# Neurodegenerative diseases: immunotherapy, biomarkers, clinical and epidemiological investigations

https://neurodegenerationresearch.eu/survey/neurodegenerative-diseases-immunotherapy-biomarkers-clinical-and-epidemiological-investigations/

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Sweden

# Title of project or programme

Neurodegenerative diseases: immunotherapy, biomarkers, clinical and epidemiological investigations

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Swedish Research Council

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Start date of award

01/01/2013

#### Total duration of award in years

# Keywords

# **Research Abstract**

Alzheimer's disease (AD), dementia with Lewy bodies (DLB) and Parkinson's disease (PD) are the most common neurodegenerative disorders caused by aggregation of pathological proteins in the brain. In AD, amyloid-beta is deposited extracellularly whereas in DLB and PD alphasynuclein accumulates in nerve cells and cell membranes. To date, there are no therapies against the respective pathogeneses, although immunotherapy against amyloid-beta has shown

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some promise in clinical trials on AD patients. However, an optimal therapy should target soluble protofibrils of amyloid-beta, which are likely to be the most toxic forms. We have therefore developed a protofibril selective monoclonal antibody, mAb158, which has been well tolerated in a phase I clinical trial. We now aim at further improving amyloid-beta directed immunotherapy. Moreover, to develop a targeted immunotherapy also for PD and DLB we have generated antibodies highly selective for alpha-synuclein protofibrils. As there also is a lack of reliable disease biomarkers, we are generating assays that can measure protofibrils of amyloid-beta and alpha-synuclein. We are performing clinical and epidemiological studies to evaluate these novel biomarkers in cerebrospinal fluid. In addition, we are developing a new type of PET ligand selective for amyloid-beta protofibrils. The significans of this program is that we are developing new treatments and biomarkers for neurodegenerative diseases.

# Further information available at:

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