PRESS RELEASE

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Stardots-led consortium awarded SEK 2 million grant to bring objective measurement to PTSD care

Stardots has been awarded a grant from Vinnova, Sweden's Innovation Agency, to develop objective measures of symptoms and treatment response in post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). The Stardots-led consortium has been granted approximately SEK 2 million. Using the Psilmi platform's eye-movement and pupil measurements, the project aims to complement clinical interviews and self-reports with objective data – enabling better follow-up and, over time, more individualized care.

The project is the first concrete step in TRACE, Stardots' broader PTSD programme built on Psilmi. It will link the platform's synchronized eye-movement and pupil measures to clinical symptom profiles and to changes during treatment – an important step towards a measurement tool for both healthcare and pharmaceutical development.

PTSD causes considerable suffering and can make everyday life difficult to manage. Clinical interviews and self-reports remain central to care, but clinicians and drug developers alike lack objective measures that can track symptoms and treatment response over time.

The work is integrated into an ongoing clinical study comparing intensive exposure-based PTSD treatment with weekly treatment. The project will identify which eye-movement and pupil-based biosignatures best describe symptoms and capture treatment-related change, comparing people with PTSD, trauma-exposed people without PTSD and a reference group with neither trauma exposure nor PTSD.

The goal is to give care providers a stronger basis for following treatment progress and tailoring interventions. Subject to validation in the relevant patient groups and care settings, the same approach could also become relevant for veterans with PTSD in Europe and the US.

With further validation, the approach could also become relevant for global pharmaceutical companies – for evaluating treatment response and exploring patient stratification in clinical drug development.

"We want to make it easier to follow how symptoms change for a person with PTSD and to give healthcare a better basis for tailoring treatment. If we can tie objective measurements more closely to clinical treatment response, that also becomes valuable knowledge for drug developers. That is the opportunity we are taking forward with TRACE says Daniel Petrini, CEO, Stardots.

Link for more information: https://stardots.se/trace/

About the project

The project “Objective symptom quantification for individualization of treatments in post-traumatic stress disorder” has been granted up to SEK 1,996,129 by Vinnova. The grant is awarded under the call “Collaborative projects for healthy and resilient societies” and runs from November 2026 to May 2028. Stardots coordinates the project together with Region Stockholm’s PTSD Competence Centre, which leads the clinical study, Uppsala University and Karolinska Institutet.

About Stardots

Stardots develops Psilmi, a versatile and modular platform for objective measurement of human function and treatment-related change. By combining synchronized pupil, eye-movement and cognitive measures, Psilmi can identify patterns that may complement conventional clinical assessments. The platform has been developed and applied across ADHD, autism, anxiety and depression, and is now being expanded into PTSD through the TRACE programme. Built on an RDoC-oriented biological foundation, Psilmi has the potential to support applications across diagnostic boundaries and in a wider range of neurological, neurodevelopmental and psychiatric conditions. Each application requires dedicated investigation and validation for its specific intended purpose.

Media contacts

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