A benefactor names the CNIC his universal heir

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An anonymous citizen committed to scientific research and health has decided to name the National Center for Cardiovascular Research Carlos III (CNIC) as his 'universal heir', thus donating in his will all his assets to the CNIC. The selfless action of this anonymous benefactor is not very common in Spain, although it is in the Anglo-Saxon countries where there is a greater tradition of what is called 'charity'. In our country it is not common for people to donate their money for research projects, although there are often individuals who want to help and do not know how to do it. Some scientific institutions try to promote sponsorship through campaigns, since the funds provided by citizens can be used to generate new research contracts, improve equipment or allow researchers to get in contact with the best centers of the world by doing exchanges or short-term stays there.

In this case, **the benefactor is someone who apart from his generosity, also has a deep respect for the work of Spanish scientists, whom he considers to be at the forefront of the scientific community, as well as a very close personal experience to the world of health**, having been able to observe in the day to day of the hospital activity the need to equip medicine with new advances through research and thus understand how both disciplines complement each other. Precisely, for this generous benefactor the CNIC represents a clear example of transfer of research to the improvement of health and for that reason has deserved special consideration. The CNIC appreciates its benefactor’s support for investigation. **Philanthropy**, a way to connect individuals with institutions dedicated to research that increase the quality of life and improve society, is an act of generosity not sufficiently recognized today. The good news is that in our country there are more and more people committed to science and in this way or another, they participate economically in the promotion of research. Society should consider health research as a highly valuable asset, as an investment of which we are all jointly responsible for and that will give us a better approach to the health problems that many of us or our relatives will have in the future.

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