The EU Joint Programme – Neurodegenerative Disease Research (JPND) is the largest global research initiative aimed at tackling the challenge of neurodegenerative diseases. JPND aims to increase coordinated investment between participating countries in research aimed at finding causes, developing cures, and identifying appropriate ways to care for those with neurodegenerative diseases.

... JPND has identified through its Research Strategy common research goals that would benefit from joint action between countries in order to accelerate progress on solutions that can alleviate the symptoms, and lessen the social and economic impact for patients, families and health care systems.
JPCOFUND CALL FOR PROPOSALS

With the aim of tackling the leading medical and societal challenges faced by our society, a JPND joint transnational co-funded call was launched on January 8th, 2015 in partnership with the European Commission under the ERA-NET Co-fund scheme.

The call aims to establish a limited number of ambitious, innovative, multi-national and multi-disciplinary collaborative research projects that will add value to existing research in three JPND priority areas:

- Longitudinal Cohort Approaches
- Advanced Experimental Models
- Risk and Protective Factors
Figure 1: An early cohort in search of favourable outcomes

Figure 2: Schematic diagram of concurrent, retrospective, and ambidirectional cohort studies
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• La Piattaforma inizialmente sarà un contenitore di studi formali e informali già in corso dove i responsabili aderiscono alla possibilità di mettere in comune i dati.

• Le modalità e regole di questa potenziale condivisione dovranno essere definite ma, in linea di principio, la condivisione dovrebbe essere volontaria e basata su specifici protocolli di studio.
Cohorts in the Italian Platform on Neurodegenerative Disorders

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Informatic Platform

Research Networks
(CBM, PR, CNs...)

Population Studies
Early, preclinical, prodromal Studies
AD, PD, FTD, LBD Studies
L’esempio Inglese
An integrated research environment

Context
• The MRC Dementias Platform UK (DPUK) is a multi-million pound public-private partnership, developed and led by the Medical Research Council, to accelerate progress in, and open up, dementias research. The DPUK’s aims are early detection, improved treatment and ultimately, prevention, of dementias.
The challenge

Identify early determinants
Identify early treatments to delay onset
Identify treatments to relieve symptoms and slow progression

Cognitive Health

Preclinical
Prodromal
Dementia

Age
45 60 75 90
Science step-change

- Dementia dedicated ‘big data’ platform
- Triangulation between multiple independent datasets
- Closer synergy between scientific specialties
- Closer partnership between academics and industry
- More targeted analytic questions
- Reducing transaction costs
Cohort integration

- Re-contact made with PI’s
- Meta-data proforma agreed
- Meta-data collection for cohort profiling to begin Q1 2015
- Additional cohorts
- Further discussions required for vascular dementia
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• Che fare?:
  – Ricognizione/censimento degli studi che volontariamente aderiscono
  – Programmare un meta data base degli studi aderenti
  – Esplorare le potenzialità di coorti costruite per lo studio di malattie non neurodegenerative
  – Definire i potenziali rapporti trasversali con reti di ricerca già esistenti
  – Stabilire riconoscimento istituzionale, organizzazione e coordinamento dell’iniziativa