

NMJ-on-a-chip

Humanized high-throughput co-culture system for motor neuron diseases

The disruption of the meeting point of motor neurons with muscle, a site that is called neuromuscular junction (NMJ), is a key event in motor neuron disease such as ALS and SMA. The goal of this project is to develop a new drug-screening device for testing NMJ function in ALS and SMA diseases. We will grow patients' cells on a novel platform to mimic the NMJ and test the effect of drugs on their health and function. Candidate drugs will be applied to test its effects on motor neuron death, axon degeneration and NMJ activity. Finally, big data analysis will be tailored to characterise and match patient's profile with promising drugs candidates.

Total Funding : (TBC)

Duration : (TBC)









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