Academic Collaborations

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

- **Centers of Excellence in Neurodegeneration initiative (CoEN)**: This initiative is a joint funding program to catalyze translational research in the field. The consortium started with Canada and currently has nine member countries (Germany, UK, Canada, Italy, Belgium, Ireland, Slovakia, Spain, France).

- **Joint Programme Neurodegenerative Disease (JPND)**: This EU member-state led initiative is working on tackling the “grand challenge” of neurodegenerative disease.

- **Dominantly Inherited Alzheimer Network (DIAN)**: Germany has recently joined this network to study 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 partnership is created to find solutions to pressing issues in the area of energy and environment. In 2011 both partners agreed the collaboration should be extended to the health area, with an initial focus on infectious and neurodegenerative disease research. As of 2014, investigators at the DZNE sites are collaborating with scientists at the University of Alberta Center for Prions and Protein Folding Diseases and the Gladstone Institute of Neurological Disease (GIND).

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 four Excellence Clusters which were recently selected for funding by the 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)**

http://www.dzne.de/en/research/collaborations/academic-collaborations.html?print=1
The DZNE extended its close collaboration with university clinics by studying "multiple sclerosis and frontotemporal dementia" together with the Universities of Regensburg and Munich. Moreover, the DZNE has created links with individual Helmholtz centers, including the Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research (HZI). In addition, the DZNE is partners of the...