


European Project Factsheet (*maximum 1 page per project*)

 FULL TITLE	Training and understanding neurodegenerative diseases
ACRONYM	Neurotrain
COORDINATOR	Dr. Thomas Wheeler-Schillibg (Eberhard Karls Universitaet Tuebingen)
CONTRACT NUMBER	MEST-CT-2005 020235
START DATE/END DATE	01/01/2006 – 31/12/2009
FUNDING INSTRUMENT	EC: FP6 Marie Curie Actions-Early-stage Training (EST)
KEY WORDS	Neurodegenerations, Parkinson's Disease, Retinal degenerations, Functional genomics, Advanced training
SUMMARY	<p>Cognitive function is the most precious of all human attributes, its loss is considered as one of the most severe and dreadful handicaps for human life quality. The prevalence of neurodegenerative diseases is increasing in the European society and will get even more prevalent in our ageing population. The focus of the "Early Stage Training (EST) Network" ('NEUROTRAIN') will be to promote and improve training possibilities and to improve our knowledge of neurodegeneration that will eventually lead to prevention and therapy. Ten internationally recognised research groups from three European countries link up in the context of a well defined collaborative 'NEUROTRAIN' project in order to formulate and implement a structured training programme for young researchers in the field of neurodegeneration research. Worldwide, there are only a handful of centres with a comparable expertise in the molecular analysis of CNS and retina genetics, biology and development. Over the past years, the 'NEUROTRAIN' consortium has been responsible for the identification and characterisation of a number of major genes for neurodegenerative diseases. This unique framework will boost the professional career development of early stage researchers effectively, as the proposing research teams bring together a critical mass of theoretical and applied research capabilities by using a multidisciplinary/intersectorial approach. The planned European integration in this important field should be achieved through the interaction of the networking teams, exchange, training of PhD fellows and secondments to create a unique network at the European level and progress towards the creation of a European Research Area of excellence.</p>
4 PARTICIPANTS	Prof. Theo Van Veen (Lunds Universitet, Sweden); Dr. Marius Ueffing (GSF, Germany); Prof. Shomi Bhattacharya (University College London, UK); Prof. Stephen Minger (King's College London, UK)
BUDGET	1 717 541 €
PROJECT WEB-SITE	http://www.neurotrain.org

