



**A research project close to one and a half million euros**

**Neocodex, the Region of Murcia and the Alzheimer Foundation are committed to the research against Alzheimer's disease**

**Neocodex, the Alzheimer Foundation and the Region of Murcia are committed to the research and the fight against Alzheimer's disease, thanks to a Neuroprotection project to develop new diagnostic and therapeutic tools which may be applied to common neurological diseases.**

Madrid, 24 January 2007

The project, which will be carried out by Neocodex together with the Alzheimer Foundation and the Region of Murcia, thanks to the application of mass techniques in genome research. The main objectives of the project are to isolate and characterise the common molecular mechanisms involved in the most common neurodegenerative diseases among the Spanish population, as is the case of Alzheimer's disease.

The Neuroprotection project includes the creation of a Biobank for patients from the Region of Murcia, as well as the use of Neocodex's Biobank for neurodegenerative diseases. As a result of this project, Murcia will have the largest genetic database for Alzheimer's disease in Spain.

NeoCodex will apply HFCC technology (hypothesis free clinical cloning) in this project which allows the systematic research of complex genetic models using mass genomic data from patients. The application of this technology, which has been completely developed by Neocodex, speeds up and promotes the discovery of those polygenes that are associated with multifactorial diseases. The use of HFCC reduces analysis time and the hardware required to carry out this type of study. HFCC also uses relatively small sample sizes, therefore reducing the cost of this type of project by up to 70%.

A total of 300 million genetic tests will be performed during the entire project and bioinformatics resources will be used. These resources integrate information on 1000 million genotypes so that the results obtained can be compared with those from other studies carried out in the USA.

The use of this database will enable the creation of genetic panels to predict different neurological diseases with a high prevalence, such as Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease and stroke among others.

Neocodex is a biomedical genomics research company whose objective is to discover the genetic and molecular bases of diseases which are common in humans. Specialising in



developing and using innovative methods, Neocodex has grown and has become a leading company in biomedicine research and development. In its endeavours to discover how genetic factors have an influence on the appearance and development of certain diseases, Neocodex leads research into genetic biomarkers by applying mass genome study methods. With a group of internationally recognised scientists, focusing on discovering and applying these discoveries to help explain complex diseases, Neocodex has been a pioneer in its integral approach to research projects within the Biomedicine field.

The Alzheimer Foundation was created in 2006 with the objective of managing programmes and projects for basic and clinical research into the field of dementia, as well as for treating the disease and improving the quality of patient care and the quality of life for family carers. The aim is to get that the Region of Murcia has a significant number of resources for treatment and research, which is the basic pillar of the Foundation, as well as for training professionals and volunteers specialising in Alzheimer's disease, so that the problem can be dealt with while directly impacting on patient welfare, providing families with the strategies necessary to face up to the disease and increasing the knowledge of healthcare and social professionals, so that they can provide comprehensive care of the highest quality.

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