

### **European Spinocerebellar ataxia type 3 (SCA3) project**

This is a multi-centre European project which is coordinated at the German Centre for neurodegenerative diseases in Bonn. This project has received funding of 1.6M euros from the EU Joint Programme for Neurodegenerative Disease Research as a 3-year project.

The groups plan to bring together patients from a number of existing databases around the world, and to create one group with over 700 patients. The project involves seven centres from European countries (Germany, UK, Portugal and the Netherlands), plus some associated centres from outside of Europe (eg: Brazil, US). They plan to create a database with brain-imaging scans, standardised clinical assessments and blood samples from the patients, and will carry out a natural history study to assess how their conditions progress over the years. This information will be very helpful in designing clinical trials to assess treatments.

The Ataxia UK accredited Specialist Ataxia Centre at the National Hospital for Neurology and Neurosurgery in London, led by Dr Paola Giunti, is the UK site involved in this study. If you have been diagnosed with SCA3 and are interested in taking part please contact the researcher Hector Garcia at [h.garcia-moreno@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:h.garcia-moreno@ucl.ac.uk)