

SWISS BIOTECH SUCCESS STORIES

Celebrating and honoring major achievements



The Swiss Foundation for Research on Muscle Diseases stands as a beacon of hope and progress in the realm of neuromuscular research. Founded 1985 by the parents of two boys with a diagnosed muscular dystrophy, the foundation has been instrumental in advancing our understanding and treatment of neuromuscular diseases.

Founding Team



Lic. iur. Monique Rognon and
Dr. h.c. Jacques Rognon
Founders

Lic. iur.
Alain Pfulg
President



By supporting cutting-edge research initiatives, the foundation has paved the way from the understanding of pathological mechanisms to the discovery of novel therapeutic targets and treatment modalities, offering new hope to patients with neuromuscular diseases.



- Pioneering findings on RNA splicing regulation, now applied in genetic therapies for some neuromuscular diseases
- Identification of gene mutations and pathological mechanisms of the RyR-1 related congenital myopathy
- Design, development and demonstration of preclinical efficacy of a novel type of gene therapy for merosin-deficient congenital muscle dystrophy



The foundation actively engages in international collaborations, to accelerate progress in neuromuscular research worldwide. In Switzerland, the foundation's research support has generated over the decades a network of around 80 researchers dedicated to the study of neuromuscular diseases.

Award winner 2024

Colombier



Internationally, the foundation plays a pivotal role in driving scientific advancements and translating research findings into tangible benefits for patients.

Locally, the foundation also engages in:

- supporting the national Swiss Registry of Neuromuscular Diseases
- developing and strengthening the Swiss network of recognized medical centres Myosuisse, thus enhancing the quality of life for individuals and families confronted with neuromuscular diseases
- opening opportunities for start-ups in their initial funding phase
- offering dedicated funding to promising young scientists on their way to become an independent academic researcher



SUCCESS CATEGORIES

- ★ Completed achievement with lasting impact
- ★ Strong impact on society
- ★ Important IP, innovative deal-making, acquisition
- ★ Involvement of one or more Swiss citizen

- ★ Swiss-based company/institution
- ★ Creation of jobs in Switzerland
- ★ Other aspect with a direct link to Switzerland
- ★ Enabler for the biotech industry