**Pioglitazone: A new X-ALD drug on the horizon?**

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The drug Pioglitazone, originally a pharmaceutical used to treat individuals with diabetes due to its hypoglycaemic actions, has come to light as a potential new therapeutic drug for individuals with X-linked ALD.

A recent study by scientists from various institutions in Spain, USA, and France, headed by Laia Morató, found reduced mitochondrial DNA levels, down-regulation of the biogenesis pathway, and heightened oxidative stress in mice without functioning ABCD1 proteins (like that seen in individuals with X-ALD).

Importantly, upon treatment with Pioglitazone, the biogenesis pathway was corrected and oxidative stress neutralised. This resulted in the prevention of locomotor disability and axonal damage in these mice.

This study has led to a patent being requested for the future use of Pioglitazone as a novel drug for the treatment and/or prevention of an Adrenoleukodystrophy.

This drug appears to be a promising one when considering future Adrenoleukodystrophy therapies. Watch this space.

For more information see the original study:
