



In 2006/7, income from the Jeans for Genes campaign was invested in a number of support and research projects, including:

Part funding a welfare and benefits advisory post to help patients cope with issues such as funding and access to appropriate statutory benefits.

Organised activity holidays for severely disadvantaged children and young people to help improve their self confidence, independence and social skills.

Helped initiate and run the UK's first clinical register of patients with primary immunodeficiency disorders.

Continued investment was made in a major study at London's Institute of Child Health into the development of a new technology called RNA interference, which lead to the development and testing of a new gene therapy treatment for Wiskott – Aldrich syndrome (WAS). WAS is a rare, complex and severe Primary Immunodeficiency affecting only boys and young men. It is caused by a defective or mutant gene (usually inherited from a parent) with symptoms first developing in babies as young as six months old.

Other research grants were made to the Oxford University, the University of Wales, the University of London, the University of Newcastle and the Genethon Institute in Paris. These projects include: the role of Dendritic Cells in impaired protection against the fungus *Candida* in patients with Chronic Mucocutaneous Candidiasis; the establishment of a high throughput genomic screening service for children and adults with antibody deficiency and common variable immunodeficiency (CVID); and a study of B Cell defects in patients with CVID and the characterisation of a new mutation in XIAP – a gene associated with a new type of primary immunodeficiency.