



Leading Drug Discovery for Today's ALS Patients

About ALS TDI

The ALS Therapy Development Institute, founded in 1999, has become the world's leading ALS translational research center. Built by ALS patients and families frustrated by the pace and quality of conventional research, ALS TDI has pioneered an industrialized drug development and validation model that produces world-class data at unprecedented volumes and speeds. Enhanced by an innovative open-source science approach and nonprofit business model, ALS TDI is paving the way to finding an effective treatment for ALS. At the beginning of 2007 the Muscular Dystrophy Association's (MDA) Augie's Quest Initiative formed a historic funding partnership with ALS TDI to increase funding capacity and speed discovery.

About ALS

Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), also known as Lou Gehrig's disease, is a neurodegenerative disorder that paralyzes the body but leaves the mind intact. ALS is not rare; 350,000 patients have it worldwide. Patients live on average two-to-five years following diagnosis. There is no cure and no effective treatment.

Revolutionary Paradigm

ALS TDI has mastered the complex process of therapy validation, producing dependable, replicable results. ALS TDI has evaluated more than 700 drugs, and completed more than 250 mouse studies, more than twice the number of all other labs combined. Through the MDA collaboration, the Institute's expanded research and drug discovery program will integrate both animal and human research based on cutting-edge bioinformatics, and genomic and proteomic technologies. Applying its expertise in newer mass profiling and screening approaches to ALS pathology, the Institute's scientific objectives will be to:

- ❖ Identify the most promising drug targets and therapeutic compounds
- ❖ Screen potential therapeutics in the ALS validation program
- ❖ Overcome barriers to effective research
- ❖ Openly share results in real time with doctors, patients, and researchers

A New Front

ALS TDI operates a world-class research facility and has assembled a world-class research team. ALS TDI has developed, and is enacting, the most comprehensive scientific business plan for ALS research ever conceived which spans every aspect of discovery research and therapeutic development. ALS TDI is bringing its comprehensive approach to key discovery areas such as gene expression profiling, RNA validation, analytical chemistry and spinal pharmacology. By generating and validating our own drug targets, ALS TDI can vastly increase the pace of therapy development.

Broad Impact

More than the best hope for developing an ALS treatment, ALS TDI represents a paradigm shift in translational research. By sharply focusing on developing treatments, ALS TDI is leading the way for the ALS research community as well as other health nonprofits. Because of its model, ALS is also well positioned to help find answers for Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and other neurodegenerative diseases. As a nonprofit biotech company supported by ALS families and business leaders, every dollar is vital. Eighty six percent of ALS TDI revenue funds the research, and every contribution has an immediate impact on finding a cure for ALS.

We need your leadership to succeed - For more information please visit www.als.net.