

endParalysis foundation



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### be the change... be the cure! endParalysis.org

### endParalysis: UP TO THE CHALLENGE IN 2020 AND BEYOND

Many non-profit organisations experienced hard times during a strange and rather challenging 2020. So did our foundation. However, we stayed on track and performed well. We even took the opportunity to refine our strategy and invest in the future, sticking to our target more than ever: accelerating research to cure chronic spinal cord injury (SCI).

Reflecting on 2020, our most visible achievement is the amount we invested in scientific research: over €46,000.

- Firstly, we funded a research project aiming at axons / nerves regrowth. Neural regeneration is indeed, next to scar alleviation, a critical challenge on the path of functional recovery after chronic spinal cord injury. The so-called "KN combined-gene therapy" was discovered by the Blackmore Lab (Marquette University). Dr Perlmutter (University of Washington) will be replicating the animal trial previously carried out just after the SCI to check if it can also unlock axonal growth in chronic settings.
- Secondly, we decided to support an alternative therapy to dissolve the scar: the PNNi, a drug that showed promising results when tested on rodents in the UK. Why add this potential therapy up to our portfolio? Mainly because it involves a drug which is already available off the shelf and is already used to treat people affected by a rare disease. Should it turn out to be safe and effective at the chronic stage of SCI, this repurposing strategy could definitely shorten the path to the clinic (thus to patients)!

EndParalysis has always been about co-operating and leveraging knowledge as well as resources. This philosophy also applies to the latter project since we partnered with two other foundations to finance the study. In that regard, we want to sincerely thank the Marina Romoli Onlus (Italy) and GUSU2Cure foundation (USA) who accepted our invitation to fund the PNNi study with us.

Last but not least, as hinted above, this year gave us the opportunity to think. How do we make a real difference? How do we accelerate the pace of translation of potential therapies? How do we make sure that at least one of the therapies that we believe is tested on patients as soon as possible and hopefully delivers positive results? We are currently taking steps in that direction, so watch the endParalysis space!

Follow us on:









and continue supporting us in any way you can to BE THE CHANGE IN THIS WORLD!

**Corinne Jeanmaire**Founder and President of endParalysis.org



### A CRITICAL & CHRONIC NEED



### 2.5 - 3 MILLION

people in the world live with spinal cord injury (SCI)

The consequences of SCI are not limited to the inability to WALK AND STAND. For many people, it also means debilitating chronic pain and most importantly:

### **NO or IMPAIRED**

- breathing function\*
- hand and arm function\*
- bladder, bowel function
- sexual control
- sensation below injury

\* for high SCI (Cervical level)



### OUR ACHIEVEMENTS & ACTIVITIES IN

### 2020 RESEARCH PROJECT FUNDING

### MORE KEY STEPS TOWARDS THE GOAL

As of 2015 we allocated significant funds to various studies (\*) aiming at tackling the scar that forms at the level of the spinal cord a few days/weeks after a lesion. That scar, mainly concerning CHRONIC spinal cord injury (SCI) hampers axonal regrowth. Its neutralization is therefore an essential step towards recovery after chronic SCI. But it is just as essential to actively promote the regrowth of axons after the lesion. Therefore, we have decided to extend our portfolio and to support a study in the latter area as well. In 2020 we spent a total of € 46,791 to enable two studies covering both complementary aspects.

(Blackmore's lab and Perlmutter's lab- USA): This project will advance a promising new gene therapy approach for improving axon growth after spinal cord injury. It is based on a recent discovery from Dr Blackmore's lab that a combination of two transcription factors, Klf6 and Nr5a2 (KN), stimulates robust and highly reliable growth from corticospinal tract (CST) axons. The goal here is to push in the direction of translation by determining whether KN is similarly effective in a more chronic and clinically relevant model of spinal contusion in the laboratory of Steve Perlmutter at the University of Washington. For more info about the project and its selection, read this blog post.

2

### PNN oral treatment (Dr Kwok- University of Leeds- UK):

PNNi refers to a molecule that is already on the market (used to treat a rare disease). In animal studies, the drug has shown promising results when used at the acute (i.e. very early) stage of SCI. The molecule seems to neutralize the PNN (PeriNeural Net) as well as the scar, which both prevent nerves regrowth. The goal of this new study is to test the treatment on rats with chronic SCI and to determine the most optimal doses. The main advantage of this therapy, if results are confirmed and the side effects are manageable, is obviously a shorter path to the clinics, since the drug is already approved!

We thank the  $\underline{\text{Marina Romoli Onlus}}$  (Italy) and by  $\underline{\text{Gusu2cure}}$  (USA) for funding this project with us.



### OUR RESEARCH PORTFOLIO SO FAR ID Research team Research strategy Features Type **1 2** Dr Verhaagen- Amsterdam-CH'ASE Delivery through gene NIN- NL + Dr Bradburry-Scar reduction protein vector Kings College- UK (enabling nerves regrowth at chronic 3 SCI stage) + plasticity CRP Subcutaneous injection Dr Lee - Cleveland Clinic, enhancement peptide (→ non invasive) USA (creating new neural pathways and **(5) PNNi** Off-the-shelve drug connections) Dr Kwok, University of Leedsrepurposing (→ short oral UK path to clinic) drug Switching off growth **6** Dr Blackmore (Marquette)-KN Target intrinsic growth. inhibitors to enable Winsconsin + Dr Perlmutter GENE Replicate prior study intrinsic axonal re-(Washington) - USA applying it to chronic therapy growth

### GLOBAL ADVOCACY: PARTICIPATION IN THE WORKING 2 WALK SYMPOSIUM



### **INFORMING ABOUT SCI RESEARCH & TRIALS**

We find it very important to help the SCI community locate and understand relevant information about

PROGRESS TOWARDS CURING CHRONIC SCI

Are there any clinical trials that patients can participate in? With various global partners we offer a platform to easily search for

WORLDWIDE CLINICAL RESEARCH/ TRIALS

### LAY OVERVIEW

(chronic pre-clinical & clinical research)

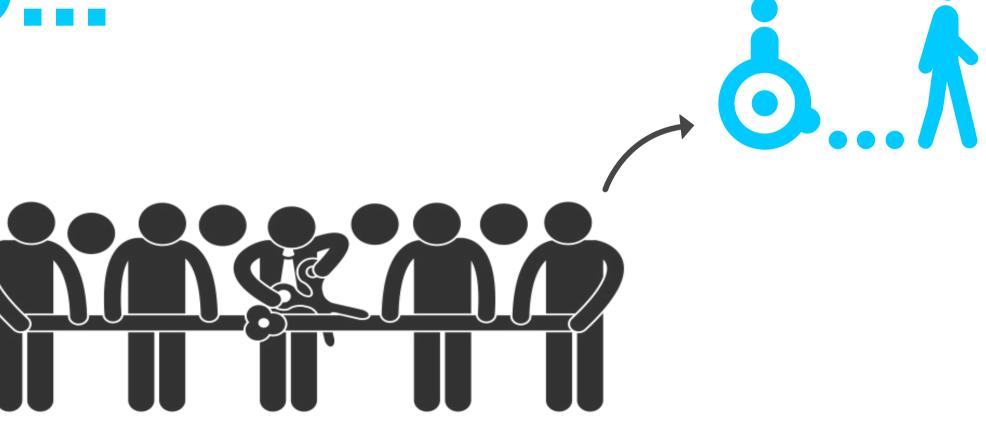
Click here





North American Spinal Cord Injury

# OUR THANKS GOTO...



### **OUR DONORS, SPONSORS, AND SUPPORTERS**

Our gratitude goes to all our generous donors/sponsors, private or institutional (fuelService, Smartgroup and Multiadapt) who trust us with their donations. Furthermore, we are surrounded and helped by a number of small enterprises granting us some of their time whenever we need professional advice or support, or a space to meet, work and connect. This is also priceless as it enables us to keep our endParalysis sharp, fresh, professional and connected. Thanks to all of you!











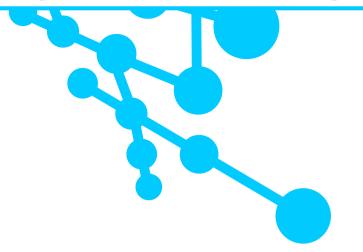








### **GLOBAL PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS**



We are very proud to co-operate with:

- Spinal Research (UK), U2FP (USA), Wings for Life (Austria, new partnership initiated end 2019) to share scientific expertise/network, and to co-fund goal-driven research projects
- The European SCI Federation ESCIF, Association Alarme, and DON, who respectively represent the SCI community in Europe, France and The Netherlands













**Amina Abed** 

**Elise Adriaanse** 

**Dr. Mark Bacon** 

Jo Baltus

**Jos Dekkers** 

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**Corinne Jeanmaire** 

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**Jaap Pipping** 

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Ruwan vd Leeuwen

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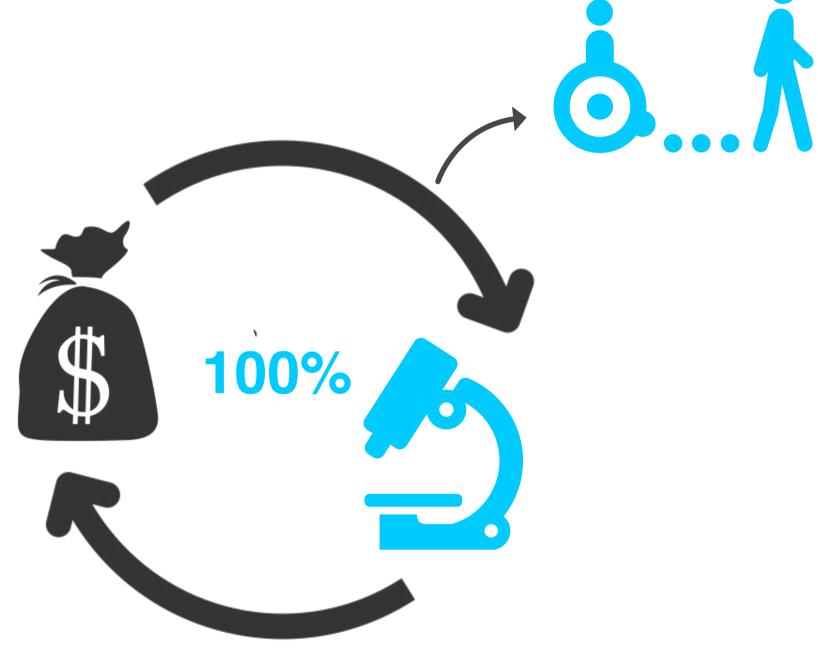
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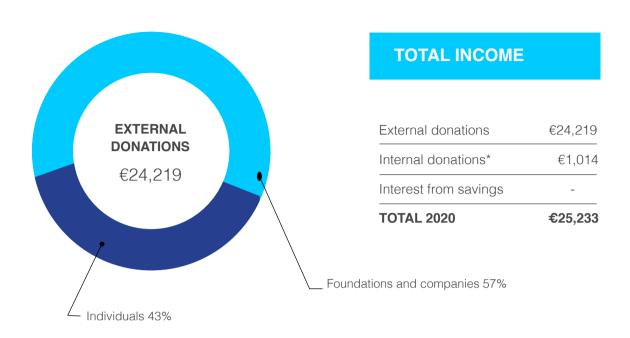
**Beverley Saunders** 

**Fons Weijtens** 

## FINANCIALS 2020



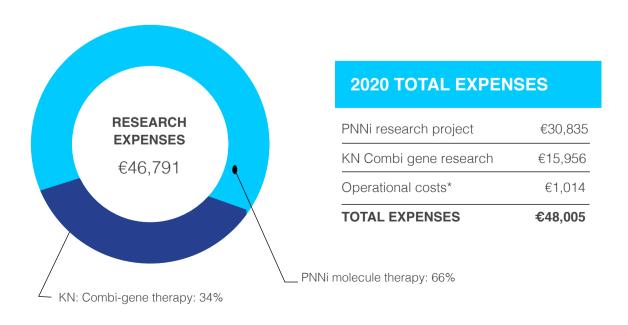
### **FINANCIALS IN 2020**



### **2020 SIMPLIFIED BALANCE SHEET**

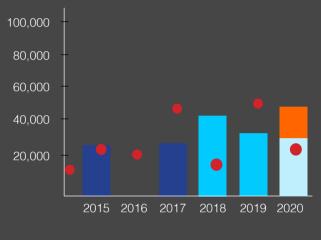
ASSETS		LIABILITIES	
Current bank account ING Savings bank account ING PayPal account	€4,100 €5,180 €0	Retained earnings	€9,280
TOTAL ASSETS	€9,280	TOTAL LIABILITIES	€9,280

All balance figures on Dec 31, 2020



### ... AND SINCE INCEPTION

### **FUNDS RECEIVED AND DISTRIBUTED TO RESEARCH**



Year	Research funding	External income (**
2014	0	10,705
2015	25,000	22,562
2016	0	20,668
2017	30,000	46,085
2018	40,000	13,204
2019	34,000	47,607
2020	46,791	24,219
TOTAL	€175,791	€185,272



Bank balance: € 9,260 (on December 31st, 2020)

External income \*\*

\*\* All income excluding internal donations by endParalysis board members to cover operation costs.



(\*) The "internal donations" cover all the foundation's operational costs, so that 100% of your gifts (i.e. "external donations" go to research funding and none of the donors' money is used for any other purpose than funding research. This year, the "internal donations" originated from endParalysis Board Members (€729) and from the MAECENATA STIFTUNG (TGE GERMANY : €285€)

### GET INVED











### WHY DONATE TO US?

### **RAISE FUNDS OR HELP US!**





Volunteer!
We can always use help



**Unfreeze Your Body/ Your mind Take a fundraising challenge** 



Donate for free!
Shop online with Sponsorkliks



### Like us & Share us!



@endParalysis



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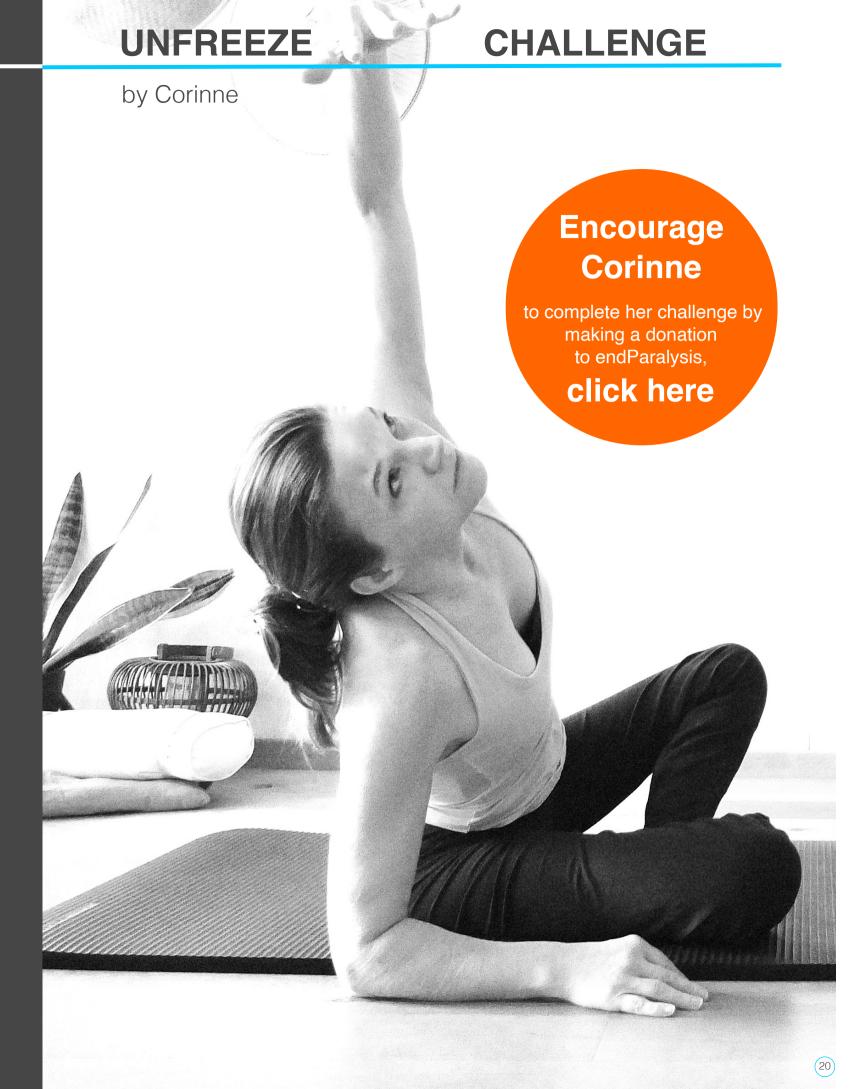
endParalysis foundation



In 2020 Corinne started her **Unfreeze Your Body & Mind Challenge** and took it upon herself to practice full body yoga on a regular basis and, last but not least, to raise money for research. This challenge is ongoing, **donations are still welcome**,

Read more about Corinne's challenge

(Over € 8,000 raised, all of which allocated to SCI research)





# Unfreeze Your Body!

Take an Unfreeze challenge!
Visit our fundraising platform
Here





### Non-profit (ANBI)

registered in Eindhoven, NL as: Stichting endParalysis.org KvK#59372087

### Contact us:

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**Donate** 

**Get involved** 







