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Institute presentation

The Department of Human Genetics of our institute, where WP5 will be carried out, is one of the top-ranking genetics groups, internationally. In 2010 alone, 15 papers from this department were published in Nature Genetics. The facilities available to this project include 2 Affymetrix Genechip analyzers (for GWAS and expression profiling), 4 Solid machines (for next generation sequencing), 2 Taqman 7900 HT machines (for genotyping), 5 Genetic Analyzers (for Sanger sequencing) and various liquid handlers. Expertise for the proposed project includes genetic epidemiologists and bioinformaticians in addition to experienced lab technicians.

With regard to the genetics of psychiatric disorders, in close collaboration with the Department of Psychiatry (J. Buitelaar) they have been part of the first genome-wide association studies for ADHD and schizophrenia, they have published linkage analyses of ADHD sib pairs and ADHD-related quantitative traits. In addition, they have performed novel gene-wide analyses of disorder-related genes as well as genome-wide linkage analyses of neuropsychological and brain-structural intermediate phenotypes for psychiatric disorders.