

JOINT TRANSNATIONAL CALL FOR PROPOSALS (2018) FOR

“RESEARCH PROJECTS ON PERSONALISED MEDICINE – SMART
COMBINATION OF PRE-CLINICAL AND CLINICAL RESEARCH WITH
DATA AND ICT SOLUTIONS”



PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT

ERA PerMed is a new ERA-Net Cofund, supported by 31 partners of 22 countries and cofunded by the European Commission. To align national research strategies, promote excellence, reinforce the competitiveness of European players in PM, and enhance the European collaboration with non-EU countries, 30 funding organisations have agreed to launch the first Joint Transnational Call for collaborative innovative research projects in Personalised Medicine (PM). The funding organisations participating in this call particularly wish to promote innovative interdisciplinary collaboration and to encourage translational research proposals.

The call is planned to be launched in **February 2018** with a submission deadline for pre-proposals in **April 2018**. It is expected, that consortia invited for the full-proposal stage, will need to submit their proposal **on July 5th 2018**.

The available budget for this Call is **27 Mio€ (approx.)**.

AIMS OF THE CALL

The overall aim of the call is to fund projects showing clinical feasibility of PM in complex diseases (including multifactorial, monogenic and other diseases). By feasibility is meant the demonstration of significant and clinically relevant improvement of current diagnostics and/or therapeutics, based on improved understanding of underlying molecular mechanisms. Furthermore, applicants are expected to combine pre-clinical and/or clinical research with bio-informatics components to enable data quality on one side and the potential applicability for health care providers on the other side.

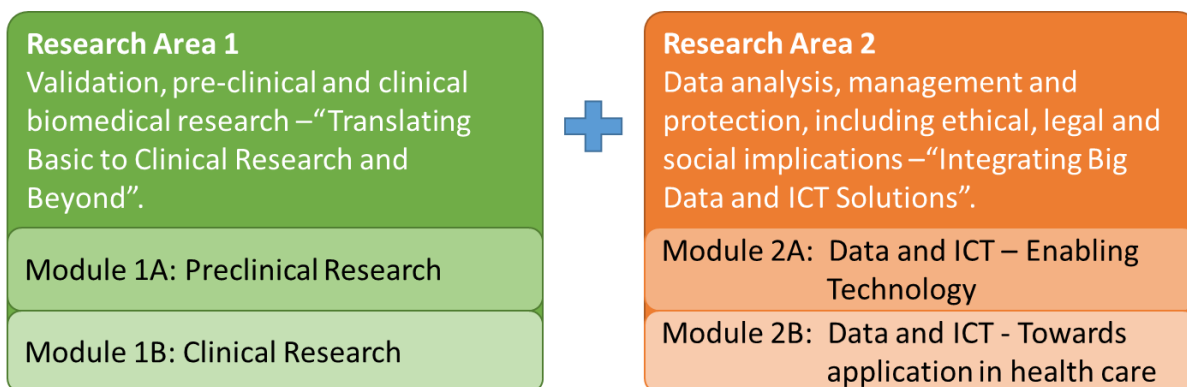
The overall objectives of the ERA PerMed call are (i) to support **translational research projects** in the field of Personalised Medicine; (ii) to encourage and enable **interdisciplinarity**, in combining pre-clinical and/or clinical research with computational components and; (iii) to encourage **collaboration between academia** (research teams from universities, higher education institutions, public research performing institutions), **clinical/public health research** (research teams from hospital/ public health institutions, healthcare settings and other healthcare organisations) and private partners e.g. **SMEs¹** (Small and Medium-size Enterprises).

SCOPE OF THE CALL

Proposals **must be interdisciplinary and clearly demonstrate the potential impact in PM** as well as **the added value of transnational collaboration**. Each project proposal needs to tackle the two major research areas: The **Research Area 1: “Validation, pre-clinical and clinical biomedical research – Translating Basic to Clinical Research and Beyond”** and the **Research Area 2: “Data analysis, management and protection – Integrating Big Data and ICT Solutions”** by addressing at least one module out of each research area:

- **Module 1A: Pre-clinical Research** and/or **Module 1B: Clinical Research** from Research Area 1.
- **Module 2A: Data and ICT – Enabling Technology** and/or **Module 2B: Data and ICT – Towards application in health care** from Research Area 2.

Both research areas and the four modules are equal in relevance for this call:



¹ https://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/sme-definition_en

GENERAL (ELIGIBILITY) CONDITIONS FOR APPLICATION

Joint research proposals may be submitted by applicants belonging to one of the following categories, if eligible according to relevant national/regional funding organisations regulations for research funding:

- A. Academia** (research teams working in universities, other higher education institutions) **or research institutes;**
- B. Clinical/public health sector** (research teams working in hospitals/public health and/or other health care settings and health organisations). Participation of medical doctors in the research teams is encouraged;
- C. (Industry) Private partners, e.g. SMEs²** (small and medium-size enterprises).

Whilst applications will be submitted jointly by groups from several countries, individual groups will be funded by the individual ERA PerMed funding organisation respective of the country/region from which applicants have applied. The applications are therefore subject to eligibility criteria and regulations of individual funding organisations. Applicants are strongly advised to contact their national representatives of the participating relevant funding organisation as soon as possible in order to confirm their eligibility (see also Annex 1: “*Contact details of participating members*”).

Only transnational projects will be funded. **Each consortium submitting a proposal must involve at least three partners eligible for funding coming from three different countries whose funding organisations participate to the call** (see list below). All three legal entities must be independent from each other. The **maximum number of partners per project is six** though not more than 2 eligible partners from the same country participating in the call will be accepted in one project consortium.

Research groups not eligible for funding (e.g. from non-funding countries or not fundable according to national/regional regulations of the participating funding organisation) may participate in transnational projects if they are able to secure their own funding. However, no more than one research group with own funding can be included in a consortium and the coordinator must be eligible to be funded by the participating funding organisations to this call.

At the full-proposal stage, a consortium might be increased up to seven partners in total only by inclusion of a partner coming from an underrepresented country. A list of

² https://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/sme-definition_en

underrepresented countries will be provided to coordinators invited for full-proposals submission.

Number of partners in the proposal*	Pre-proposal				Full-proposal (only by inclusion of one underrepresented country)
	3	4	5	6	7
Maximum number of additional partners with own funding	0	1	1	1	1
Maximum number of partners per country	1	2	2	2	2

*minimum 3 partners eligible for funding from three different countries participating to the call

PARTICIPATING MEMBERS, ASSOCIATED COUNTRIES AND REGIONS

Austria, Canada (Quebec), Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany (Saxon), Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy (Lombardy), Latvia, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Spain (Catalonia, Navarre), Sweden and Turkey (contact list is provided in Annex 1).

Please Note:

The information provided in this pre-announcement is indicative and may be subject to changes and is not legally binding to funding organisations. Additional funding organisations might join the call before the official publication.

Interested applicants are encouraged to initiate scientific contacts with potential project consortium partners for applications.

Final call information is expected to be published on the ERA PerMed website by **February 2018**. (The ERA PerMed website is currently under preparation. Therefore, please see also: <http://www.icpermed.eu/en/services-opportunities.php>)

ANNEX 1: CONTACT DETAILS OF PARTICIPATING MEMBERS

Country	Funding Organisation	Contact point	Email
AUSTRIA	FWF	Stephanie Resch Iris Fortmann	Stephanie.Resch@fwf.ac.at Iris.Fortmann@fwf.ac.at
CANADA	CIHR	Emily Verreault	emily.verreault@cihr-irsc.gc.ca
CANADA (QUEBEC)	FRQS	Anne-Cécile Desfaits	Annececile.desfaits@frq.gouv.qc.ca
CROATIA	MSE	Staša Skenžić Alan Hrvoje Pavletić	Stasa.Skenzic@mzo.hr AlanHrvoje.Pavletic@mzo.hr
DENMARK	InnoFond	Ejner Moltzen	Ejner.moltzen@innofond.dk
ESTONIA	ETAg	Aare Ignat	Aare.Ignat@etag.ee
ESTONIA	MSA	To be announced	To be announced
FINLAND	AKA	Jukka Reivinen	jukka.reivinen@aka.fi
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