GHELP

“Thanks to cooperation in South West Europe regions, over 234 people and 27 prospective newborns have been studied as part of this cutting-edge research into hearing loss.”

DESCRIPTION

Around 466million people worldwide have disabling hearing loss (HL) and 34million of them are children. For children, hearing loss affects their ability to develop speech, language and social skills. Most cases of HL in babies are genetic, but there are few genetic tools for effective diagnosis. This is why GHELP was created – to innovate ways of detecting and treating hearing loss.

The ultimate goal is to move from treatment to a personalised medicine to combat the problem. The project has already designed and developed a comprehensive genetic panel. Based on the Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) technology, the later allows to study, in a single blood sample, the 180 most relevant genes in deafness, avoiding gene-to-gene study, maximizing the time of diagnosis and leading to an earlier treatment of kids.

In addition, the project has organised a pioneering training programme addressed to health professionals to get familiarised with the genetic diagnosis through NGS technology.

The first edition was attended by 45 medical professionals from Spain and Portugal, and was just one step towards educating healthcare professionals in this cutting-edge field of work.

GEOGRAPHICAL COVERAGE

Basque country (Spain), Comunidad Foral de Navarra (Spain), Principado de Asturias (Spain), Occitanie (France), Lisboa (Portugal) and North Portugal.

PROGRAMME

Interreg SUDOE.

TOTAL BUDGET	EU FUNDING
€ 1,824,000.00	€ 1,328,000.00

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