6 steps to finding a cure for ALS











Contact us

If you would like to participate or have any questions regarding Project MinE please contact the project coordinator:

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www.projectmine.com

Visit the website of Project MinE for the latest project updates, fundraising news, details on participating countries and local ALS centres and foundations, and more scientific background information. In addition, through the website donations can be made (with the result being immediately visible) and individual fundraising campaigns can be set up and supported by people from all over the world.



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Project MinEGroundbreaking genetic ALS research

Make it yours!

Although the precise cause of ALS is still unknown, in recent years it has become increasingly clear that this devastating and fatal disease of motor neurons has a genetic basis. Project MinE is an ambitious international research initiative aimed at detecting genetic causes and risk factors for ALS. The project has been initiated by two ALS patients.

Discovery of genes that are associated with ALS may lead to the identification of disease pathways and disease mechanisms. This knowledge can be used to develop new treatments and suggest lifestyle changes that could also help. Project MinE aims to expand current large-scale genetic studies on ALS by combining whole genome sequencing in ALS patients with imputation of genome wide association (GWA) array data.

22,500 DNA profiles

To obtain sufficient power to identify all genetic variants in ALS a total of at least 15,000 ALS DNA samples and 7,500 control DNA samples needs to be analysed through whole genome sequencing. Genetic research into the origins of ALS on this scale is unprecedented, but is needed if we are to achieve our commitment of making a revolutionary breakthrough in finding a cure for this disease.

International scientific consortium

To make the groundbreaking genetic research of Project MinE happen, international collaboration of scientific ALS institutes is required. Initial connections are in place already through past and ongoing collaborative research projects, but Project MinE welcomes all interested centres worldwide. A new consortium of scientific ALS centres is being set up for Project MinE. Please visit the website www.projectmine.com for the most recent status or contact the project coordinator to get your centre involved.



Project MinE. Make it yours!

Most ALS institutes depend on local ALS foundations for financing of their research projects. The support of the ALS foundations is also required for Project MinE. Through their efforts funds are raised to execute this research. Project MinE would therefore like to involve ALS foundations worldwide and to help them to increase their fundraising for ALS research in general and for Project MinE specifically by sharing fundraising experiences and opportunities. The project is a great example of patient involvement and slogans like 'Project MinE, make it yours!' and 'Sponsor a DNA profile!' appeal to the public.

In the Netherlands a special fundraising campaign for Project Mine, set up in cooperation with the Netherlands ALS Foundation, has been very successful. Thus far the foundation and events organised by several other organisations raised enough funding for the Netherlands ALS Centre to sequence over 2,000 Dutch DNA samples.



"For my cousin: an end to ALS through Project MinE research!"

Ineke de Haan

Convinced her employer to support Project MinE



"Because everybody deserves hope."

Edwin Veekens

Ran a marathon to raise funds for Project MinE

The benefits

of participating in Project MinE for ALS centres and foundations:

- Combination of ALS biobanks/patient databases worldwide
- Access to genetic data of at least 15,000 people with ALS worldwide benefitting many future ALS research projects
- Access to genetic data of a control cohort of 7,500 people benefitting future ALS research and research efforts aimed at finding cures for other serious illnesses such as dementia, Parkinson's disease, diabetes, autism, cardiovascular disease and certain cancers
- Reduction of whole genome sequencing costs by combining efforts (tiered pricing model)
- Participation in groundbreaking genetic ALS research
- International collaboration in raising awareness of ALS
- International collaboration in fundraising for Project MinE and ALS research in general
- A concrete project providing great opportunities for fundraising
- Access to marketing and communication materials/templates
- Raising hope for ALS patients