“Our aim is to bridge the gap between bench and bedside.”

NeuroCure
Exploring the Nervous System and Developing New Therapies

The NeuroCure Cluster of Excellence investigates neurological and psychiatric diseases such as Alzheimer’s, depression, epilepsy, Parkinson’s, stroke, and schizophrenia. Scientists and physicians work closely together to transfer findings from basic research to clinical application. To facilitate this process, NeuroCure has established its own clinical research center (NCRC). The NCRC supports researchers in conducting clinical trials and gives patients access to new therapies and diagnostic procedures.

Website neurocure.de

The Excellence Strategy aims to strengthen cutting-edge university research in Germany. The German federal and state governments launched this program to provide long-term support for top-quality research groups — so-called Clusters of Excellence — and high-performance universities. NeuroCure is one of seven Clusters situated in Berlin. In 2018, it was granted an initial seven years of funding.

With the Berlin University Alliance, Freie Universität Berlin, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Technische Universität Berlin, and Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin want to overcome boundaries and create a unique regionally and internationally integrated research environment.

Spokesperson
Prof. Dr. Dietmar Schmitz (Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin)

Host university
Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin as a joint medical faculty of Freie Universität Berlin and Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Partner institutions
Freie Universität Berlin
German Center for Neurodegenerative Diseases (DZNE)
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Leibniz-Forschungsinstitut für Molekulare Pharmakologie (FMP)
Max Delbrück Center for Molecular Medicine (MDC)
Max Planck Unit for the Science of Pathogens

Cooperation partners
German Institute of Human Nutrition Potsdam-Rehbruecke (DIfE)
Berlin Institute of Health (BIH)
In various projects, researchers investigate diseases encountered over the entire lifespan: from early development to old age. The research approaches are diverse and range from molecular methods and imaging techniques to behavioral biology and neuropsychological investigations. In addition, NeuroCure has established many new research groups as well as several technological platforms.

Based at the Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin, the cluster has received funding since 2007 and is set to continue its work for seven more years.

Image credits: Nerve cell network in the brain, Ricardo Meyer (cover); Representation of neuronal fiber tracts in the brain, Andreas Horn (inside)