Health, demographic change and wellbeing

The Horizon 2020 societal challenge of ‘health, demographic change and wellbeing’ (SC1) for the years 2014 and 2015 includes 34 topics in the ‘personalising health and care’ (PHC) focus area call. In 2014 there will be open 15 topics, 17 topics in 2015 and 2 which are open in both years. The personalising health and care call aims to create opportunities for real breakthrough research and radical innovation by supporting the translation of findings into the clinic and other health and care settings to improve health outcomes, reduce health inequalities and to promote active and healthy ageing. The call will support research and innovation throughout the health and care chain by promoting the development of personalised diagnostics, drugs and other interventions in an optimised and risk sharing approach, by empowering citizens to be active and engaged in managing their health and wellbeing for as long as possible, by improving health and care delivery through measures including evidence based integrated and self-care, and by promoting population health interventions, including adapting to changing environmental and climate factors. There are several ICT topics included in the calls of this societal challenge.

For the years 2014–2015, the calls for proposals will focus on:

- Understanding health, ageing and disease (3 topics)
- Effective health promotion, disease prevention, preparedness and screening (6 topics)
- Improving diagnosis (3 topics)
- Innovative treatments and technologies (6 topics)
- Advancing active and healthy ageing (4 topics)
- Integrated, sustainable, citizen-centred care (7 topics)
- Improving health information, data exploitation and providing an evidence base for health policies and regulation (5 topics)
- Co-ordination activities (15 topics; ERA-NETs, JP)
- Other actions (8 topics)

Call for proposals opens: 11th December 2013
Call for proposals ends: ~March 2014 (see final work programme)
The budget for the call is: in total 1,2 bn€ in 2014-2015 (554 M€ in 2014, 542 M€ in 2015)

Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI):

IMI is Europe’s largest public-private partnership. It will continue as IMI2 during Horizon 2020 according a multiannual research plan (the Scientific Research Agenda). The indicative budget for the IMI2 will be 3,45 billion €.
The 11th Call for proposals of the current IMI is foreseen to open on 13th December 2013 and ends 8th April 2014. The call covers the following key research priorities: 1) Increasing practicability of biomarkers and biobanks, 2) Coping with regulatory and legal hurdles, 3) Neuro-psychiatric disorders/brain disease, 4) Infectious diseases, 4) Inflammatory diseases and 5) 'Beyond high throughput screening'-pharmacological interactions at the molecular Level. For this Call, the indicative total financial contribution from the IMI Joint Undertaking will be max 175 million €. The indicative EFPIA (the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations) in kind contribution will be 200 million €.

Special conditions:

The challenge requires the engagement of a variety of stakeholders working in partnership, either

- through the Innovative Medicines Initiative, IMI, bringing together academia, small businesses and the research based pharmaceutical industry;
- through the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership, EDCTP, (topics PHC 8 & 8H PHC 9) bringing together Member States and sub-Saharan African countries to undertake clinical research on the main poverty related diseases;
- through the Ambient Assisted Living Joint Programme, AAL, with Member States bringing together users, small businesses, academia and the ICT and service industry;
- through direct support to small businesses to bring their products and services to market;
- through other forms of co-operative research, including international and Public-Public partnerships.

In recognition of the opening of the US National Institutes of Health’s programmes to European researchers, any legal entity established in the United States of America is eligible to receive Union funding to support its participation in projects supported under all topics. The legal entities established in third countries and international organisations are encouraged to participate. The new SME instrument will be the type of action in one of the topics (PHC 12).

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Online Sources of Information:

- Work Programme drafts: http://sdrv.ms/18Ybnz5
- Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI): http://www.imi.europa.eu/content/home
- IMI Scientific Research Agenda: http://www.imi.europa.eu/content/research-agenda
- European Commission Participant Portal (new Participant Portal for H2020 will be published later): http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/portal/page/home
- EU Research and Innovation Programmes: http://www.tekes.eu