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IRP WINNING STEP BY STEP

Since it was **founded** in Geneva **in 1995** by Prof. Alain Rossier and the Zurich-based publicist Ulrich Schellenberg, both paraplegics, the International Foundation for Research in Paraplegia-IRP has continued the mission laid down by its founders, convinced of the need to **boost research in paraplegia** and **provide researchers** with the resources needed to fund their work.

With **more than 220 projects receiving funding for about 32 million Swiss francs**, the IRP is undisputedly one of the key private stakeholders in Swiss philanthropy when it comes to supporting scientific research.

Walk again? Yes, but that's not all...

While the chances of full motor recovery are improving year after year, **other significant progress is equally invaluable thanks to research**

and is delivering practical responses to meet patients' immediate needs; pain alleviation, improved control of sexual and urinary functions, reduced dependence on those around them and significantly improved living conditions.

IRP thus sets out to **fund research projects** that deliver **conclusive results** in all fields and makes a point of **supporting translational research** which enables laboratory results (fundamental research) to be converted into clinical trials.

It is this mindset that has brought IRP together with the Swiss Paraplegic Foundation (SPF), with the latter sharing the funding of clinical projects to the tune of 500,000 Swiss francs a year through a partnership that has been renewed for another 5 years until 2020.

WHAT DOES THE IRP FUND?

- **IRP Research Grants**: funding of up to 150,000 Swiss francs for fundamental and clinical research projects over 2 years.
- **IRP Postdoctoral Fellowship**: funding of up to 80,000 Swiss francs for a young Swiss researcher wanting to study overseas or a young overseas researcher wanting to pursue their academic career in Switzerland.
- **IRP Schellenberg Research Prize**: 100,000 Swiss francs awarded every 2 years to one or more researchers whose work stands out for its quality, new approach and the benefit of the results.
- **IRP Chair Professor Alain Rossier at the University of Geneva**: created in 2007 within the Department of Fundamental Neurosciences. Support of Professors' Anthony Holtmaat and Daniel Huber project.
- **STIMO Project**: Stimulation of the spinal cord in paraplegic patients. Support of Professors' Jocelyne Bloch (CHUV) and Grégoire Courtine (Campus Biotech/EPFL) project.

All IRP funding is contractual and requires researchers to report on their work and the results achieved.

