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Vital research into motor neuron disease

Transcription of video audio: Training the Next Generation of MND Researchers

Alyssa Corbett, Euan MacDonald Centre Funded PhD student (Year 3)

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My name is Alyssa Corbett and I'm doing a Euan MacDonald Centre PhD here at the University of St. Andrews.

My research focuses on how astrocytes, a type of cell that helps support our neurons, may be contributing to motor neuron diseases, specifically ALS. We know that astrocytes can help protect our neurons and they regulate the balance between neurons communication. Now, this balance is really important, and we know in ALS that this balance is actually lost.

My hope is that by investigating what astrocytes are doing in ALS, I can start to unravel new potential therapeutic avenues for the disease to help protect our neurons.

Looking ahead, I'm really motivated to continue working in ALS research following my PhD in a translational role. I want to help the discoveries that get made in labs like this, reach patients as quickly and effectively as possible.

I'm really grateful to the Euan MacDonald Centre and all of the amazing donors for allowing this work to happen, allowing me to conduct ALS research and to pursue a long term career in it.

Thank you so much for all of your support. Bye!