

Hereditary Diseases: Researchers go global on genes for the advancement of research

Montreal, January 26, 2009- With the collaboration of McGill University and the international consortium *Human Variome Project*, an Internet website has been created to list the different genetic mutations responsible for several hereditary diseases. The objective of this website is to share the knowledge on the genes amongst medical researchers around the world and ultimately to accelerate the research in genetics.

The Ataxia of Charlevoix-Saguenay Foundation participated in completing the listing of the mutations on the gene SACS responsible for the ataxia of Charlevoix-Saguenay. *"We are please with this exchange of knowledge. The Ataxia of Charlevoix-Saguenay is a rare disorder found mostly in Quebec but we now know that it exists elsewhere in the world. We hope that such an international collaboration will assist in increasing our knowledge on this disease and other genetic disorders,* affirms Jean Groleau, president of Ataxia Charlevoix-Saguenay Foundation.

The website can be consulted at the following address: www.medgen.mcgill.ca

About the Ataxia of Charlevoix-Saguenay Foundation

The Ataxia of Charlevoix-Saguenay finances the medical research in Quebec on the Ataxia of Charlevoix-Saguenay. The ataxia of Charlevoix-Saguenay is a neurological disorder where the first symptoms appear in childhood between the ages of 2 and 5. For more information, please contact Mr. Jean Groleau 514-975-8851 or visit the site of the Foundation www.arsacs.com

About the Human Variome Project

Please consult the site of the international consortium www.humanvariomeproject.org