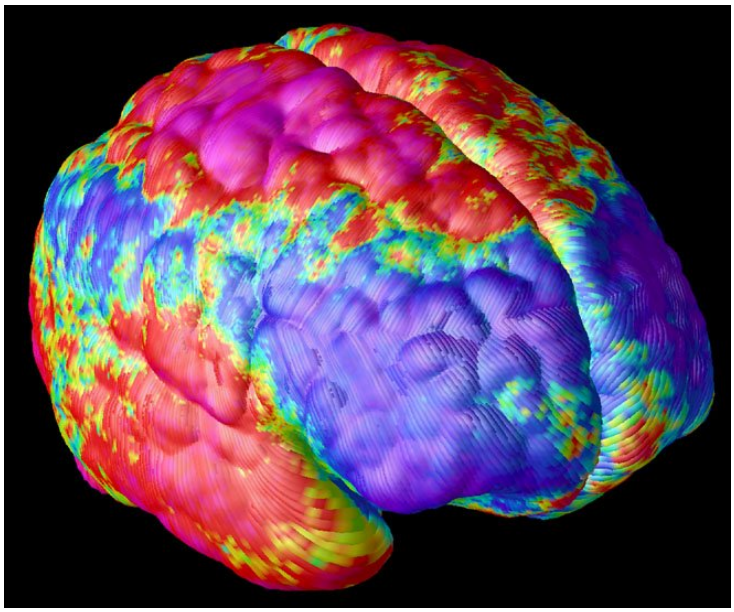
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Minerva's drug shows treatment effect in schizophrenia patients

May 18, 2018 | News

The results also demonstrated that cognitive improvements correlate with previously reported improvements in negative symptoms.



Singapore- Minerva Neurosciences, a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company focused on the development of therapies to treat central nervous system disorders (CNS), announced that The Journal of Clinical Psychiatry has published online results demonstrating cognitive improvements in patients with schizophrenia treated with roluperidone (MIN-101). The results also demonstrated that cognitive improvements correlate with previously reported improvements in negative symptoms.

Roluperidone is a novel compound with affinities for $5HT_{2A}$ and $sigma_2$ receptors and no direct binding to dopamine receptors. In this regard, roluperidone differs from drugs currently indicated for schizophrenia, all of which directly interfere with dopamine neurotransmission.

“Currently available dopamine-blocking antipsychotic drugs have very little impact on cognitive impairment associated with schizophrenia,” said Dr. Richard Keefe, Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Duke University School of Medicine, CEO of NeuroCog Trials, which provided quality assurance of the cognitive data in the study, and an author of the publication. “The data from this study suggest that roluperidone, which combines $5HT_{2A}$ and $sigma_2$ antagonism without dopamine blockade, in addition to improving negative symptoms may improve cognitive deficits in schizophrenic patients.”