ECFS Gene Modifier Working Group

Major aim of the working group: To amalgamate EU-wide clinical and DNA data to identify genetic variants involved in CF disease severity.

The ECFS working group supports the emerging European Consortium to meet and to gather preliminary data for applying for a substantial European research grant.

Results obtained in 2011/2012

- France: the French project has been underway since 2007 with almost 3,800 French CF patients recruited (clinical data and DNA collected). French grants from the Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR), and the French CF Foundation "Vaincre la Mucoviscidose".
- Italy: in 2011, the Italians obtained a grant from the Italian CF Foundation "Fondazione per la Ricerca sulla Fibrosi Cistica". The inputs should start during the last trimester of 2012.
- UK: at the end of 2011, the British applied for a grant from the British "CF Trust" (results expected in June 2012)
- Ireland: In 2011-12, the Irish have included ~150 CF patients (clinical data and DNA collected). Irish local grants.

Meetings

- In December 2010: first meeting in Paris
- In 2011: meetings during the ECFS Basic Science Conference, the ECFS Conference Hamburg, and the NACFC.
- In 2012: meetings during the ECFS Basic Science Conference, the ECFS Conference Dublin. In April 2012, 2 days face to face meeting in Paris with the North-American consortium.

Next expected action of the working group: applying for a European research grant (FP7) to support the scientific project.

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