

£1m pledge to epilepsy research

A RESEARCH centre dedicated to the diagnosis and treatment of epilepsy in children is to be set up in Scotland.

The Muir Maxwell Centre for Childhood Epilepsy Research will be the first of its kind in the UK. It will be established at Edinburgh University thanks to a £1million pledge from the Muir Maxwell Trust. The charity was founded by local couple Ann and Johnny Maxwell, whose son Muir was diagnosed with the condition when he was five. Professor Sir John Savill said: 'Our aim is to gain greater understanding of the disease and to use that knowledge to develop better preventative measures and treatments for children with epilepsy.'

The centre will have a clinic in Edinburgh's Royal Hospital for Sick Children and could be operational by September next year.



UK's first centre for children's epilepsy to open in Scotland

A MOTHER'S tireless fund-raising has led to the UK's first centre dedicated to researching the diagnosis and treatment of epilepsy in children being set up in Scotland.

It will be the first medical research centre in the UK to focus solely on translating laboratory findings on childhood epilepsy into improving clinical care, an Edinburgh University spokeswoman said.

The Muir Maxwell Centre for Childhood Epilepsy Research is to be based in the university and the research will help diagnose epilepsy earlier in a child's life.

The centre is being set up thanks to a £1 million pledge from the Muir Maxwell Trust,

a children's epilepsy charity established by Ann and Jonny Maxwell.

The couple, who live in Eskbank, near Edinburgh, set up the charity when their son Muir was diagnosed with epilepsy when he was aged five. Muir is now 12.

Ms Maxwell said: "This research centre represents an opportunity for the Muir Maxwell Trust to contribute to the practical application of leading global research to the treatment of childhood epilepsy."

Mrs Maxwell has raised millions of pounds over the past eight years and the funding will help establish key clinical and scientific posts at the centre.

The centre will get imaging equipment, including the UK's first ultra-fast computerised tomography (CT) scanner.

Professor Sir John Savill,

head of the university's medicine and veterinary medicine college, said: "We are delighted to begin this partnership with the Muir Maxwell Trust, which has already made such an important difference to the lives of children living with epilepsy."

"Our aim is to gain greater understanding of the disease and to use that knowledge to develop better preventative measures and treatments for children with epilepsy."

The centre will have a clinic in Edinburgh's Royal Hospital for Sick Children and may start operating from September next year.





PIONEERING: Ann Maxwell with her 12-year-old son Muir who has epilepsy. Picture: Julie Bull

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Epilepsy unit bid

A HI-TECH centre to treat epilepsy in children is to be set up in Scotland.

The Muir Maxwell Centre at Edinburgh University will get imaging equipment, including the UK's first ultra-fast CT scanner.

Professor Sir John Savill said: "We aim to gain greater understanding and develop better preventative measures and treatments."

The centre, which will have a unit at the Royal Hospital for Sick Kids, could open in September 2010.



Trail-blazing centre to research child epilepsy

MILLION-POUND PLEDGE GIVEN BY SCOTTISH CHARITY WILL FUND THE SCIENTISTS

A PIONEERING centre to research childhood epilepsy will be set up in Scotland.

It will be the first medical research centre in the UK to focus solely on translating laboratory findings on childhood epilepsy into improved clinical care, a University of Edinburgh spokeswoman said.

The Muir Maxwell Centre for Childhood Epilepsy Research will be in the university in Edinburgh. The research hopes to help diagnose epilepsy earlier in children's lives.

The centre is being set up thanks to a £1million pledge from the Muir Maxwell Trust, a children's epilepsy charity established by Ann and Jonny Maxwell.

The couple, who live near Edinburgh, set up the charity when their son Muir, 12, was diagnosed with epilepsy aged five.

Mrs Maxwell said: "This research centre represents an opportunity for the Muir Maxwell Trust to contribute to the practical application of leading global research to the treatment of childhood

epilepsy." The funding will help establish key clinical and scientific posts at the centre. It is hoped the centre will become self-sufficient through funding for research and from grants and donations within five years.

The centre will get imaging equipment, including the UK's first ultra-fast computerised tomography (CT) scanner.

Professor Sir John Savill, head of the university's medicine and veterinary medicine college, said: "We

are delighted to begin this partnership with the Muir Maxwell Trust, which has already made such an important difference to the lives of children living with epilepsy.

"Our aim is to gain greater understanding of the disease and to use that knowledge to develop better preventative measures and treatments for children with epilepsy."

The centre, which will have a clinic in Edinburgh's Royal Hospital for Sick Children, may start operating from September next year.

