



BrainCure: crowdfunding to find a cure for ultra-rare disease NBIA

LOCATION: Seville

DURATION: 1'37"

SUMMARY: NBIA is a rare and neurodegenerative disease which affects 35 people in Spain, caused by the accumulation of iron in brain cells. Amongst the symptoms are involuntary movements, dementia, and ingestion problems. Scientists at the Andalusian Centre for Developmental Biology have been working for some time to find a cure for this disease. It is a project called 'Brain Cure.' But there is an obstacle: the lack of funds. To solve this problem, they have begun a successful Crowdfunding campaign. They needed 4,000 euros and in two months they have raised nearly 6,000.

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These scientists at the Andalusian Centre for Developmental Biology are looking for the cure for harsh and rare disease called NBIA. They are now closer to finding it, thanks to Crowdfunding, the financial support from willing citizens.

But first, what is NBIA?

JOSÉ A. SÁNCHEZ ALCÁZAR
Project Leader of 'Brain Cure'

"It is a neurodegenerative disease caused by the accumulation of iron in certain parts of the brain."

It is genetic and extremely rare, with 35 cases in Spain. These are the symptoms...

JOSÉ A. SÁNCHEZ ALCÁZAR
Project Leader of 'Brain Cure'

"Difficulty ingesting, convulsions, dementia... A very serious illness which causes significant problems both for the patient and the people who look after them."

Their life expectancy is usually less than 25 years old. Andalusian researchers are looking at using cells from a person with NBIA to try out different treatments. Always with an objective.

JOSÉ A. SÁNCHEZ ALCÁZAR
Project Leader of 'Brain Cure'

"The objective is to find a cure for patients."

The initial results are hopeful. But the financial difficulties are significant. For this reason, they have set up a Crowdfunding campaign through this page. They needed 4,000 euros and in two months they have raised nearly 6,000.

MÓNICA ÁLVAREZ
Researcher

"It especially enables us to raise awareness, not just in the science world but also amongst all kinds of people."

This petition for help has also been noticed by an association in the US, which involves another 45,000 euros. The campaign is headquartered at the University of Pablo de Olavide, which also has the support of CSIC and the Andalusian Government.

For more information or support please call +34 662 369 820 or email info@andalusianstories.com