



PROgression chart of **SPAstic **ataX**ias: Tracking the natural progression of spastic ataxias to prepare treatment trials**

The PROSPAX project, which launched in September 2020, is a novel collaborative effort between neurologists across Europe, including the UK, and Canada. The Ataxia Charlevoix-Saguenay Foundation is one of the 3 organisations participating in this project with Euro Ataxia and Ataxia UK.

PROSPAX stands for **PRO**gression chart of **SPA**stic **ataX**ias. In order to prepare for treatment trials, it is vital to understand more about spastic ataxias. This ambitious project aims to study the progression of spastic ataxias over time, in a rigorous and harmonised way. As the numbers of people with these specific ataxias are quite low, this harmonisation across countries is necessary to gather enough information about the conditions, helping to prepare for clinical treatment trials. This is called 'trial-readiness' and is extremely important for rare conditions.

The neurologists involved will gather clinical data, study markers of disease progression, and aim to understand more about these ataxias at the molecular level.

The PROSPAX project will initially focus on **ARSACS** and **SPG7**, but will establish a more general research framework that will be applicable to other spastic ataxias over time.