



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research

7th Framework Programme **The Health Theme**

Human Development and Ageing research

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Collaborative Research in the Health Theme

Main policy drivers:

- **Improving health** of European citizens
- **Increasing competitiveness of European health-related industries and businesses,** with focus on research-intensive SMEs
- **Addressing global health issues,** including emerging epidemics

Budget:

- **€6,1 billion over 7 years (2007-2013)**



Scientific excellence at European level

From policy to funding the best research projects:

- The policy for Health research is described in the FP7 specific programme (available on CORDIS)
- Each year, a work programme is prepared by the EC, with the Advisory Group and in consultation with the Programme Committee
- Through calls for proposals the EC invites researchers from all Europe and beyond to submit their proposals
- The very best projects are selected on the basis of evaluation by independent experts (peer review)
- After negotiation of a grant agreement, a project is funded for 2-5 y.





Submission & evaluation

Basic principles:

- **annual calls – single-stage or two-stage**
- **eligibility check** (partners, limits, scope, deadline)
- **evaluation by panels of independent experts**
overseen by Independent Observers
- **3 criteria:**

	Thresholds:	
➤ Science & Technology excellence	3/5	
➤ Implementation & Management	3/5	overall
➤ Potential Impact	3/5	10/15
- **feedback:** Evaluation Summary Reports (ESRs)



The Health Theme structure and content

Pillar 1 :

**Biotechnology,
generic tools &
technologies for
health**

Pillar 2 :

**Translating
research for
human health**

Pillar 3 :

**Optimising the
delivery of
health care for
European
citizens**

Pillar 4 :

**Other
actions
across the
theme**

**Opportunities for all high-tech, research-intensive
SMEs :**

**in the areas of brain and related diseases,
infectious diseases, cancer, cardiovascular diseases,
diabetes and obesity, rare diseases, other chronic
diseases...**

**In all technological areas related to health:
biotechnologies, biomedical engineering,
medical technologies, bioinformatics...**

**Opportunities
for all SMEs,
namely for all
service
companies**



The Health theme structure and content

2: Translating research for human health

- Integrating biological data and processes: large-scale data gathering, systems biology
- Research on the brain and related diseases, human development and ageing
- Translational research in major infectious diseases
to confront major threats to public health
antimicrobial drug resistance, HIV/AIDS, malaria and TB, emerging epidemics, neglected infectious diseases
- Translational research in other major diseases: cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetes and obesity, rare diseases, and other chronic diseases

The Health theme structure and content

3: Optimising the delivery of health care to citizens

- Translating clinical research into clinical practice
patient safety, better use of medicines, benchmarking,
pharmacovigilance, etc.
- Quality, efficiency and solidarity of health care
systems organisational and financial aspects, health
systems, etc.
- Enhanced health promotion and disease
prevention providing evidence of best public health
measures – life styles, interventions, special focus on
mental health, etc.

Key figures from 1st 2 calls in FP7 Health Theme

call: 2007-A (19/04/2007)

call: 2007-B

(18/09/2007)

Budget: € 635 million (2007)

€ 567 million (2008)

Proposals received: 914

902

Proposals evaluated: 893 (ineligible 21)

865 (37)

Proposals funded: 153

172

(% of the proposals evaluated) : 16.7%

19%

Average grant per

participant : €412.000

€334.000

SMEs in 100/152 projects (65.7%)

102/167 (60.7%)

210 SMEs involved (13.5%)

207 (11.9%)

Contribution to SMEs : €64.5 million

~€70.5 million

11% of the budget **Objective: 15%**



3rd call for proposals for the Health theme

The 3rd call has been published 03/09/2008

- drawing on the budget for 2009: ~€ 593m*
 - there are in fact be two calls, published in parallel:
 - **'FP7-HEALTH-2009-single-stage' €476 m**
for most areas of the work programme
deadline: 03/12/2008
 - **'FP7-HEALTH-2009-two-stage' €115 m**
only for areas 1.1 & 2.1. deadlines:
03/12/2008 for 1st stage
2nd stage: deadline in April 2009
- (* including €2m for a topic via the ERA-NET call 2009)

3.3 Enhanced Health promotion and disease prevention

- ***HEALTH-2009-3.3.3: Ageing cohorts, single stage***

Undertake multidisciplinary cohort work addressing the health of two ageing population groups, one group of ~50 to 70 years of age, and one group of ~65 to 85 years of age, to focus on developing robust health-related data at the EU level over a substantial time period - ~15 years. Such research should build on and complement work to-date (such as the European SHARE data set) to empower researchers and policy makers in various domains (healthcare, social care, pension provision) to take informed decisions. EU Member States should be covered and relevant European Commission services (Directorate-General for Health and Consumer protection, Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities) and EUROSTAT be consulted.

Funding scheme:

Collaborative Project (Large-scale integrating project).





Next call for proposals for Human Development and Ageing

The 4th call will be published probably end July
2009

- there will be two calls, published in parallel:
 - **'single-stage' AND 'two-stage'**

Both Human Development AND Ageing will be
covered

- **early development and longevity**
- **senescence**
- **frailty**
- **development and lifespan**

Funding schemes in the Health theme

Funding schemes	upper limits	min. partners
Large-scale integrating project (CP-IP)*	€12m	≥3
Network of Excellence (NoE)	€12m	≥3
Small- or medium-scale focussed research project (CP-FP)	€3m or €6m	≥3
Coordination action (CA)**	€1.5m	≥3
Support action (SA)**	€0.5m	≥1

* for CP-IPs there is also a lower limit to the requested EC grant: €6m.

** for CAs and SAs there are some exceptions to the upper limit.

Warning: the limits for minimum and maximum requested EC grant and for the minimum number of partners are **eligibility criteria** !



FP7 HD&A portfolio

Large collaborative projects:

- MARK-AGE: European study to establish biomarkers of Human ageing (*01.04.2008, 11.9 MIO€*)
- TOLERAGE: Normalisation of immune reactivity in old age – from basic mechanisms to clinical application (*01.04.2008, 7.7MIO€*)
- RESOLVE: Resolve chronic inflammation and achieve healthy ageing by undersatnding non-regenerative repair (*01.04.2008, 10.6MIO€*)

Co-ordination and support actions:

- WHY WE AGE: A road map for European research on molecular aspects of healthy ageing (*01.01.2009, 0.49MIO€*)
- PREDICT: Increasing the participation of elderly in clinical trials (*01.02.2008, 0.75MIO€*)





Other ageing-related 1st call contracts

- ***Visual impairment and degeneration: A road-map for vision research within Europe (EUROVISIONNET)***

Research area: HEALTH-2007-2.4.5-9

- ***Assessment of hearing in the elderly: aging and degeneration: integration through immediate intervention (AHEAD III)***

Research area: HEALTH-2007-2.4.5-7

- ***Genetic factors for osteoporosis (GEFOS)***

Research area: HEALTH-2007-2.4.5-4 Genetic factors of Osteoporosis





More funding sources

- **IMI, the Innovative Medicine Initiative, <http://www.imi-europe.org/Pages/default.aspx>**
- **ERA-AGE, the European Research Area Network, <http://era-age.group.shef.ac.uk/>**
- **AAL, Ambient Assisted Living <http://www.aal-europe.eu/>**
- **ERC, the European Research Council, <http://erc.europa.eu/>**

Contacts & Information

Website FP7 Health : <http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/health>

Experts registration: <https://cordis.europa.eu/emmfp7>

Database of FP6 projects: www.lifecompetence.eu

National contact points:

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/health/support_en.htm

Infodays @ home: check the website!

Human development and ageing in Health: Beatrice
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Head of unit: Giorgios

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Joint Programming in Research

Response to challenges: Joint programming

(Commission Communication on Joint Programming, July 2008 and Council Conclusions adopted in December 2008)

Definition:

Member States engaging **voluntary** and on the basis of **variable geometry**

... in the definition, development and implementation of **common strategic research agendas**

... based on a **common vision** on how to address **major societal challenges**

Joint Programming in Research, cont'd



Community research

What Joint Programming is not:

- asking for more power to the Commission
- a new instrument for Community research
- Community funding a priori

Not all research co-operation is Joint Programming

Criteria for identifying the right themes :

- Effective commitment of Member States
- The theme is focussed and addresses a European/global challenge
- Clear and realistic objectives can be set
- Clear added value to existing situation in research financing
- Relevant stakeholders have been involved
- Potential of generating benefits for European citizens/
-competitiveness and of increasing efficiency and



COOPERATION

The Alzheimer pilot Joint Programming Initiative - State of Play

A declaration of intent and commitment of participating MS
A focused theme that addresses a major European Health challenge
A list of clear and realistic scientific, medical and social objectives
A willingness to coordinate similar programmes toward transnational
European added value while not undermining existing opportunities
and avoiding unnecessary duplications among national programmes
An involvement of scientists and physicians for bottom-up European
projects from the beginning to the end
A new initiative around research excellence intended to offer a
competitive and attractive image of European research to the
highest benefit of European population and economy

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