

## BrainCure: the blue hope against a group of ultra-rare diseases

**LOCATION:** Seville

**DURATION:** 1'26"

**SUMMARY:** Researchers from the Pablo de Olavide University have patented a new method that allows them to determine which drugs combination is more effective for the treatment of NBIA disorders in each patient. This group of ultra-rare diseases affects 60 people in Spain. NBIA disorders cause neuron death through brain iron accumulation. This study, named BrainCure, has been developed in the Andalusian Centre for Developmental Biology and directed by José Antonio Sánchez Alcázar. Their final goal is to find a cure and avoid the serious consequences suffered by these patients, such as losing mobility or the capacity to speak or eat.

### VTR:

This blue dying is a ray of hope for a reduced group of 60 people in Spain, people affected by any of the ultra-rare diseases catalogued as NBIA disorders, with no cure to this day.

**ANTONIO LÓPEZ**  
President of the NBIA Association

*"It is the acronym for a group of neurodegenerative diseases in which brain iron accumulation is involved."*

**JOSÉ ANTONIO SÁNCHEZ ALCÁZAR**  
Dir. BrainCure Pablo de Olavide Univ.

*"That iron accumulation in neurons causes the death of the cells."*

**ANTONIO LÓPEZ**  
President of the NBIA Association

*"You see how your beloved ones lose their capacities."*

Like the capacity to speak or eat. And here, in this lab of the Andalusian Centre for Developmental Biology, researchers have patented a new technique that allows knowing the effectiveness of treatments and applying them to each patient in a personalized way, overcoming one of the most important barriers of rare diseases: the sustainability of their research.

**JOSÉ ANTONIO SÁNCHEZ ALCÁZAR**  
Dir. BrainCure Pablo de Olavide Univ.

*"The most important thing was to find a screening system that allowed us to test and compare many drugs at the same time, and determine which one is more effective for each patient."*

Three patients are already receiving these treatments on an experimental basis through the public health services of Andalusia and Valencia. A scientific accomplishment in which NBIA patients are quite interested.

**JOSÉ ANTONIO SÁNCHEZ ALCÁZAR**  
Dir. BrainCure Pablo de Olavide Univ.

*"The patient associations set the priorities that, of course, in this case, are finding treatments."*

**ANTONIO LÓPEZ**  
Presidente de ENACH Asociación

*"We have to fight for it, work for it, and it can go fine or wrong. But at least we have to try."*

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