There are currently more than 1.5 Million people living with dementia in each year. Dementia is very difficult to research, because not all dementia share all its facets. A member of the Helmholtz Association and the first of six German centers for health research (DZG), the DZNE was established by the German Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) to combat the most important widespread disease.
More than 1,000 employees in more than 80 research groups are investigating the similarities and differences of various brain diseases. The aim is to develop new preventive and therapeutic approaches. At DZNE, fundamental research goal is to identify new diagnostic markers and rapidly develop possible therapies. To accomplish this, the DZNE brings together excellent scientific expertise all over Germany and follows an interdisciplinary research approach. At nine sites including Greifswald, Tübingen and Witten the DZNE works closely with universities, university hospitals and other partners.

The DZNE receives 90 percent of its funding from the Federal Ministry of Education and Research.