


Foundation supports MND research

 The Motor Neurone Disease Association has been awarded £100,000 by The Stavros Niarchos Foundation to help fund its Whole Genome Scan research project.

The international MND research initiative aims to narrow the search for genes that contribute to MND by identifying 'hot spots' linked to the disease which can then be carefully searched, letter by letter, for disease related 'spelling mistakes'.

By analysing more than 4,000 DNA samples it is hoped that the genetic factors

which could predispose people to MND can be identified. Once this link is made then it will provide important clues as to the underlying causes and mechanisms of the disease. This understanding could then allow researchers to pinpoint effective treatment strategies.

The Stavros Niarchos Foundation was created following the death of Greek shipping magnate Stavros S Niarchos to help to change lives through health projects as well as through education and cultural programmes..