Academic Collaborations

International collaborations
In addition to individual project collaborations, the DZNE is involved in

- **Centers of Excellence in Neurodegeneration initiative (CoEN):** The Centers of Excellence in Neurodegeneration initiative (CoEN) and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Canada, as a joint funding program to catalyze translational research in the field. The consortium was soon expanded and currently has nine member countries (Germany, UK, Canada, Italy, Belgium, Ireland, Slovakia, Spain, France).

- **Joint Programme Neurodegenerative Disease (JPND):** An EU member-state led initiative to tackle the "grand challenge" of neurodegenerative disease.

- **Dominantly Inherited Alzheimer Network (DIAN):** Germany has recently joined this network, which focuses on Alzheimer’s disease that is caused by a gene mutation. Understanding this form of Alzheimer’s disease may provide clues to decoding other dementias and developing new dementia treatments.

- **Helmholtz-Alberta Initiative:** This long-term and highly successful initiative was created to find solutions to pressing issues in the area of energy and health with an initial focus on infectious and neurodegenerative disease research. It is currently collaborating with scientists at the University of Alberta Centre for Prions and Protein Folding Diseases and the Gladstone Institute of Neurological Disease (GIND). The DZNE and Gladstone Institute of Neurological Disease (GIND) will work together to identify critical unresolved issues in areas of common interest.

National collaborations
Based on its organizational structure, the DZNE also benefits from ample opportunities to network with the expertise and resources of its affiliated local universities. Indeed, such collaboration is crucial for clinical research work, since the DZNE does not provide direct patient care services.

Close collaboration with local partners is exhibited in the participation of the DZNE in the following Excellence Clusters which were recently selected for funding by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG, Germany’s largest funding organization):

- **ImmunoSensation (Immune Sensory System; new excellence cluster) in Bonn**
- **SyNergy (Munich Cluster for Systems Neurology; new excellence cluster) in Munich**
- **CECAD (Cellular Stress responses in ageing-associated diseases; new excellence cluster) in Bonn**

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Werner Reichardt Centre for Neuroscience (Interdisciplinary Centre for Integrative Neuroscience)

The DZNE extended its close collaboration with university clinics by successfully applying for "sclerosis and frontotemporal dementia" together with the Universities of... Moreover, the DZNE has created links with individual Helmholtz centers, including the Institute for Infection Research (HZI). In addition, the DZNE is partners of the...