



EN

Horizon 2020

Work Programme 2016 - 2017

8. Health, demographic change and well-being

Important notice on the second Horizon 2020 Work Programme

This Work Programme covers 2016 and 2017. The parts of the Work Programme that relate to 2017 (topics, dates, budget) have, with this revised version, been updated. The changes relating to this revised part are explained on the Participant Portal.

(European Commission Decision C(2017)2468 of 24 April 2017)



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Introduction

The headline goal of the 'Health, Demographic Change and Well-being' Societal Challenge is better health for all. Its main policy objectives are to improve health and well-being outcomes, to promote healthy and active ageing, to promote market growth, job creation, and the EU as a global leader in the health area. The challenges to this goal derive from the ageing of European population and lifestyle patterns, which, if not actively managed through a life-course approach, will increase the burden of chronic diseases on individuals, on existing health and care systems and on society. This will also result in increase of public expenditure coupled with labour force and productivity losses.

The overall strategic orientation for the 'Health, Demographic Change and Well-being' Work Programme 2016-2017 is 'promoting healthy ageing and personalised healthcare'. It directly links with what has been successfully initiated in the years 2014-2015. The programme will implement several research priorities: personalised medicine, rare diseases, human bio-monitoring, mental health, comparative effectiveness research, advanced technologies, e/m-health, robotics, patient empowerment, active and healthy ageing, data security, big data, valorisation, anti-microbial resistance, infectious diseases including vaccines, maternal and child health and the silver economy. In addition, Pilot 1 'Smart Living Environments for Ageing Well' of the focus area call on 'Internet of Things' is jointly implemented by the "Health, Demographic Change and Well-being" Societal Challenge and the "Leadership in enabling and industrial technologies Information and Communication Technologies" (ICT LEIT) (see topic IoT-01–2016: Large Scale Pilots in part 17 of the Work Programme). Those priorities will support the development of evidence-based health and care policies, resulting from scientific research data, ICT solutions and good practices in interventions improving efficiency and quality of health and care systems.

Activities supported under this Societal Challenge offer a unique opportunity to improve the quality of life of EU citizens, to position the EU as a central player in the global context and to stimulate the high quality of European research and innovation (R&I) and industrial competitiveness by mobilising relevant European R&I performers, both public and private. The 'Health, Demographic Change and Well-being' Work Programme 2016-2017 will therefore contribute to the Commission priorities on: 'A new boost for jobs, growth and investment', 'A stronger global player' and 'A connected digital single market'.

The 'Health, Demographic Change and Well-being' Work Programme 2016-2017 makes use of the whole range of instruments available: collaborative research and innovation actions, SME instrument, prizes, innovative financing, programme co-fund, ERA-NET Co-Funds, coordinated and support action including support for Joint Programming Initiatives (JPIs). It also builds strong links and synergies with activities undertaken by the Innovative Medicines Initiative 2¹ (IMI2), the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership 2²

¹ <http://www.imi.europa.eu/content/imi-2>

² <http://www.edctp.org/>

(EDCTP2) and the Active and Assisted Living Joint Programme 2³ (AAL2). Topics in this work programme also respond to the priorities of the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing⁴ (EIP-AHA).

The 'Health, Demographic Change and Well-being' Work Programme 2016-2017 integrates the principle of responsible research and innovation in all its activities, including addressing gender/sex differences as well as ethics, social sciences and humanities (SSH) whenever relevant.

Health challenges are global and applicants are therefore encouraged to include the international dimension in their proposal where relevant. In this regard, several topics are relevant to the third Sustainable Development Goal ('Ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages') agreed by the United Nations in 2015. The use of European health research infrastructures (including e-infrastructures) is also encouraged when appropriate, e.g. research infrastructures established as a European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ERIC) or identified on the roadmap of the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI). Projects submitting a Data Management Plan are invited to identify the existing European research data infrastructures that may be used and how these may be mobilised, in particular for long-term data curation and preservation.

Finally the programme should allow for further building of clinical research infrastructure and evidence with regard to efficient and validated models of organisation of complex networks such as European Reference Networks of healthcare providers established by Article 12 of Directive 2011/24/EU⁵.

The following applies for all calls with opening dates falling between 14/10/2015 and 25/07/2016 inclusive:

A novelty in Horizon 2020 is the Pilot on Open Research Data which aims to improve and maximise access to and re-use of research data generated by projects. While certain Work Programme parts and calls have been explicitly identified to participate in the Pilot on Open Research Data, individual projects funded under the other Work Programme parts and calls can choose to participate in the Pilot on a voluntary basis. Participating projects will be required to develop a Data Management Plan (DMP), in which they will specify what data the project will generate, whether and how it will be exploited or made accessible for verification and re-use, and how it will be curated and preserved. Further guidance on the Pilot [Open Research Data](#)⁶ and [Data Management](#)⁷ is available on the Participant Portal.

The following applies for all calls with an opening date on or after 26/07/2016:

³ <http://www.aal-europe.eu/why-another-aal-programme/>

⁴ http://ec.europa.eu/research/innovation-union/index_en.cfm?section=active-healthy-ageing

⁵ http://ec.europa.eu/health/ern/policy/index_en.htm

⁶

⁷ Template for data management plan can be found on p. 5-6 of http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/hi/oa_pilot/h2020-hi-oa-data-mgt_en.pdf

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Grant beneficiaries under this work programme part will engage in research data sharing by default, as stipulated under Article 29.3 of the Horizon 2020 Model Grant Agreement (including the creation of a Data Management Plan). Participants may however opt out of these arrangements, both before and after the signature of the grant agreement. More information can be found under General Annex L of the work programme.

Call - Personalised Medicine

H2020-SC1-2016-2017

1.1 Understanding health, well-being and disease

Proposals are invited against the following topic(s):

SC1-PM-01-2016: Multi omics for personalised therapies addressing diseases of the immune system

Specific Challenge: Despite much progress in 'omics' and epidemiological research in recent years, the knowledge on the combined role of genetic and non-genetic factors in health and disease is still limited, thus hampering the full development potential of personalised medicine⁸.

There is increasing evidence that interactions with the environment, as reflected in genome-epigenome-proteome-metabolome-microbiome crosstalk, play an important role in disease development and progression. International initiatives such as the International Cancer Genome Consortium (ICGC), the International Human Epigenome Consortium (IHEC) and the International Human Microbiome Consortium have generated high quality comprehensive large scale data catalogues and maps. The challenge is to build on the existing high quality data deposited in relevant databases (e.g. but not limited to: <http://epigenomesportal.ca/ihec/>, <http://docs.icgc.org/data-portal>) and combine these data and knowledge with lifestyle and environmental data, thus accelerating the translation into novel targeted or personalized interventions. These objectives cannot be accomplished on an individual country level which calls for broad transnational collaboration.

Scope: The scope of this topic is to integrate and use high quality genome, epigenome, proteome, metabolome, microbiome data produced by large scale international initiatives with innovative imaging, functional, structural and lifestyle/environmental data, and combine these with disease-oriented functional analysis to contribute to the understanding of health and disease with the final objective of selecting relevant biomarkers for clinical validation that will lead to the development of new targeted therapies for diseases of the immune system. Proposals must build on data from IHEC and, as appropriate, on data from other international initiatives. Proposals should address relevant ethical implications, take into account sex and gender differences and include a section on research data management. International cooperation is requested. Proposals addressing rare diseases of the immune system are not in scope of this action.

⁸ Personalised medicine refers to a medical model using characterization of individuals' phenotypes and genotypes (e.g. molecular profiling, medical imaging, lifestyle data) for tailoring the right therapeutic strategy for the right person at the right time, and/or to determine the predisposition to disease and/or to deliver timely and targeted prevention. The term "personalised medicine" is used throughout this Work Programme with this definition in mind.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 12 and 15 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

- Translate big data and basic research results into clinical applications.
- Contribute to exploiting data from IHEC and, as appropriate, data from other international initiatives.
- Identify and select new biomarkers for clinical validation in stratified patient populations
- Develop new targeted therapies for diseases of the immune system with high prevalence.
- In line with the Union's strategy for international cooperation in research and innovation proposals should create strategic synergies between scientists across disciplines, sectors and around the globe.

Type of Action: Research and Innovation action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-PM-02-2017: New concepts in patient stratification

Specific Challenge: Despite the major advances in understanding disease in the post-genomic era, still a majority of all drugs are effective in only a limited number of patients. From a clinical perspective, implementing knowledge-based decisions on what therapeutics to use for which patients and, if relevant, in which combinations, are extremely challenging. The aspiration to provide more effective therapeutic interventions tailored to the individual or groups of individuals with common molecular phenotypes remains unfulfilled because of the variable response of individuals to such interventions.

Patient stratification aims at grouping patients into disease sub-groups, where the specific pathological processes involved are better defined (clinical/molecular phenotypes). This will lead to the development of targeted therapies, optimizing the intervention to individual patients, thus achieving greater success in treating or curing the patient.

Scope: Proposals should deliver novel concepts for disease-mechanism based patient stratification to address the needs for stratified or personalised therapeutic interventions. The proposals should integrate multidimensional and longitudinal data and harness the power of -omics, including pharmacogenomics, systems biomedicine approaches, network analysis and of computational modelling. The new concepts of stratification should be validated in pre-clinical and clinical studies taking into account sex and gender differences. Applicants are encouraged to actively involve patient associations. The proposals should consider regulatory

aspects of clinical practice and commercialisation opportunities. Proposals should focus on complex diseases having high prevalence and high economic impact.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 4 and 6 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

- New models for patient stratification to inform clinical decision making.
- Accelerate the translation of biomedical and clinical research results to medical use.
- Increased cost-effectiveness of the novel concepts in comparison to already established practices.
- Increased research and innovation opportunities in this innovative industries-driven field, particularly small or medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

Type of Action: Research and Innovation action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-PM-03-2017: Diagnostic characterisation of rare diseases

Specific Challenge: Rare diseases are diseases which affect not more than 5 per 10 000 persons in the European Union. It is estimated that rare diseases encompass between 6 000 and 8 000 different entities which affect altogether more than 30 million people in the EU. However, patient populations for individual rare diseases are small and dispersed, which makes international collaboration crucial. Despite the recent advances in understanding the molecular pathogenesis of these diseases, today many rare diseases still lack means of molecular diagnosis. An accurate molecular diagnosis is an essential starting point for the understanding of mechanisms leading to diseases as well as for adequate patient management and family counselling and it paves the way for therapy development.

Scope: The aim of this research should be to apply genomics and/or other –omics and/or other high-throughput approaches for the molecular characterisation of rare diseases in view of developing molecular diagnoses for a large number of undiagnosed rare diseases. Undiagnosed rare diseases may range from a group of unnamed disorders with common characteristics to a phenotypically well described disease or group of diseases with an unknown molecular basis. Genetic variability due to geographical distribution and/or different ethnicity should be taken into account as well as genotype-phenotype correlation whenever applicable. In addition, age, sex and gender aspects should be included where appropriate. This large-scale proposal should promote common standards and terminologies for rare disease classification and support appropriate bioinformatics tools and incentives to facilitate

data sharing. Existing resources should be used for depositing data generated by this proposal. Molecular and/or functional characterisation may be part of the proposal to confirm diagnosis. The proposal should enable and foster scientific exchange between stakeholders from countries and regions with different practices and strategies of rare disease diagnostics.

The selected proposal shall contribute to the objectives of, and follow the guidelines and policies of the International Rare Diseases Research Consortium IRDiRC (www.irdirc.org).

The Commission considers that requesting a contribution from the EU of around EUR 15 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of a proposal requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact: Providing better and faster means of high quality and clinical utility for the correct diagnosis of undiagnosed rare diseases for which there is no or unsatisfactory diagnosis available.

- Contribute towards the IRDiRC objectives.
- Foster dissemination of scientific results and knowledge exchange between stakeholders.
- Develop knowledge management strategies, with the view of facilitating models of care and access to the data gathered.
- Providing better knowledge for improved family counselling as well as to improve follow-up for patients and research initiatives.
- Gather a big number of patients with similar phenotypes to facilitate match making, to avoid duplication and to unravel a considerable number of diagnoses.
- Pave the way to the development of new therapies and for a better treatment outcome in rare disease patients.

Type of Action: Research and Innovation action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-PM-04-2016: Networking and optimising the use of population and patient cohorts at EU level

Specific Challenge: Population cohorts are invaluable resources to obtain detailed description of individual biological variations in connection with a variety of environmental, pathogenic, occupational, societal, and lifestyle determinants that influence the onset and evolution of diseases. Europe currently has some of the most valuable population and patient cohorts, including well annotated clinical trial cohorts. However, the lack of integration of these

cohorts hampers the optimal exploitation of these resources, essential to underpin and facilitate the development of stratified and personalised medicine⁹.

Scope: Proposals should aim at maximizing the exploitation of cohorts by bringing together national and/or European cohorts with common scientific interests (e.g. across diseases, children, mothers, elderly, birth, gender, etc.), and by taking advantage of new technologies (e.g. ICT, social platforms, etc.) and new type of data (e.g. geographical, genetic, eHealth records, etc.). Based on those cohorts using a comprehensive integration strategy to facilitate hypothesis-driven research, data sharing, harmonisation and analysis, proposals should provide expanded resources and knowledge on health and disease determinants, onset and course of diseases (including aspects of co-morbidity and/or co-infections), clinical, public health and socio-economic research. Synergies with relevant existing European infrastructures and additional collaborations with relevant international initiatives are encouraged. Proposals should also engage with relevant international/national/regional authorities to ensure that findings are implemented and translated into health policy.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 8 and 10 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact: Expected impacts include one of or a combination of the following point(s):

- Make major conceptual, methodological and analytical contributions towards integrative cohorts and their efficient exploitation.
- Contribute to providing novel information on health maintenance, onset and course of diseases, or population stratification, with a view to tailor diagnosis or to optimise prevention and treatment.
- Provide the evidence base for the development of policy strategies for prevention, early diagnosis, therapies, health economics as well as addressing health inequalities. Wherever relevant, evidence for economic evaluation of interventions should also be included.
- Optimise the use of population cohorts in defining/improving clinical practice and public health policy.

Type of Action: Research and Innovation action

⁹ Personalised medicine refers to a medical model using characterization of individuals' phenotypes and genotypes (e.g. molecular profiling, medical imaging, lifestyle data) for tailoring the right therapeutic strategy for the right person at the right time, and/or to determine the predisposition to disease and/or to deliver timely and targeted prevention. The term "personalised medicine" is used throughout this Work Programme with this definition in mind.

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

1.2. Preventing disease

Proposals are invited against the following topic(s):

SC1-PM-05-2016: The European Human Biomonitoring Initiative

Specific Challenge: A major hurdle in reliable risk assessment and management of chemicals is the lack of harmonised information about the exposure of citizens, including workers, to chemicals and their interplay with other concurrent environmental exposures and impact on health. Each individual is today exposed to a large number of chemicals in their environment, including the workplace, through the air, food, water and consumer products. For many of the chemicals, the health impact, including long-term, is still unknown. Innovative approaches are needed to enable us to decipher the potential causal associations between exposures and health effects over a lifetime and, where such links are identified, to understand the underlying mechanisms.

A first step to better assess and understand this potential impact on health is to gather harmonised and comparable information on population exposure to chemicals in Europe through human biomonitoring (HBM), to link this information to data on exposure sources and epidemiological surveys and to promote research on the exposure-response relationships in humans.

Scope: The objective is to create a European joint programme for monitoring and scientific assessment of human exposures to chemicals and potential health impacts in Europe, building on previous activities undertaken at EU and national levels. This European Human Biomonitoring Initiative (EHBMI) should:

- be achieved through coordination of HBM initiatives at national and EU level, with a special focus on linking research to evidence-based policy making.
- build on European excellence in the field and promote capacity building and the spread of best practice.
- provide a platform through which harmonised and validated information and data collected at national level can be accessed and compared.
- support research and innovation in various ways, e.g., by improving underlying methods and procedures (e.g., for sampling, sample analysis, data analysis, and data management), by improving the understanding of the impact of the exposure on human health (e.g., development of validated exposure and effect biomarkers and establishing correlation between biomarker levels and health risks) and by improving the use of HBM data in risk assessment of chemicals and their mixtures.

The acquired knowledge should support informed decision taking and policy making in a wide variety of sectors, one of the most important being the EU chemicals legislation under REACH¹⁰.

The governance structure of the EHBMI should allow for review of the priority setting with regards to chemicals to be investigated by the initiative, taking into account the scientific advances at national and EU level.

The proposal should include a five-year roadmap describing the key priorities and governance processes as well as the first annual work plan.

The joint programme should be structured along three main components:

- a platform providing support for field sampling and analytical work by competent national laboratories and a data infrastructure;
- a research programme to assess the impact of chemical exposure on human health; and
- an activity focused on translation of programme results into policy.

The three components must operate in close coordination, in order to address the overall priorities of the initiative.

The platform on field sampling and analytical work should include joint activities aiming at advancing, harmonising and quality assurance in field work practices and analytical methods and contribute to the development of EU reference values. Potential research aspects to be addressed are, inter alia, related to developing innovative analytical methods, including in atypical biological matrices, non-invasive technologies, new biomarkers, and reference materials. A network of reference laboratories and field survey entities of high quality must be established, engaged in capacity building across Europe and facilitating access to special equipment. Best practices for management of data resulting from linking analytical results and field surveys must be established, facilitating the data inclusion into the Information Platform for Chemical Monitoring Data (IPChem platform¹¹) currently under development by the EU Joint Research Centre.

The EHBMI should ensure the inclusion of new HBM data and whenever possible existing HBM data to IPChem and address outstanding issues related to HBM data policy and data quality assurance. Furthermore, the consortium should ensure that the new data, relevant for policy making, produced in this initiative, will be made available to regulators at the national and EU level. For this purpose the proposal should include a draft Data Management Plan, renewed annually, detailing what data the project will generate, how it will be used and/or made accessible for regulatory purposes.

¹⁰ <http://echa.europa.eu/regulations/reach>

¹¹ IPChem aims to support a coordinated approach to collecting, storing and accessing monitoring data on chemicals and chemical mixtures in humans and in the environment: <http://ipchem.jrc.ec.europa.eu/#home-page>

The research programme to understand the impact of exposures on human health should include joint research on correlation, integration and analysis of data from different sources, e.g., HBM data, environmental, occupational, health examination and epidemiological surveys; research on exposure mechanisms and modes of actions and research for innovative approaches to risk assessment.

The work undertaken under the science-policy interface component should aim at informing existing policy making processes (from chemicals to health) at EU and national level about the outcome of the EHBMI, exploring the possibilities and requirements for an increased use of HBM data in evidence-based policy processes and mobilising existing committees and expert/advisory groups to contribute to setting priorities.

Research activities may be supported by open calls for proposals organised by the consortium, if deemed necessary, aiming at bringing in additional expertise and engaging with the wider research community.

Dissemination, communication and training activities should be included in the initiative, in particular efforts to increase public awareness and understanding of the obtained results and their implications for policy making and self-responsible lifestyle management. A public engagement component should be included whereby citizen science approaches to human biomonitoring are explored and sought.

The minimum number of participants is five independent legal entities from different Member States or associated countries owning or managing national research and innovation programmes. In addition to the minimum conditions, other legal entities may participate if justified by the nature of the action.

Horizon 2020 contribution will be limited to a maximum of 70% of the total eligible costs of the action with a maximum of EUR 50 million of EU contribution for the expected five years duration of the action.

The Commission will only fund one proposal under this topic.

Expected Impact:

- Coordinating HBM initiatives in Europe at national and EU level and spreading of best practice and capacity building.
- Advancing the understanding of the nature and level of chemical exposure of EU citizens at all ages, including workers, and the potential health risks leading to better protection of the health of EU citizens. Gender aspects should be taken into account where relevant.
- Establishing a strong EU-wide evidence base of comparable and validated exposure and health data for sound policy-making at EU and national level, based on evidence-based regulation, risk assessment and management, whilst striking an appropriate balance with industrial competitiveness.

- Preparation for a possible public-public partnership under Article 185 of the Treaty.

Type of Action: COFUND (European Joint Programme)

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-PM-06-2016: Vaccine development for malaria and/or neglected infectious diseases

Specific Challenge: Vaccines offer a safe and cost-effective way to protect large populations against infectious diseases. Yet, many poverty-related and neglected infectious diseases continue to escape attempts to develop effective vaccines.

Disappointing results of recent clinical trials point to bottlenecks in identifying viable candidate vaccines, which, if unaddressed, will continue to present significant risks of failure at relatively late stages of the development process.

The specific challenge will be to shift this “risk curve” in order to better select successful vaccine candidates (and discard those with a higher risk of failure) at an earlier stage of the vaccine development pipeline.

Scope: Proposals will have to address bottlenecks in the discovery, preclinical and early clinical development of new vaccine candidates (antigens/adjuvants) for malaria and/or neglected infectious diseases¹². Filoviral diseases are specifically excluded from this topic.

Depending on the maturity of the research landscape for each disease, proposals may range from large research platforms developing multiple vaccine candidates and/or vaccines for multiple diseases, to proposals specifically focused on one disease.

a) The larger platforms proposals should among others:

1. Take advantage of recent advances in vaccinology (e.g. *in silico* analysis and novel *in vitro* and *in vivo* immunoscreens) or establish completely new approaches for the discovery and selection of novel, appropriately immunogenic antigens, and/or novel formulations/combinations for the generation of new vaccine candidates.
2. Include a systematic approach and define key gate-criteria for selection across each step of the research and development pipeline they address. Based on these criteria the most promising new vaccine candidates, should be able to be compared as early as possible in an objective and transparent process according to their merit in line with effective vaccine portfolio management.

¹² Neglected Infectious Diseases for the scope of this call: In addition to the 17 Neglected Tropical Diseases prioritized by WHO, also eligible are childhood diarrhoeal diseases and neglected viral emerging epidemic diseases.

b) Smaller proposals specifically focused on a single disease and/or a single vaccine candidate should adopt similarly innovative and comprehensive approaches to tackle one or more of the major bottlenecks in vaccine development for the specific disease.

For all antigen/vaccine candidates and for all diseases, it is necessary to ensure that a protective immune response (in the specific target population of the vaccine candidate) is adequately understood and that the candidate can elicit such a response.

Depending on the development stage, the downstream constraints of vaccine candidates for effective deployment and utilisation in resource-poor settings should be taken into account. This might include (as early clinical pipeline gate-criteria) considerations of the optimal route and immunization regime, field-deployment logistics (e.g. storing temperatures), as well as an evaluation of the predicted cost and affordability of final vaccine products. If relevant, an assessment of the target population risk-perception attitudes and immunization behaviours should be made and sex- and gender differences should be taken into account.

Both types of proposals should take into account existing mapping exercises on vaccine candidates, as well as the current vaccine development roadmaps and target product profiles for each disease (e.g. Malaria Vaccine Technology Roadmap).

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 3 and 5 million for smaller specifically focused proposals, and between EUR 15 and 20 million for the larger platform proposals, would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

- Proposals should deliver new vaccine candidates or move existing ones along the vaccine candidate pipeline in support of the sustainable development goal No. 3.3, i.e. to end by 2030 the epidemics of malaria and neglected tropical disease
- This should provide reduction in the cost associated with late stage vaccine failure, increasing the number of other candidates which can be tested with the same resources, thus increasing the chance of discovery of an effective vaccine.
- Increase the number and quality of vaccine candidates for malaria and neglected infectious diseases available to proceed into further development and clinical testing, if appropriate within the context of the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP2).

Type of Action: Research and Innovation action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-PM-07-2017: Promoting mental health and well-being in the young

Specific Challenge: Mental well-being¹³ is integral to population health and well-being and contributes to the functioning of individuals, families, communities and the social and economic prosperity of society. Mental and behavioural disorders including addictive behaviour place immense burdens on individuals, families and society; they also increase the risk of co-morbidities and social exclusion. Childhood and adolescence are crucial periods for laying the foundations for healthy development and mental well-being. There is compelling evidence that promotion of mental well-being and prevention interventions, when implemented effectively, can reduce risk factors for mental disorders, enhance protective factors for good mental and physical health and lead to lasting positive effects on a range of educational, social and economic outcomes for young people¹⁴. Medical and psychological factors, family and social factors (including working conditions) as well as digital environments are some of the different determinants impacting the health and well-being of the young. Resilience to adversity will enhance their ability to cope. There is a need for more robust evidence on resilience factors and on effective interventions promoting mental well-being. Developing these in the young offers the possibility of a positive influence on child development in critical/sensitive periods (childhood, adolescence, transition to young adulthood), thanks to early neuroplasticity.

Scope: Proposals should develop population-oriented primary prevention¹⁵ interventions to promote mental well-being of young people and assess them for their effectiveness. The interventions should build on but may go beyond existing state-of-the art knowledge on biological, psychological and social determinants of mental well-being such as societal, cultural, work life, lifestyle, epidemiological, economic and environmental perspectives. The proposals should aim at increasing resilience and mitigating the impact of biological, psychosocial and environmental risk factors. The target group should include young up to 25 years (or a subgroup there of), which is an age limit often used as many severe disorders start in this period. Differentials related to migration should be addressed when appropriate.

The research design should be developed by means of a multidisciplinary approach and involve the young themselves and other relevant stakeholders. Innovative approaches in involving the young and gathering their inputs for the design of the intervention should be

¹³ The term mental well-being is often used in both policy and academic literature, interchangeably with positive mental health. The WHO has declared mental health to be the 'foundation for well-being and effective functioning for both the individual and the community' and defined it as a state 'which allows individuals to realise their abilities, cope with the normal stresses of life, work productively and fruitfully, and make a contribution to their community. World Health Organisation: *Promoting Mental Health; Concepts emerging evidence and practice. Summary report*, Geneva; World Health Organisation; 2004.

¹⁴ Clarke, A.M., Morreale, S., Field, C.A., Hussein, Y., & Barry, M.M. (2015). What works in enhancing social and emotional skills development during childhood and adolescence? A review of the evidence on the effectiveness of school-based and out-of-school programmes in the UK. A report produced by the World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Health Promotion Research, National University of Ireland Galway

¹⁵ Primary prevention is directed towards preventing the initial occurrence of a disorder (WHO Health Promotion Glossary 1998)

considered. The interventions should use a holistic approach, taking gender and health inequality aspects into account, in increasing resilience and empowering the young. The interventions to be developed should reflect the diversity of the different countries and regions in Europe and beyond. The research should pay particular attention to ethical issues. The interventions should be assessed for mental well-being outcomes as well as the economic and social benefits and impact on reducing inequalities. These analyses of impact and effectiveness should be presented in quantitative as well as qualitative terms, in a gender disaggregated way where relevant. The results should be disseminated throughout Europe and beyond in order that the evidence generated is fully exploited.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 2 and 4 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact: Short or medium term impact, likely during the lifetime of the project:

- Improved mental well-being in the targeted group of young people.
- The innovative interventions will create a strong evidence base for mental well-being promotion programmes in Europe, contributing to greater health equity and improved societal benefits, including for migrants.

Longer term impact, likely beyond the lifetime of the project:

- Improved mental well-being in youth should contribute to reducing school and college/university dropout in the short term, strengthening personal confidence and cognitive function, improving educational efforts and enhancing employability.
- Preventative strategies are established which have a real effect of reducing the occurrence of mental disorders and co-morbidities associated with mental disorders later in life.

Type of Action: Research and Innovation action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

1.3 Treating and managing diseases

Proposals are invited against the following topic(s):

SC1-PM-08-2017: New therapies for rare diseases

Specific Challenge: Rare diseases are diseases which affect not more than 5 per 10 000 persons in the European Union, as defined in the context of the EU legislation. A considerable amount of knowledge has been generated by biomedical research in recent years, yet most of

the 6 000 to 8 000 rare diseases are lacking therapies despite many of these diseases being life-threatening or chronically debilitating.

Specific problems posed in therapy development for rare diseases include the small and dispersed patient populations and the nature of the therapies proposed, which are often highly specialised and novel. Amongst other challenges, this leads to the requirement for seeking early advice of regulatory authorities during development. In addition, despite the special incentives for the development of orphan medicinal products, and the often high prices of some of the developed therapies, the limited market for such therapies lead to a low commercial return, and/or limited access.

Scope: Support will be provided to clinical trials on substances where orphan designation has been given by the European Commission, where the proposed clinical trial design takes into account recommendations from protocol assistance given by the European Medicines Agency, and where a clear patient recruitment strategy is presented. Clinical trials may focus on a range of interventions with an orphan designation, from small molecule to gene or cell therapy, may include novel interventions and/or repurposing of existing and known interventions. The intervention must have been granted the EU orphan designation at the latest on the date of the full proposal call closure. A concise feasibility assessment justified by available published and preliminary preclinical or clinical results and supporting data shall also be provided. Appropriate plans to engage with patient organisations, Member States health authorities and considerations of efficacy/potential clinical benefit as well as early indication on health economics should be integrated in the application. In addition to the clinical trial, proposals may also include limited elements of late stage preclinical research and/or experimental evaluation of potential risks which must be complementary/contribute to the clinical trial(s) carried out within the proposal. The centre of gravity must clearly be the clinical trial(s). The participation of SMEs is encouraged.

Selected proposals shall contribute to the objectives of, and follow the guidelines and policies of the International Rare Diseases Research Consortium, IRDiRC (www.irdirc.org).

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 4 and 6 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact: • In line with the objectives of the Union pharmaceutical legislation on orphan medicinal products, proposals shall contribute to advance the development of new therapeutic options with concrete benefits for patients living with rare diseases.

- Rapid progress in orphan drug development due to well-prepared clinical trials and a multinational multicentre clinical trial with an appropriate number of patients.
- Develop a preliminary assessment of the potential economic and public health aspects of the new therapeutic option.

- Contribute to growth of SMEs involved in drug development.
- In line with the Union's strategy for international cooperation in research and innovation, proposals shall contribute towards IRDiRC objectives.

Type of Action: Research and Innovation action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-PM-09-2016: New therapies for chronic diseases

Specific Challenge: Chronic diseases represent a significant burden on individuals and healthcare systems in the European Union and beyond. Innovative and effective therapeutic approaches are required to provide the best quality of care when prevention strategies fail. While considerable basic knowledge has been generated by biomedical research in recent years, the development of new therapies is stagnating, in part due to a lack of clinical validation.

Scope: Proposals should focus on clinical trial(s), supporting proof of concept of clinical safety and efficacy in humans¹⁶ of novel therapies (pharmacological as well as non-pharmacological) or the optimisation of available therapies (e.g. repurposing) for chronic non-communicable or chronic infectious diseases. Preclinical research should be completed before the start of the project. Proposals should provide a sound feasibility assessment, justified by available publications or provided preliminary results. Gender and age must be considered whenever relevant. Due consideration should also be paid to involve patients and take their views into account wherever relevant. Rare diseases and regenerative medicine are not within the scope of this topic^{17, 18}.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 4 and 6 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

- New or optimised therapeutic strategies, adapted where relevant to the different needs of men, women, children and the elderly, with the highest potential to generate advances in clinical practice and care for chronic non-communicable or chronic infectious diseases.
- Improve the therapeutic outcome of major chronic health issues with significant impact on disease burden of individual patients and health care systems.

¹⁶ Phase 3 and phase 4 clinical trials are excluded.

¹⁷ See topic SC1-PM-08-2017 addressing new therapies for rare diseases.

¹⁸ See topic SC1-PM-11-2016-2017 addressing clinical research on regenerative medicine

Type of Action: Research and Innovation action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-PM-10-2017: Comparing the effectiveness of existing healthcare interventions in the adult population

Specific Challenge: Effective health care and prevention may be improved by additional evidence as to the most effective health interventions. Growing numbers of patients affected by chronic diseases also call for efficiently managing co-morbidities.

Scope: Proposals should compare the use of currently available preventative or therapeutic (pharmacological as well as non-pharmacological) healthcare interventions in adults¹⁹. While there is no restriction on the diseases or interventions to be the focus of proposals, preference will be given to proposals focusing on interventions with high public health relevance and socio-economic impact, i.e. interventions addressing conditions that are particularly frequent, may lead to co-morbidities, have a high negative impact on the quality of life of the individual and/or are associated with significant costs or where savings can be achieved. A cost effectiveness analysis must be included. Given the focus on existing interventions, proposals will aim to contribute to improve interventions, take decisions about the discontinuation of interventions that are less effective or less cost-effective than others, and make recommendations on the most effective and cost-effective approaches. A comprehensive array of clinical and safety parameters, as well as health and socio-economic outcomes (e.g. quality of life, patient mortality, morbidity, costs, and performance of the health systems) for chosen populations should be assessed. Agreed core outcome sets (COS) should be used as endpoints in conditions where they already exist, in other cases efforts should be made to agree on such COS. Randomised controlled trials, pragmatic trials, observational studies, large scale databases and meta-analyses may be considered for this topic. Where relevant the study population should address gender as well as socio-economic differentials in health and/or any other factors that affect health equity.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 4 and 6 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact: This topic is to provide the required evidence base for:

- more effective and safer interventions at individual and population level;
- enhanced compliance with healthcare interventions in the adult population;
- the use of health technology assessment methodology in this target group.

¹⁹ Screening and / or the involvement of elderly populations are not excluded.

In particular:

- Improvement of individual patient outcomes and health outcome predictability through tailoring of interventions.
- Improvement of guideline development for prevention or treatment of diseases and the management of comorbidities.
- Provision of more accurate information to patients, caregivers and prescribers.

Type of Action: Research and Innovation action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-PM-11-2016-2017: Clinical research on regenerative medicine

Specific Challenge: Translating basic knowledge on regenerative medicine into the clinic is often delayed by the difficulty of undertaking "first in man" studies and carrying out the specific research needed for proving safety and efficacy of new treatments as well as reproducibility of their therapeutic effect. Moreover, financing for these steps in the new therapeutic field of regenerative medicine is particularly scarce, due to lack of established business and regulatory models. The challenge is to overcome these hurdles to in-patient research and to determine the potential of new regenerative therapies.

Scope: Proposals should target regenerative medicine therapies which are ready for clinical (in-patient) research and should focus on one specific clinical phase of work. Any stage of clinical work (e.g., first in man, late stage trial, observational study) may be proposed though later stages are preferred; clinical work should represent the core of the proposal. To justify the clinical work proposed, phase I proposals must present appropriate preclinical and toxicology data, and later phase proposals must present appropriate preliminary results.

Proposals should include authorization to conduct clinical trials and ethical approvals or provide evidence of regulatory engagement and that such approval is close. Preference will be given to proposals which are closest to having approvals in place for clinical work to start. Since the objective is to test new regenerative therapies, proposals may address any disease or condition but a justification for the choice must be provided. Proposers should also justify why the therapy proposed is regenerative and how it represents a new approach compared to any existing treatment. Sex and gender differences should be investigated, where relevant. To allow an adequate coverage in the field of regenerative medicine, proposals should take into account the projects previously funded under this topic in Horizon 2020²⁰.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 4 and 6 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately.

²⁰ Project abstracts will be provided on the call page on the Participant Portal.

Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

- Obtain results by means of in-patient regenerative medicine research that allows new therapies to safely reach the next level of testing or medical practice.
- Stimulate growth and competitiveness of European regenerative medicine including European small and medium-sized enterprises and industry operating in the sector.
- Increase the attractiveness of Europe as a location of choice for development of new therapeutic options.
- Lever existing investments in fundamental research into regenerative medicine.
- Develop new approaches to currently untreatable diseases.

Type of Action: Research and Innovation action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-PM-22-2016: Addressing the urgent research gaps against the Zika virus and other emerging threats in Latin America

Specific Challenge: Zika virus (ZIKV) disease is a mosquito-borne viral disease, similar to other diseases caused by *Flaviviruses* (such as dengue, yellow fever, West Nile) but until recently was believed to be more benign. However, the recent rapid spread of the virus in previously unaffected regions like South Pacific islands and Latin America has provided epidemiological evidence for the first time that it may be associated with neurological complications in adults and with a twentyfold increase in severe congenital brain malformations of newborns.

On 1 December 2015, the Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) issued an Epidemiological Alert on: 'Neurological syndrome, congenital malformations, and Zika virus infection: Implications for Public Health in the Americas'²¹. On 10 December 2015 the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) noted in a ZIKV Rapid Risk Assessment²² that with the spread of the ZIKV epidemic in the Americas, the likelihood of travel-related cases in the EU is increasing. Imported and autochthonous cases in the EU Overseas Countries and Territories and the EU Outermost Regions, with onward transmission in EU Member States during the summer season in areas where *Aedes albopictus* or *Aedes aegypti* (the potential vectors) are established, cannot be excluded. In

²¹ http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_topics&view=article&id=427&Itemid=41484&lang=en

²² http://ecdc.europa.eu/en/publications/_layouts/forms/Publication_DispForm.aspx?List=4f55ad51-4aed-4d32-b960-af70113dbb90&ID=1407

January 2016, the CDC²³ and ECDC²⁴ cautioned pregnant women against travel in Zika-affected countries.

Research studies are urgently needed to address the reported association of ZIKV infection during pregnancy with congenital brain malformations, as well as with other neurological complications in adults. If such an association is confirmed, additional studies (e.g. on potential preventive and treatment strategies) should rapidly follow.

The ongoing ZIKV outbreak has exposed the challenges associated with the implementation of urgently needed research in the Latin America region, and has underlined the need for a coordinated research network across the whole region that can rapidly respond to emerging threats. However, the ZIKV outbreak also presents an opportunity to foster the development of a regional preparedness network. Such a network would not only facilitate research against ZIKV, but would also be available to rapidly respond to any future emerging threats in Latin America.

Thus the specific challenge is to set up a research network across the Latin America region to facilitate, coordinate and implement urgent research against the current ZIKV outbreak, and eventually lay the foundation for a preparedness research network against any future emerging severe infectious threats.

Scope: The objective is to establish a multinational and multidisciplinary consortium across Latin America and other affected or at risk regions, able to implement the urgently needed research during the ongoing ZIKV outbreak. The proposal should address all of the following issues:

- i. The evaluation of the potentially causative **relationship between ZIKV and the severe reported complications**, as well as the exploration of the mechanisms involved or of alternative aetiologies if needed. All relevant research is possible, ranging from basic research, research in animal models, virology and immunology studies, to a coordinated set of clinical studies (including for example prospective, cross-sectional or retrospective epidemiological or cohort studies, supported by harmonised case definitions and the development of improved ZIKV diagnosis and differential diagnosis assays, etc.) as necessary.
- ii. If such an association is confirmed, the consortium should be ready to **rapidly launch additional studies** (e.g. observational studies aimed at establishing the natural history, pathogen and host determinants of severity of the disease, phase II or III interventional trials in primary and/or secondary care aimed at providing evidence for potential prevention (including vaccines) and/or treatment strategies). Depending on the evolution of the outbreak, the timeline of the proposed actions, and ZIKV research efforts implemented by other stakeholders, the proposed action plan should maintain the flexibility to address remaining research gaps against ZIKV. This should include the

²³ <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6502e1.htm>

²⁴ <http://ecdc.europa.eu/en/publications/Publications/rapid-risk-assessment-zika-virus-first-update-jan-2016.pdf>

flexibility to include additional partners depending on the specific expertise required and/or the need to extend geographic scope.

- iii. The consortium should further capitalise on the platforms established and the experience gained through this urgent ZIKV research response, in order to evolve into a **network capable of rapidly launching a research response** to future severe infectious outbreaks caused by emerging pathogens with pandemic potential or potential to cause significant damage to health and socio-economics in the region²⁵. Provisions should be made so that this initial research platform may be further developed through a comprehensive 'inter-epidemic' action plan addressing and fine-tuning the response to any obstacles identified during the ZIKV research response (e.g. resolving regulatory and other bottlenecks, development of adaptable study protocols, strengthening ICT infrastructure for communication and information exchange, developing a training programme to enhance the local partners' capacity for laboratory and clinical research, developing a communication strategy for patient and public engagement, etc). A comprehensive data management framework allowing the standardised collection, storage, analysis and sharing of data should be implemented, initially focusing on Zika data but eventually evolving as a critical part of the preparedness research network. Additionally, a sustainability strategy that would enable the continuation of the network beyond the timeline of the EU grant should be explored and developed during the project's duration.

The consortium is expected to collaborate with relevant initiatives already existing or under development at national, regional, and international level, in order to maximise synergy and complementarity and avoid duplication of the research efforts. Specific propositions on how this can be achieved should be included in the proposal.

If more than one proposal is successful, proposals should collaborate and this should be indicated in the proposal.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 5 and 10 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Taking into consideration that, according to PAHO/WHO, Brazil is the country most severely affected by ZIKV, legal entities established in Brazil are eligible for funding.

Expected Impact: The proposed preparedness research network would have a major impact in the public health of Latin America, by:

²⁵ These should include emerging severe acute infections (e.g. haemorrhagic fevers, or acute respiratory, neurological or gastrointestinal infections), infections from fast-spreading multi-drug resistant pathogens, as well as emerging infections with severe complications in high-risk groups (e.g. children, elderly, pregnant women and their infants).

- Implementing the urgently needed research on ZIKV, thus providing evidence to public health authorities on optimal prevention and clinical management strategies, particularly for pregnant women.
- Building up the overall capacity for preparedness research against severe infectious outbreaks caused by emerging pathogens with pandemic potential or potential to cause significant damage to health and socio-economics in the region. This research would rapidly provide evidence for a coherent, adequate and rapid public health response to emerging threats.
- Coordinating with relevant initiatives at a national, regional and international level, particularly within the context of the GloPID-R (Global Research Collaboration for Infectious Diseases Preparedness)²⁶.
- Acting to leverage and facilitate additional research from other funders, primarily against ZIKV and emerging pathogens but also against poverty related and neglected infectious diseases of importance to the Latin America region.

Type of Action: Research and Innovation action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

1.4 Active ageing and self-management of health

Proposals are invited against the following topic(s):

SC1-PM-12-2016: PCP - eHealth innovation in empowering the patient

Specific Challenge: Empowering the hospitalised patients, outpatients and their families/carers to support a continuum of care across a range of services can relieve the pressure on governments to provide more cost-effective healthcare systems by improving utilisation of healthcare and health outcomes. The support for patients should be understood broadly covering a continuum of care in hospital, in outpatient care, and integration back to working life. For example rare diseases are particularly difficult to manage far from specialised centres. The eHealth action plan 2012-2020²⁷ and the outcome of the mHealth Green paper²⁸ pave the way towards empowerment of the patient with the assistance of ICT.

Scope: : Actions that focus on enabling the transition to new services or better integration of existing services through appropriate ICT based technologies using relevant elements e.g., proof of concept, user acceptance, use of the service, training of the professionals including online courses/forums that bring professionals and patients together, trust and security and consent of the patient. These strategies should allow communication to happen by increasing

²⁶ <http://www.glopid-r.org/>

²⁷ <http://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/news/ehealth-action-plan-2012-2020-innovative-healthcare-21st-century>

²⁸ <http://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/public-consultation-green-paper-mobile-health>

the level of interactions between the patient and the health professionals or informal carers, sharing of data and enabling the users to stay in control of their health condition and to adhere to prescribed medical plans and contribute to increasing the effectiveness of interventions. Examples of services could contain but not limited to:

- i) telemedicine services to follow patients e.g., with chronic or rare diseases after hospital discharge, and to interact with patients, carers and health professionals;
- ii) e-mental health for patient empowerment with self-management tools and blended care; and
- iii) domestic rehabilitation (both physical and cognitive) procedures under remote professional supervision.

Proposals should aim to develop a common language between patient and health care professionals, increase patient health and IT literacy, and foster individual patient empowerment giving the patient tools to take major life decisions and actively participate on the treatment and recovery from the disease. ICT solution should address relevant ethics and gender aspects and should also address related regulatory questions such as ownership of data, data protection/privacy and consumer protection. Open innovation with patients or/and informal carers could be included as an integral part of the concept.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of around 4 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

- Improve the quality and cost-effectiveness of healthcare systems by challenging industry from the demand side to develop innovative solutions that: increase the role and the responsibility of the patient, support self-management; reduce the number of severe episodes and complications; enhance the ICT skills and increase adherence of patients and care givers; strengthen the evidence base on health outcomes and management of comorbidities; increase the information about disease progression with advanced diagnostic techniques; provide early and predictive data about patient disease; reduce the number of unproductive visits to the hospital; and implement intensive rehabilitation programs at home when appropriate
- Reduced fragmentation of demand for innovative solutions to facilitate PCPs of expected minimum value of EUR 3 million by leveraging resources, encouraging among others also synergies with Structural Funds
- Increase the opportunities for solution uptake across wider international procurement markets by aiming at interoperable solutions that are validated through field testing by participating procurers in multiple countries across Europe and contribution to standardisation where relevant

- Equal access rights to the results generated by the PCP for all procurers jointly undertaken a PCP aiming for a fair and transparent level playing field for modernizing public services

Type of Action: Pre-Commercial Procurement

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-PM-13-2016: PPI for deployment and scaling up of ICT solutions for active and healthy ageing

Specific Challenge: The fast growing ageing population in Europe is bringing new demand-side pressures on public health and care providers. These pressures undermine the long-term sustainability of existing models of delivering care services to the ageing population.

The challenge is to scale up innovative solutions, which have been tested and have demonstrated success in smaller scale settings and that have not yet been deployed on a large scale, by contributing to collaborative efforts in public purchasing of innovative ICT-based solutions for active and healthy ageing. These include inter alia integrated care and active ageing solutions, independent living solutions and telecare, support for self-care and person-centred care. Moreover, take-up of these ICT-based solutions by both public care providers as well as people in need for care is a crucial factor in successfully alleviating the demand-side pressures on public health and care provision.

Scope: This topic will contribute to the Scaling-Up Strategy²⁹ of the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing and to boosting the Silver Economy and Digital Single Market in Europe. The actions supported will target deployment of active and healthy ageing solutions at large scale across different regions in Europe.

In line with the priority actions of the Scaling-up Strategy, the scope of the PPI pilot(s) is to specify, purchase and deploy ICT based solutions for active and healthy ageing which can deliver sustainable, new or improved services in which public procurement approaches for innovative solutions are successfully applied.

Proposals should:

- Be driven by clearly identified procurement needs of the participating organisations and building on a complete understanding of the needs of the ageing population, as well as the needs of the relevant health and care providers;
- Support sustainable deployment of new or improved services by providers involved in the procurement of solutions for active and healthy ageing;

²⁹ European Scaling-up Strategy in Active and Healthy Ageing: https://ec.europa.eu/research/innovation-union/pdf/active-healthy-ageing/scaling_up_strategy.pdf

- Contribute to the creation of scalable markets across Europe in innovative solutions for active and healthy ageing;
- Specify measures that will ensure the sustainability of solutions beyond the lifespan of the proposed project;
- Engage public and/or private procurers from each country participating (at national, regional or local level) that have responsibilities and budget control in the relevant area of care or supply of services;
- Be based on a complete set of common specifications for end to end services;
- Demonstrate that the implementation phase will reach "large scale" (i.e. sufficient scale to achieve statistical significance) through region-wide deployment across multiple regions of Europe;
- Contribute to the use of interoperable solutions based on open platforms and take into account existing best practices and standardisation initiatives;
- Provide robust safeguards to ensure compliance with ethical standards and privacy protections and take account of the gender dimension;
- Contribute good practices to be made available for replication across other regions (e.g. "detailed plans" for larger scale sustainable uptake of innovative solutions for active and healthy ageing, reference material and guidelines, manuals and education materials).

The European Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 2 and 5 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately through PPI. This does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

- Growing awareness and successful use of public procurement to boost ICT innovation applied to active and healthy ageing, ultimately benefiting the growing ageing population across Europe;
- Contribution with data and experiences to regulatory and legislative process development addressing potential barriers to procurement of innovative solutions for active and healthy ageing;
- Contribution of an open and comprehensive socio-economic evidence base for ICT investments in the field that can support the development of sustainable business models (e.g. cost-benefit analysis, increased efficiency of health and care systems, impact assessments, return on investments, quality of life improvements for users, ethics, safety gain and user satisfaction);

- Support initiatives on interoperability and standardisation that can contribute to defragmentation of the market for ICT based active and healthy ageing solutions;
- Creation of economic boundary conditions that can support long-term sustainability of health and care systems and emergence of new business models to develop ICT innovation for active and healthy ageing in Europe;
- Support forward-looking, concerted public-sector investment strategies that benefit from joint approaches across different regions;
- Create new opportunities for market uptake and economies of scale for the supply side for ICT based solutions and services for active and healthy ageing in a Digital Single Market for Europe.
- Contribute to inform policy measures that foster the take-up of ICT solutions for active and healthy ageing.

Type of Action: Public Procurement of Innovative solutions

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-PM-14-2016: EU-Japan cooperation on Novel ICT Robotics based solutions for active and healthy ageing at home or in care facilities

Specific Challenge: Citizens in ageing European and Japanese populations wish to stay in their homes for as long as possible. They are however at risk of age related impairments such as poor health, cognitive impairment, frailty and social exclusion with considerable negative consequences for their independence, quality of life, that of those who care for them, and for the sustainability of health and care systems.

Scope: The call will address joint research and innovation proposals for developing and demonstrating advanced ICT Robotics based solutions for extending active and healthy ageing in daily life.

Proposals should build on advances in this domain, and should combine multi-disciplinary research involving behavioural, sociological, health and other relevant disciplines. Characteristics of the solutions developed should be their modularity, cost-effectiveness, reliability, flexibility in being able to meet a range of needs and societal expectations, applicability to realistic settings, safety and acceptability to end-users. Gender and ethical issues should be paid due attention.

1. In order to support older people in ordinary daily life at home and in care facilities, proposed solutions should be driven by the needs, interests and lifestyles of older people through personalised and self-adaptable human-robot interaction. The proposed solutions should also provide a sense of stability and comfort, and reduce the burden on caregivers in time and labour costs.

2. The proposed solutions should further develop and build upon open platforms³⁰ and Internet of Things approaches. There should be a system integration approach between robotics devices, intelligent living environments, which can support novel service delivery models, including the integration of robots, home (indoor) sensor networks, and handling of big data and IoT data in the cloud.
3. The proposed work should develop novel service models for facilitating prolonged independent living and support prevention of care/efficient delivery of care in accordance with the proposed applications and services (such as maintenance of cognitive function or well-being etc.) and improvements in social situation (living assistance and reduction of isolation and loneliness etc.) and empowering older people to make the most of their remaining faculties (engaging in housework and hobbies etc.) and reducing the burden on caregivers.
4. The proposed application fields should demonstrate how solutions can be designed to allow for adaptation towards different histories and cultures across the EU and Japan and a variety of individual perception and preferences and cognitive capabilities.
5. There should be realistic test sites in both the EU and Japan with sufficient users involved to validate the expected benefits and impact.
6. In order for the ICT robotics service to be accepted in real life, it is necessary to ensure Ethical, Legal, and Social Issues (ELSI). Appropriate consideration on ELSI is required in both the EU and Japan.
7. In order to spread services, extensive use of generalized infrastructures such as a cloud system and open sources are required.
8. Without limiting the use of specific applications or hardware systems, platform approaches are required to ensure interoperability as well as contributions to appropriate ongoing or new standardization work.

The European Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 1 and 2 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

³⁰ An open platform describes a software system which is based on open standards, such as published and fully documented external application programming interfaces (API) that allow using the software to function in other ways than the original programmer intended, without requiring modification of the source code. Using these interfaces, a third party could integrate with the platform to add functionality. The opposite is a closed platform. An open platform does not mean it is open source, however most open platforms have multiple implementations of APIs. Proposers are encouraged to work with open platforms like FIWARE and UniversAAL where relevant.

- To extend the independence and autonomy of older persons in need of care for example through reduction of admissions and days spent in care institutions, and prolongation of time spent living in own home when ageing with emerging functional and/or mental impairments.
- To provide high quality service corresponding to the needs in daily lives of older persons.
- To improve quality of life of older persons and their carers.
- To reduce caregivers burden due to work sharing with robots and supplement/complement human resources in care service provision allowing consecutive services such as 24-hour ones.
- Improvement of efficiency in care provision.
- Global leadership in advanced solutions supporting active and healthy ageing

Type of Action: Research and Innovation action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-PM-15-2017: Personalised coaching for well-being and care of people as they age

Specific Challenge: The activity aims at developing and validating radically new ICT based concepts and approaches for empowering and motivating people in need of guidance and care due to age related conditions, in cooperation with their carers where relevant, and to help them improve and maintain their independence, functional capacity, health status as well as preserving their physical, cognitive, mental and social well-being.

Scope: Proposals should develop a proof of concept of radically new solutions for a personalised "virtual coach", building upon intelligent ICT environments, access to relevant physiological and behavioural data, new forms of accessible interaction based on tangible user interaction concepts, open platforms³¹ and emotional computing. Usability and ease of user interaction should be essential design elements of the "coach".

The "coach" should provide personalised advice, guidance and follow-up for key age related issues in daily life which impact the person's ability to remain active and independent, for example diet, physical activity, risk avoidance, preventive measures, lifestyle and activity management, leisure, social participation and overall wellness. The goal should be to preserve physical, cognitive, mental and social well-being for as long as possible and to facilitate interaction with carers (where relevant).

³¹ Proposers are encouraged to work with open platforms like FIWARE and UniversAAL where relevant.

Solutions should build on and apply multi-disciplinary research and include intelligent algorithms beyond state-of-the-art capable of reasoning, autonomous learning and adaptation to personal needs, emotional and behavioural patterns, conditions and preferences as well as the users' living environment and their social connections. Solutions should be integrated seamlessly in existing every-day activities and provide desired information in fast and efficient manner. Attention theft by ICT (consuming too much of the user's time) should be avoided.

Proposals should address relevant ethics and gender aspects and should also assess related legal and regulatory questions such as ownership of data, data protection/privacy, liability and consumer protection. It is crucial that users are involved and drive the innovation at all stages of design and development, including user acceptability, satisfaction and impact in realistic settings.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 3 and 4 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact: The proposal should present methodologies and metrics as appropriate for measuring its progress towards the expected impact in:

- Usefulness and effectiveness of personalized recommendations and follow-up in terms of the goals of preserving physical, cognitive, mental and social well-being for as long as possible;
- Validation of non-obtrusive technology for physical, cognitive, social and mental well-being;
- Evidence of user-centred design and innovation, new intuitive ways of human-computer interaction, and user acceptance;
- Potential cost-effectiveness due to enhanced self-care, life-style and care management.

Type of Action: Research and Innovation action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

1.5 Methods and data

Proposals are invited against the following topic(s):

SC1-PM-16-2017: In-silico trials for developing and assessing biomedical products

Specific Challenge: In biomedical, pharmaceutical and toxicology research, the safety and efficacy of biomedical products is ultimately tested on humans via clinical trials after prior

laboratory testing in vitro and/or in vivo on animals. The complete development chain of a new biomedical product and its introduction to the market is very long and expensive. Alternative methodologies to reduce the animal and human testing are needed in order to address the safety and efficacy issues of clinical human trials, the ethical issues and the imperfection of predictions issued from laboratory and animals studies when applied to humans. Computer modelling and simulation is currently used to a certain degree in pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics or mechanical simulations (e.g. fluid dynamics simulations). A research and technological roadmap³² on in-silico trials that are the use of individualised computer simulations in testing is currently available showing both strong interest and potential benefit of expanding the computer-modelling in drugs and other biomedical products research.

Scope: Proposals will develop innovative scientific and technological in-silico trials solutions for product design, development and assessment of drugs and other biomedical products (including products used in nuclear medicine, bioactives, medical foods). The proposals will foresee also the proofs of concepts and methods to demonstrate the capabilities of these solutions to be used in practice. The methods will build on comprehensive biological and biomedical knowledge and advanced modelling paradigms in order to simulate the individual human physiology and physiopathology at the biological levels relevant for the biomedical product under study (e.g. at the cell level, tissue level or organism level) and the interaction with the product. The models and simulations must take into account the variability among individuals (for example, molecular pathways, cellular microenvironments, microbiota, genetics, gender, behaviours, comorbidities, development, lifestyle and environmental conditions). Virtual populations of individuals are to be built for studying the product in single diseases or in particular cases (co-morbidities; composite diseases), for example, from the patient-specific models by variations of different parameters, and must allow simulating the action of the products and predicting the treatments outcomes in order to develop a personalised medicine approach. The proposed in-silico trials will be the result of a multidisciplinary effort (e.g. within the fields of computational modelling, systems biology, tissue mechanics, biology, pharmaceuticals, medicine) and must also explore and inform of the reasons for failure should the product be found not efficient or safe and will suggest improvements. To help adopt such computer simulated trials, measures for validation (human trials, animal studies, validation in cell cultures) of the in-silico trials results must also be included in the proposed projects. The benefit for human health, environment and animal welfare must be analysed and quantified. Engagement with regulators and consideration of the regulatory framework issues are highly recommended.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 4 and 6 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

³² <http://avicenna-isct.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/AvicennaRoadmapPDF-27-01-16.pdf>

Expected Impact:

- Reducing the size and the duration of the human clinical trials
- A more effective human clinical trials design
- Leading to a significant reduction in animal testing
- Lower development costs and/or shorter time-to-market for new medical products.
- Improving prediction of human risks for new biomedical products including medical foods
- Improving drug repositioning
- Potential of re-use of the developed in-silico models in the chemical testing.
- Setting standards for in-silico trials.
- Providing libraries of virtual patients for re-use in pre- and post-competitive testing of biomedical products

Type of Action: Research and Innovation action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-PM-17-2017: Personalised computer models and in-silico systems for well-being

Specific Challenge: There is continuous progress in systems medicine, multi-scale modelling and patient-specific modelling, but these research opportunities have only been used sporadically in exploring well-being, disease prevention or rehabilitation. These areas of intervention are crucial for reducing healthcare demand, building sustainable healthcare systems and for assuring a healthy and motivated workforce. More, innovative methods are needed for better understanding the influence of biological (including microbiome), social, environmental, lifestyle, occupational, economic etc. factors on human physiology and thereby on well-being and health. This could help in identification of interventions for improving well-being and health: by increasing resilience to challenges and illness, by better prevention adapted to predispositions and behaviours (including gender), by better consideration given to functional troubles, by better strategies of recovery and rehabilitation after illness.

Scope: Proposals should aim at the development of new integrative computer-models and simulation systems of acceptable validity, with the potential to being reused, built on open service platforms and with application in well-being, health and disease. The projects must include computer modelling and simulations able to aggregate various information sets e.g. molecular, biochemical, medical imaging, social, lifestyle, economic, occupational,

microbiome, environmental, developmental, psychological, gender etc. to generate robust predictors for resilience to challenges and recovery from stresses and illness. The models will process and apply individual/patient-specific information in a multi-scale approach for integrating information from at least one biological level from molecule to entire body within a wider context. Proposals will focus on multi-disciplinary research in medicine, Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) and ICT and should take advantage, when relevant, of existing large databases in clinical medicine, biomedical or occupational research, environmental sciences, SSH, so enabling and facilitating the accumulation and combining of complex and heterogeneous data collections. The models integrated in these multi-scale and multi-disciplinary approaches are to have their predictive capability validated by state-of-the-art clinical and/or laboratorial studies and/or against large health registries. Whenever relevant, proposals will integrate data collected over time in order to inform on individual trajectories with periods of well-being and periods of illness and on the heterogeneity of resilience and recovery that can be different during the individual lifetime.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 4 and 6 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

- Benefit for health and well-being: new personalised interventions for increasing resilience and recovery.
- Advancements in medical computer-modelling and simulation that takes into account time scale.
- Supporting predictive and preventive approaches in medicine, neurosciences and life sciences.
- Improving knowledge about well-being and association with life circumstances.

Type of Action: Research and Innovation action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-PM-18-2016: Big Data supporting Public Health policies

Specific Challenge: A defining characteristic of today's data-rich society is the collection, storage, processing and analysis of immense amounts of data. This characteristic is cross-sectorial and applies also to healthcare. Big Data is generated from an increasing plurality of sources and offers possibilities for new insights, for understanding human systems at the systemic level to develop personalised medicine, prevent diseases and support healthy life. Primary sources are new eHealth personal solutions, but can be extended also to more generic

and commercial instruments, like mobile apps for health and well-being. In addition, social networks can be considered for integrating the social dimension in the analysis of health and well-being scenarios. It is important to assure ethical aspects of data, confidentiality, anonymity of data transfer and engagement of those who collect/ code such data in its analysis and interpretation, in order to avoid misinterpretation and inappropriate conclusions. Greater involvement of those who work within healthcare systems, patients and the public is needed.

Scope: Rather than improving existing isolated systems, proposals should focus on how to better acquire, manage, share, model, process and exploit the huge amount of data to develop integrated solutions that support public health authorities of Member States and associated countries in particular in healthcare system management, long-term policy making and increase the ability to provide actionable insights at the point of care. Relevant solutions include, for example, systems for determining and monitoring the combined effects of environment, lifestyle and genetics on public health, enabling early identification of effects, both on women and men, that can have large impacts on health including lifestyle and provision of healthcare – both short term and long term as well as when interaction with other public sectors is required (e.g. physical planning). Focus should also be on the governance of Big Data in order to use it proficiently across organisations and at policy levels. Integrated solutions should include suitable approaches towards securing security and privacy issues.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 3 and 5 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

- Mapping comprehensive big data in a reachable and manageable way by applying principles for sharing and reusability, creating a network of knowledge by linking heterogeneous data sources for public health strategy;
- Emerging data driven analytics and advanced simulation methods to study causal mechanisms and improve forecasts of spatial and temporal development of ill-health and disease;
- Develop innovative approaches to improve current risk stratification methodologies;
- Turning large amounts of data into actionable information to authorities for planning public health activities and implementation of an approach "health in all policies";
- Placing prevention strategies on evidence base, evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of implemented strategies, feedback of results into the development of methods;
- Analysing the efficiency of patient pathway management both at primary care level (prevention and early detection) and *en route* encompassing;

- Aligning big data and advanced simulation methods in order to provide high-leverage policy analysis for public health officials, across a range of epidemiology challenges;
- Cross-border and networking coordination and technology integration facilitates interoperability among the components of Big Data value chain.

Type of Action: Research and Innovation action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-PM-19-2017: PPI for uptake of standards for the exchange of digitalised healthcare records

Specific Challenge: The use of interoperability standards is essential to the wider deployment of an EU eHealth single market. Despite previous Framework Programmes investments, there is still a profound lack of deployed interoperability between healthcare systems and services delivering healthcare and a need to stimulate the public procurement of eHealth solutions and integrated care services addressing complex organisational structures and interactions among people (recipients of care, care-givers, and others). The intention is to stimulate a lively market for innovative, standards-based, and interoperable health-information components.

Scope: Proposals should address as primary aim public procurement of innovative solutions (PPI) to facilitate the deployment of an eHealth infrastructure taking into consideration the European eHealth Interoperability Framework and EU guidelines adopted by the eHealth Network. The proposals should also take into account national eHealth standardisation strategies when they exist. These PPI(s), and any accompanying innovation activities in particular by participating procurers themselves to facilitate the uptake of newly developed solutions, should focus on clear target outcomes such as allowing the sharing of health information, the use of semantically interoperable Electronic Health Records (EHRs) for safety alerts, decision support, care pathways or care coordination. The scope of the PPI(s) is to specify, purchase and deploy innovative ICT based solutions which can deliver sustainable, new or improved healthcare services across organisational boundaries while implementing eHealth interoperability standards, specifications and APIs (e.g. EN13606, HL7, Continua Alliance, IHE...).

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 3 and 4 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

- Wider uptake of eHealth interoperability standards

- Increased suppliers opportunities from wider market uptake of innovative solutions and services by forming a critical mass on the public demand side
- Provide solutions for creating a market of innovative, standards-based, and interoperable health-information components
- Better solutions specifications designed from a demand side perspective
- More forward-looking, concerted, public sector approach to eHealth interoperability
- Achieve the wider deployment of eHealth services
- Create a European role model in the eHealth interoperability field
- Increasing jobs in health and ICT and contributing to economic growth in the EU in the long-term
- Support forward looking, concerted public-sector investment strategies that benefit from jointly implementing PPIs across different countries around Europe

Type of Action: Public Procurement of Innovative solutions

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-PM-20-2017: Methods research for improved health economic evaluation

Specific Challenge: Health systems need to be resilient. They must be able to adapt effectively to changing environments, and tackle significant challenges with limited resources. Many changes are taking place including demographics and burdens of disease, advances in biomedical research, health technologies and personalised medicine, and the availability of large, population-based data sets. These changes highlight the need and potential to develop new or improved methods for economic evaluation, including in the context of Health Technology Assessment and Health Systems Performance Assessment, to support decision-making.

While health economics research has generated evidence of differences between costs and health outcomes within and across countries, our understanding of major drivers of these differences is limited. Data on costs and health outcomes are available from an increasing range of sources, underlining the need for better data integration and synthesis of evidence. The challenge is to strengthen data generation for health economic evaluation, the methodological quality of the evaluations and their use in decision-making.

Scope: Proposals should provide new or improved methods for one or both of the following areas:

- Understanding variations in costs and health outcomes within and across countries

- Integrating data on costs and health outcomes from different sources

In terms of understanding variations in costs and health outcomes within and across countries, proposals should address which factors on the supply and demand side of a health system have major effects on the costs and outcomes of health-related interventions. This includes methods for more robust measures of wellbeing and quality of life, patient preferences, and experience, patient-reported outcomes, as well as methods for measuring broader economic and societal impacts such as on productivity. In the development of these methods, the perspectives of different important stakeholder groups in the health system and the broader economy should be taken into account.

With respect to data integration, proposals should develop improved or new methods to integrate data on direct and indirect costs of illness and on health outcomes from various sources, such as randomised controlled trials, observational studies, registries, surveys, routine administrative databases including social service records and eHealth³³. New methods should make use of the strengths of real-world data, while addressing their limitations. The development of new frameworks and models for integrating data sets from different sources should facilitate a continuous and informative assessment of health technologies, services and systems over time.

The research design should be developed by means of a multidisciplinary approach, integrating quantitative and qualitative methods and taking advantage of recent methodological developments in economics. Rigorous standards of health economic research should be applied, including the analysis of underlying assumptions. Research should consider aspects related to gender, socioeconomic status and other health determinants as well as issues related to data protection and relevant regulatory developments, as relevant. The methods to be developed should be applicable to a wide range of health-related interventions spanning prevention and treatment. Furthermore, methods to be developed should take into account the diversity of health systems within and across countries. Research proposals should establish synergies with other relevant research projects and initiatives.³⁴ Finally, methods and approaches should be validated, with a view to ensuring their applicability, including for routine use in health systems, and their suitability for addressing the above-mentioned changes and challenges faced by health systems.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 2 and 3 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

³³ eHealth is the use of ICT in health products, services and processes combined with organisational change in healthcare systems and new skills, in order to improve health of citizens, efficiency and productivity in healthcare delivery, and the economic and social value of health. eHealth covers the interaction between patients and health-service providers, institution-to-institution transmission of data, or peer-to-peer communication between patients and/or health professionals.

³⁴ Examples include SC1-PM-18-2016 and the IMI2 Big Data for Better Outcomes Programme (BD4BO)

Expected Impact:

- Validated improved or new approaches for the collection and analysis of data for health economic evaluation, resulting in high-quality and comparable information within and across countries
- Validated improved or new approaches for integration of data from all relevant sources, to facilitate an informative and continuous assessment of health interventions and systems
- Validated improved or new indicators, measures and tools, to be used by decision-makers for resource allocation in health systems that are patient-centred, efficient and sustainable.

Type of Action: Research and Innovation action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

1.6 Health care provision and integrated care

Proposals are invited against the following topic(s):

SC1-PM-21-2016: Implementation research for scaling-up of evidence based innovations and good practice in Europe and low- and middle-income countries

Specific Challenge: Research evidence and technological and process improvements during the past decades present a large opportunity for improving the functioning and sustainability of health systems³⁵. However, the uptake of well-researched and proven interventions addressing current challenges is still slow. Implementation research on scaling up evidence-based innovations and good practices intervention should facilitate the transferability of these practices across the borders of Europe and beyond.

Scope: Based on the concept of implementation research³⁶, proposals should seek to replicate and scale up a comprehensive intervention in the field of health systems that is innovative and well-researched, supported by sufficient documented evidence. This scaling up can take place within Europe as well as outside it, notably in low- and middle-income countries (LMIC). The topic does not cover micro-level interventions, e.g. to promote a specific therapeutic regimen for a single disease.

The selected intervention to be scaled up should be one that has proven to make health systems and health services more responsive, person-centred, safe, effective, and efficient. Its stated impact should be broad, addressing economic and social benefits and its effect on

³⁵ A health system consists of all organizations, people and actions whose primary intent is to promote, restore or maintain health (WHO)

³⁶ The scientific study of methods to promote the uptake of research findings (Walker AE, 2003). Process modelling in implementation research. doi:10.1186/1472-6963-3-22)

reducing inequalities. The research should identify the facilitators of and barriers to scaling-up, including context-specific factors and differing social and health systems environments in Europe or in LMIC.

Proposals should be multidisciplinary and relevant gender aspects should be taken into account. They also should reflect and take advantage of the regional diversity across Europe and/or the diversity of LMIC settings. Relevant stakeholders and end-users of research should be identified and involved throughout the project lifetime. Innovative approaches towards gathering their inputs for the scaling up process should be considered, notably of patients when relevant.

The organisational and resource requirements (data, personnel and financing) necessary for the implementation of the intervention must be tracked and evaluated in detail. The research and system-wide scientific monitoring should allow future users (researchers, healthcare providers, policy makers, and the public) to review the step-by-step, partial outcomes of the intervention, thus facilitating a wider adoption of these practices. The appropriate contextual, financial and political-economy³⁷ analysis should be provided.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 4 and 6 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

- A larger group of citizens benefits from the studied health system intervention. The intervention should lead to improving the functioning and sustainability of health systems, and greater health equity and additional societal benefits.
- A validated framework and strategy for a large-scale implementation of an effective and safe evidence-based health systems intervention will be available to healthcare providers and policy makers that will facilitate the transferability of these practices.
- In the medium and long-term, the health systems will be more effective, efficient and equitable; health services are more responsive to the needs of users.

Type of Action: Research and Innovation action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

Coordination activities

Proposals are invited against the following topic(s):

³⁷ "Political economy analysis is concerned with the interaction of political and economic processes in a society; including the distribution of power and wealth between groups and individuals, and the processes that create, sustain and transform these relationships over time" (OECD –DAC)

SC1-HCO-01-2016: Valorisation of FP7 Health and H2020 SC1 research results

Specific Challenge: Over 1,000 projects have been funded under the Health theme of the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7, 2007-2013) and close to 100 projects are already supported under the Societal Challenge 1 of Horizon 2020. These projects have and will lead to breakthrough discoveries and innovations with a potential for further valorisation and exploitation. The translation of research and innovation outcomes into new diagnostics or medicines and improved health outcomes for patients is however hampered by the scattering of knowledge generated across public and private research organisations in Europe. Although Technology Transfer Offices (TTOs) have developed tools to promote their organisations' innovations, there is potential for increased critical mass and visibility of these EU FP7 Health and Horizon 2020 SC1 projects' outcomes.

Scope: The objective of this coordination and support action is to develop a European web marketplace referencing all types of innovations such as patents, licensing opportunities, prototypes, products, technologies or services with a potential for future exploitation and/or commercialisation, primarily generated by FP7 Health and Horizon 2020 SC1 programmes.

The marketplace should become a one-stop-shop between innovation providers (mainly academic research organisations) and innovation developers (such as SMEs, midcaps and larger companies, EU research infrastructures). The further assessment and/or validation of any high-value discovery shall not be performed within the framework of the proposal.

Further exploitation should be widely promoted to innovation developers; therefore the proposal should detail how it intends to incentivise academia, TTOs, SMEs and the healthcare sector at large to ensure a broad use, exploitation and feeding of the marketplace in Europe. The proposal should include a solid monetization strategy to ensure sustainability of the marketplace after the end of the project.

TTOs with proven track records in exploitation of research results as well as business development departments from healthcare companies should be involved in the consortium to ensure a coherent and consistent approach between innovation providers and innovation developers. Special attention should be given to project outcomes in low performing Member States and Associated Countries³⁸. Benchmarking of existing initiatives at European, Member States or international level (such as Enterprise Europe Network or the United States National Institutes of Health (NIH) Office of Technology Transfer) is a prerequisite. This

³⁸ As defined by Widening Participation and Spreading Excellence: Member States below 70% of the EU average of the Composite Indicator of Research Excellence. The Composite indicator of Research Excellence (with a corrective threshold of 70% of the EU average) has been selected to distinguish those countries identified as "low R&I performing" or "widening" countries. These are:

- Member States: Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia.
- Associated Countries (subject to valid association agreements of third countries with Horizon 2020): Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Faroe Islands, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey and Ukraine.

benchmarking should contribute to identifying best practices, rightly positioning contents and services of the marketplace, as well as defining Key Performance Indicators that will be monitored throughout the deployment of the marketplace.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 1 and 2 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

- Development of a sustainable one-stop-shop innovation marketplace promoting primarily EU FP7 Health and Horizon 2020 SC1 project outcomes
- Demonstrate clear impact of the marketplace in stimulating in- and out-licensing activity from TTOs, SMEs, and large pharmaceutical companies (ADD)
- Identify innovative, sustainable business models increasing the attractiveness of the marketplace, especially towards SMEs
- Identification and promotion of scientific discoveries as well as advice on possible value-adding strategies

Type of Action: Coordination and support action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-HCO-02-2016: Standardisation of pre-analytical and analytical procedures for in vitro diagnostics in personalised medicine³⁹

Specific Challenge: Standards are part of the knowledge economy that facilitate innovation and the adoption of new technologies. They are key elements of the competitiveness of European industry. They can improve safety and performance of products and services. Patients would benefit from the standardisation of in vitro diagnostic practice.

Progress in medical diagnostics is limited by insufficient guidelines for pre-analytical procedures and diagnostic services. The accuracy of measured values may be hampered by deficiencies of pre-analytical steps (sample collection, handling, etc.) and poor harmonisation and quality assurance of diagnostic practice (not all diagnostic laboratories are even accredited ISO15189).

³⁹ Personalised medicine refers to a medical model using characterization of individuals' phenotypes and genotypes (e.g. molecular profiling, medical imaging, lifestyle data) for tailoring the right therapeutic strategy for the right person at the right time, and/or to determine the predisposition to disease and/or to deliver timely and targeted prevention. The term "personalised medicine" is used throughout this Work Programme with this definition in mind.

Scope: Provide pan-European quality assurance schemes and guidelines for pre-analytical procedures - such as sample collection, handling, transportation, processing and storing of clinical samples - and/or harmonisation and quality assurance of diagnostic practice.

The proposal should contribute to accreditation and certification, and participate in standardization activities at European level. Interaction with the European Metrology Programme for Innovation and Research (EMPIR) should be considered as appropriate. Outcomes could be coordination of validation studies, assessment of the results of method validations, training, counselling, quality procedures and guidelines.

Involvement of industry, including SMEs, and organizations for standardisation is expected.

The Commission considers that a proposal requesting a contribution from the EU of around EUR 2 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

- Harmonisation and quality assurance of in vitro "diagnostic" procedures for disease diagnosis, patient stratification and/or prognosis of disease outcome leading to improved clinical decisions and health outcomes for the benefits of patients.
- Contribution to the sustainability of health care systems by reducing the number of diagnostic mistakes.
- Growth and benefit to the European diagnostics industry, in particular SMEs.

Type of Action: Coordination and support action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-HCO-03-2017: Implementing the Strategic Research Agenda on Personalised Medicine

Specific Challenge: By providing the right intervention to the right person at the right time, personalised medicine⁴⁰ can improve quality of life and contribute to more sustainable healthcare at Member State level. It may drive new and faster development processes and products, providing European life sciences industries with a competitive edge that can secure growth and jobs. Today, development is uneven across and within sectors, regions and

⁴⁰ Personalised medicine refers to a medical model using characterization of individuals' phenotypes and genotypes (e.g. molecular profiling, medical imaging, lifestyle data) for tailoring the right therapeutic strategy for the right person at the right time, and/or to determine the predisposition to disease and/or to deliver timely and targeted prevention. The term "personalised medicine" is used throughout this Work Programme with this definition in mind.

Member States due to fragmented activities, insufficient communication and lack of commonly accepted solutions and standards.

The FP7 funded coordination and support action "Personalised Medicine 2020 and beyond – Preparing Europe for leading the global way (PerMed)⁴¹" was launched in 2013 with the objective to develop a Strategic Research Agenda to progress personalised medicine in Europe. PerMed partners have strived to focus their strategy on concrete research actions, many of which should be addressed through transnational collaborative health research.

An ERA-NET Cofund action is therefore a suitable and timely tool to implement relevant parts of PerMed's Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda⁴², which will be published in 2015.

Scope: Proposals should pool the necessary financial resources from the participating national (or regional) research programmes with a view to implementing a joint call for proposals resulting in grants to third parties with co-funding in this area.

This call should aim at implementing a key area of the PerMed Strategic Research Agenda and be complementary with other funding programmes and activities at European and international level. Proposers are encouraged to include other joint activities including additional joint calls without EU co-funding. This work should be informed by the output of the coordination and support action envisaged in topic SC1-HCO-05-2016 - Coordinating personalised medicine research, without duplicating any of its work.

The proposed ERA-NET should demonstrate the expected impact on national and transnational programmes as well as the leverage effect on European research and competitiveness, and should plan the development of key indicators for supporting this. Participation of international partners is highly encouraged.

The Commission considers that a proposal requesting a contribution from the EU of EUR 5 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

- Deepened and extended coordination of national and transnational research in the field of personalised medicine.
- Streamlined national/regional and international practices in organising research funding.
- Increased interoperability of national research programmes.
- Increased sharing of data and knowledge.
- Increased networking of infrastructures and databases such as ESFRI infrastructures

⁴¹ www.permed2020.eu

⁴² Available at <http://www.permed2020.eu/1428.php>

Type of Action: ERA-NET Cofund

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-HCO-04-2016: Towards globalisation of the Joint Programming Initiative on Antimicrobial resistance

Specific Challenge: The Joint Programming Initiative on antimicrobial resistance (JPIAMR) was established in 2011 to enable the participating EU Member States and other countries supporting this initiative to work together to address the rise in antibiotic resistance that threatens human and animal health. Throughout the past four years, the JPIAMR has proven to be an important tool for the establishment of a European Research Area in this field. The JPIAMR launched its strategic research agenda (SRA) in 2014. The JPIAMR is currently implementing this SRA via alignment of national activities and launching transnational research calls.

An immediate challenge for the JPIAMR is to move towards a global initiative. In this context, the JPIAMR should capitalize on the current momentum to take the necessary steps for securing its sustainability by Member States, to extend globally and mobilize the EU Members States which are not yet participating in the JPIAMR. A sustainable structure should allow the JPIAMR to progressively move from coordination to integration of national research activities, to further develop its visibility at global level, and to facilitate greater innovation to address AMR.

Scope: Proposals should support the development and extension of the JPIAMR capacities. In particular, resources should be used to:

- Explore possible scenarios for long-term sustainability by Member States, implement the most appropriate scenarios to ensure full self-sustainability at the end of this project, and create political awareness for implementation. The proposal should also dedicate resources to develop and implement a dedicated structure responsible for the long-term JPIAMR management and implementation;
- Extend the capacities of the JPIAMR to the Members States which are not yet participating in the initiative. For this purpose, the proposal should dedicate resources to develop a strategy to attract and raise awareness of the missing EU Member States. This should include identification of available national research and innovation resources in the area of antimicrobial resistance;
- Attract global capacities towards JPIAMR and dedicate resources to implement its global strategy. This should include awareness raising and the development of a strategy to attract non-EU countries to join the initiative including low and middle income countries. In addition to this, the JPIAMR should play a key role in supporting the implementation of the WHO global action plan on antimicrobial resistance and the development of a global SRA.

- Develop and implement current and new strategies for further coordination of national AMR action plans, research agendas and activities, and in particular for the take-up of JPIAMR strategies and policies at national level. This should clearly demonstrate the leverage effect of the JPIAMR. In this context, the proposal should dedicate resources to develop and implement initiatives for knowledge management, brokerage and transfer, as well as establishing collaborations with other initiatives or partners at European and global level;
- Provide innovative strategies for the creation of infrastructures and tools to facilitate more rapid uptake of data and methodologies for research on antimicrobial resistance in the EU and beyond;
- Facilitate building networks of industrial and academic experts to boost industrial innovation in the field of antimicrobial research in Europe in collaboration with IMI.

The proposal should not duplicate work already covered under the ERA-NET (HCO 11 – 2015). The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 1 and 2 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

- Reinforcing the JPI scheme as a major tool for the achievement of the European Research Area;
- Implementing a stronger global dimension of the JPIAMR, aligned with the WHO global action plan on antimicrobial resistance;
- Increased multiannual commitment of JPIAMR members, long-term sustainability of the JPIAMR research and innovation strategy, and long-term structuring effect and critical mass mobilization;
- Achieving coordination and integration of national research and innovation programmes with the JPIAMR research strategy in coherence with Horizon 2020 objectives;
- Faster international progress for research and innovation on antimicrobial resistance through the development of novel research tools and infrastructures;
- Increasing efficiency of research and innovation investments by European Member States by avoiding duplication of research and infrastructure investment at national level;
- Awareness and potential extension of the JPIAMR to missing EU Member States, as well as non-EU Member States;
- Further establishing the JPIAMR as a reference for European and global knowledge and innovation platform in the area of antimicrobial resistance.

Type of Action: Coordination and support action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-HCO-05-2016: Coordinating personalised medicine research

Specific Challenge: By providing the right intervention to the right person at the right time, personalised medicine⁴³ can improve quality of life and contribute to more sustainable healthcare at Member State level. It may drive new and faster development processes and products, providing European life sciences industries with a competitive edge that can secure growth and jobs. Today, development is uneven across and within sectors, regions and Member States due to fragmented activities, insufficient communication and lack of commonly accepted solutions and standards.

Scope: Support the development and operations of a European platform for collaboration between funders of personalised medicine research, possibly based on the International Consortium model⁴⁴. The platform should coordinate research and innovation efforts across borders, regions and countries. It should foster an interdisciplinary approach to personalised medicine by actively involving relevant interested parties. It should develop policies, guidelines, etc. aiming to speed up the development and implementation of personalised medicine (addressing policy-related, economic, and socio-cultural factors). The platform should aim to create synergies with ongoing activities at European and national level (e.g. research infrastructures⁴⁵, ERA-NETs, personalised medicine pilot projects, EIT Health KIC⁴⁶). It should moreover explore the best use of funds in the implementation of personalised medicine. It should actively disseminate information and best-practice examples and contribute to awareness raising in the medical professions (accelerating the reshaping of academic curricula) and among the general public. The proposal should explore scenarios for long-term sustainability.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of around EUR 2 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

⁴³ Personalised medicine refers to a medical model using characterization of individuals' phenotypes and genotypes (e.g. molecular profiling, medical imaging, lifestyle data) for tailoring the right therapeutic strategy for the right person at the right time, and/or to determine the predisposition to disease and/or to deliver timely and targeted prevention.

⁴⁴ See for example the International Rare Diseases Research Consortium (IRDiRC - www.irdirc.org) or the International Human Epigenome Consortium (IHEC – www.ihec.org).

⁴⁵ http://ec.europa.eu/research/infrastructures/index_en.cfm?pg=esfri

⁴⁶ <http://eit.europa.eu/eit-community/eit-health>

- Improved coordination across and within regional, national and pan-European research funding programmes and initiatives.
- Faster development of personalised medicine approaches through the development of frameworks for research priorities, policies and guidelines aimed at accelerating research and implementation efforts.
- Development of a framework for linking established research efforts, platforms, infrastructures such as biobanks or databases, building synergies between ongoing activities.
- Increased information exchange between sectors and scientific disciplines.
- Increased public awareness and understanding of personalised medicine approaches among the public and the medical professions.
- Improved use of funds in the implementation of personalised medicine.

Type of Action: Coordination and support action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-HCO-06-2016: Towards an ERA-NET for building sustainable and resilient health system models

Specific Challenge: Currently, public health-related research, whether population health or health services research, is fragmented, not coordinated and not aligned across the European Union. There is a need to render investments in public health research more efficient, learn from each other and better capitalise on the on-going so called 'natural experiments' in Europe. While some public health problems are specific to countries, and health care systems are different. Member States still face many similar challenges. There are many public health problems common to most countries, such as the burden posed by chronic diseases, multi-morbidity or obesity, and mental health issues. Many countries are considering innovative solutions in order to achieve a better design of services and interventions throughout the entire chain of care, including public health and prevention. It implies, among others, strategies for strengthening community care and primary care in relation to social care and prevention, redesigning hospital care and de-institutionalising long term care with more care provided closer to home. This implies placing more emphasis on self-management of patients and new ways of linking health and social care. There are many opportunities to learn from one another on what works best under what conditions, agreeing on what issues could be best researched jointly, and where the problems are more localized. This is an opportunity of capitalizing on existing know-how and to draw on comparative advantages in European research, thus enhancing innovation.

Scope: To pave the way to an ERA-NET co-funded action for building sustainable and resilient health systems models, this coordination and support action (CSA) will develop a structured system of exchange of information between public health research funders and other relevant bodies, as well as academia, in order to establish synergies and avoid duplication. It will further facilitate the development of a strategic research agenda taking into account the diversity which exists within Europe. This agenda will identify at least a number of measurable, performance enhancing, scientific-technological or socio-economic objectives, supported by an appropriate analysis.

This action implies the preparation and organisation of meetings as well as support to information exchange with relevant stakeholders groups and with the public at large.

The proposed action should ensure a broad geographical representation of European countries.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 1 and 2 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

- Build on the communalities of existing knowledge gathering in past EU and national level studies, thus ensure a better use of limited resources.
- Identification of common research priorities and research needs, also taking into account developments at the international level where relevant.
- Development and alignment of national and regional plans.
- Sharing of data, metadata, knowledge and best practice.

Type of Action: Coordination and support action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-HCO-07-2017: Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases (GACD) prevention and management of mental disorders

Specific Challenge: The Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases⁴⁷ (GACD) call will focus on implementation research proposals on child, adolescent and adult age onset mental disorders⁴⁸ including, but not limited to, dementia, depression, schizophrenia, bipolar disorders, alcohol-

⁴⁷ <http://www.gacd.org/>

⁴⁸ Mental and behavioural disorders (FOO-F99) of WHO's International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems 10th Revision (ICD-10): <http://apps.who.int/classifications/icd10/browse/2016/en#/V>

and drug-use disorders, etc., in low- and middle-income countries (LMIC) and/or in vulnerable populations⁴⁹ in high income countries (HIC).

Mental health is an integral part of health as underlined in the World Health Organisation (WHO) definition of health as a 'state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity'.

Mental disorders represent an ever-increasing burden, to all ages of the population, challenging mental health and health systems. Depression affects 350 million people in all communities across the world and represents the third leading contributor to the global disease burden⁵⁰. Dementia affects 47.5 million people worldwide with 58% of people living with dementia in low- and middle-income countries⁵¹. Global costs associated with mental disorders were estimated to € 2.2 trillion in 2010 and are expected to rise to € 5.3 trillion by 2030⁵².

Mental disorders place a heavy burden on individuals, families, communities and societies. They also increase the risk of co-morbidities and social exclusion. There are obstacles to achieving effective prevention, early identification and management of mental disorders and to ensuring patients' adherence to therapies. Effective management approaches exist but their implementation in LMIC and vulnerable groups in HIC is hampered by socioeconomic and contextual factors: gender; the stigma associated with mental disorders at work, in health care and communities; the role of traditional medicine in dealing with mental health including trauma; and barriers to accessing care. There is a need to strengthen the evidence base for the contextual scalability of interventions of promising or proven effectiveness for the promotion of mental health and the early identification and management of patients, taking into account the needs of different population groups across the life course.

Scope: Proposals must focus on mental disorders as defined by the WHO (see above), and must focus on implementation research in LMIC, and/or in vulnerable populations in HIC. Proposals must build on interventions with promising or proven effectiveness (including cost-effectiveness) for the respective population groups under defined contextual circumstances. Gender-responsive interventions should be addressed, wherever relevant.

The aim should be to adapt and upscale the implementation of these intervention(s) in accessible, affordable and equitable ways in order to improve the prevention and management of mental disorders in the community in medical health care, psychosocial, and public health and other settings and fields. Interventions should meet conditions and requirements of the local health and social system context and address any other contextual factors identified as

⁴⁹ Applicants must demonstrate that the proposed population under investigation in HIC is considered as vulnerable.

⁵⁰ WHO Fact sheet nr 369, 2012

⁵¹ WHO Fact sheet nr 362, 2015

⁵² Bloom, D.E., Cafiero, E.T., Jané-Llopis, E., Abrahams-Gessel, S., Bloom, L.R., Fathima, S., Feigl, A.B., Gaziano, T., Mowafi, M., Pandya, A., Prettner, K., Rosenberg, L., Seligman, B., Stein, A.Z., & Weinstein, C. (2011). The Global Economic Burden of Noncommunicable Diseases. Geneva: World Economic Forum.

possible barriers. When economic factors prevent access to effective, low-cost appropriate medication and other management and treatment modalities, proactive policy and strategies should be encouraged to ensure the availability of such medication or other management/treatment modality or means should be found to overcome these barriers.

Each proposal should:

- Focus on implementation research addressing prevention, and/or early identification and/or management strategies derived from existing knowledge about effective interventions.
- Include a strategy to test the proposed model of intervention and to address the socioeconomic and contextual factors of relevance to the targeted region and community.
- Lead to better understanding of key barriers and facilitators at local, national and international level that affect the prevention and management of mental disorders.
- Include health economics assessments as an integral part of the proposed research, including considerations of scalability and equity.
- Propose a pathway to embed the intervention into policy and practice addressing:
 - o A strategy to include policy makers and local authorities (possibly by being part of the consortium), as well as other relevant stakeholders such as community groups, patient groups, formal and informal carers and any other group, where ever relevant from the beginning of the project, which will contribute to the sustainability of the intervention, after the end of project.
 - o Relevance of project outcomes/evidence for scaling up the intervention at local, national and international level and then scaled-up appropriateness with respect to the local social, cultural and economic context.
 - o Aspects of stigmatisation and potential equity gaps e.g. due to gender or age.

Proposal must address one of or combinations of the following items:

- Structural interventions or evidence based policies designed to improve mental health outcomes;
- Early case detection and other secondary or tertiary prevention strategies as well as modalities of treatment, care and access to care which are amenable to scale-up. Prevention, early identification and treatment may include validated pharmacological, psychotherapeutic, psychosocial support and other approaches of relevance to mental disorders such as accessibility to and enhancing compliance with the intervention, also considering cultural context. Wherever relevant, comorbidities and their impacts on prevention and treatment strategies should be taken into account;

- Ways to empower people with mental health problems as well as professional and informal care-givers like families according to the context are also relevant;
- Exploring the scale-up of family/community engagement in patient treatment and care, without pre-empting their living.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 1 and 3 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact: (one of or combinations of)

- Advance prevention strategies and implementation of mental health interventions, alleviating global burden of mental disorders;
- Establish the contextual effectiveness of mental health intervention(s), including at health systems level;
- Improve tailored prevention and treatment; Develop affordable management and treatment modalities for mental disorders and expand access to care;
- Inform health service providers, policy and decision makers on effective scaling up of mental health interventions at local, national and regional levels, including affordability aspects for users and health providers;
- Reduce health inequalities and inequities, including due consideration of gender and age issues where relevant, in the prevention, treatment and care of mental disorders at both local and global levels;
- Maximise the use of existing relevant programmes and platforms (e.g. research, data, and delivery platforms);
- Contribute to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals 3⁵³, the Global Action Against Dementia and the First World Health Organisation (WHO) Ministerial Conference on Dementia⁵⁴, the WHO Mental Health Action Plan 2013-2020⁵⁵, and/or the 2015 European Council Conclusions on dementia⁵⁶.

The GACD aims to coordinate research on chronic diseases at global level in order to enhance knowledge exchange across individual projects, and to better understand the impact of socio-economic, cultural, geopolitical and policy on research findings, so as to appropriately adapt

⁵³ <http://www.who.int/topics/sustainable-development-goals/targets/en/>

⁵⁴ <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/events/meetings/2015/global-action-against-dementia/en/>

⁵⁵ WHO Mental Health Action Plan 2013-2020, in particular Objective 2, global target 2 or Objective 3, global target 3: http://www.who.int/mental_health/action_plan_2013/en/;

⁵⁶ 2015 European Council Conclusions on dementia: 'Living with dementia: improving care policies and practices': www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/epsco/2015/12/st14968_en15_pdf/

health interventions to different geographical, economic and cultural settings. Research under GACD involves regular exchange of research findings and information across participating projects by means of cross-project working groups and annual joint meetings. Wherever feasible, projects should harmonise and standardise their data collection and exchange data.

Applicants must budget for annual costs of having two team members participate in one annual face-to-face meeting of the Global Research Network (location to vary annually). Attendance at this meeting is mandatory for 2 team members, with at least one participant from the LMIC team where relevant. Teams are strongly encouraged to include one junior team member in each annual meeting.

Type of Action: Research and Innovation action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-HCO-08-2017: Actions to bridge the divide in European health research and innovation

Specific Challenge: Despite serious efforts deployed at national and European level, the European Union sees significant internal disparities in terms of research and innovation performance as also identified in the Innovation Union Scoreboard. The disparities are equally present in health research and innovation and this call seeks solutions specifically adapted to this domain.

The European Commission has been funding projects to analyse the roots of the divide in European health research and innovation (HCO-14 2014) and wishes to continue efforts in closing the gap.

Scope: Any type of activities that can help less performing countries and regions to build capacities and exploit opportunities to eventually increase their participation in EU funded collaborative projects can be supported.

Beneficiaries of the activities should be low performing⁵⁷ Member States/regions that have identified health R&I as a priority in their Research and Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialisation (RIS3). Applicants shall seek synergies with European Structural and Investment Funds, the operational programmes and support from managing authorities.

The proposals will propose concrete measures for tackling structural barriers to health research and innovation, including those related to capacity, skills, policy, regulatory environment, and economic and socio-cultural factors including gender equality issues and gender dimension in research content.

⁵⁷ As defined by Widening Participation and Spreading Excellence: Member States below 70% of the EU average of the Composite Indicator of Research Excellence.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of up to EUR 1 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact: The action should demonstrate good practice on how synergies between Structural Funds and Horizon 2020 can be exploited in the health R&I domain. This shall contribute to increased Horizon 2020 participation of low performing regions.

Type of Action: Coordination and support action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-HCO-10-2016: Support for Europe's leading Health ICT SMEs

Specific Challenge: The business environment and sustainable business models for eHealth SMEs have been a major challenge when introducing innovations in new healthcare delivery. Helpful findings are already available in similar support measures, e.g., Get eHealth⁵⁸, iLink⁵⁹ and existing private support activities for SMEs.

Scope: The scope is co-ordinating post R&D and offering support for developing business models, improving the maturity of the new products emerging from Europe's leading Health ICT SMEs, developing a pro-innovation approach to address legal conditions in Europe and globally on a case-by-case basis. The selected project will build up and maintain a support structure for the SMEs including but not limited to the following elements:

- a) Support for networked opportunities in collaboration with high calibre third parties
- b) eHealth specific networking events organised by the project
- c) Support for training of the staff of the SMEs
- d) Professional assistance improving the maturity of the business for further investment purposes
- e) Support addressing legal challenges
- f) Support addressing issues related to registration and certification.

Synergies between the Enterprise Europe Network and the relevant sector groups are encouraged.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of up to EUR 3 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately.

⁵⁸ Delivering Growth to eHealth business, <http://www.get-ehealth.eu/>

⁵⁹ European Network of ICT Law Incubators, <http://lincup.eu/>

Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

- Evidence of positive business outcome based on e.g., networking activities and ecosystems including various types of business opportunities (e.g., venture and crowd funding, European Investment Fund).
- Demonstration of success with the investors.
- Reduction of market failures.
- Successful business models including sustainable co-operation with the demand side in the value chain.
- Increased useful options for patients and citizens to manage their health.
- Optimisation of the efficiency and effectiveness of healthcare provision, personalised medicine/personalised health and consumer health across Europe.
- Successful legal outcome fostering the innovation in eHealth sector.
- Self-sustaining support structures for eHealth SMEs.

Type of Action: Coordination and support action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-HCO-11-2016: Coordinated action to support the recognition of Silver Economy opportunities arising from demographic change

Specific Challenge: The ageing of European populations coincides with the increasing digitalisation of both, the economy and the society. The emerging European Silver Economy offers numerous opportunities for digital solutions to help address the ageing challenge and to create new socio-economic opportunities.

Despite becoming an increasingly large section of Europe's population very often older adults remain an "overlooked demographic", underserved by products and services that do not meet their particular needs.

Developing products, services and solutions for the older population is not naturally perceived as an attractive proposition by some of the most talented innovators and (social) entrepreneurs. Very often the negative connotation of "old-age" reduces the talent-pool of entrepreneurs that could be engaged in developing ICT solutions for active and healthy ageing. It also hampers the attractiveness of capital investment channelled into active and

healthy ageing solutions already developed and finally reduces significantly the market uptake of innovative solutions for active and healthy ageing.

The challenge is to reward excellence in innovative products and services for the ageing population, and highlight the opportunities that a growing ageing population can generate for entrepreneurs, investors, public authorities and civil society interested in developing new products, services and solutions.

Scope: This shall be achieved by establishing a widely recognised European annual award scheme for innovative solutions which can demonstrate a significant impact improving the quality of life of the ageing population, for both women and men, and sustaining a viable and promising business model.

This Annual award will bring together all relevant societal actors and economic sectors to create a pan-European movement that acknowledges and exploits the opportunities brought about by demographic change and innovation.

The proposal should develop and implement an integrated communication and innovation concept, built upon this annual European award scheme promoting the best examples of ICT innovation for active and healthy ageing, addressing key stakeholders and sectors of the Silver Economy, such as advertising, innovative consumer products and services, age-friendly workplaces, age friendly living environments etc.

Specific issues to be addressed include:

- Identification of the most relevant categories of awards (products, services and solutions, supporting uptake of ICT innovation for active and healthy ageing);
- Establishment of a high-level selection jury which can ensure widespread recognition of the movement and award scheme;
- Implementation of an annual European award scheme with high visibility;
- Identification of award sponsors and securing commitment including funding;
- Achieving a considerable number of high-quality applications for the awards;
- Effective engagement of key stakeholders and dissemination of awarded projects across Europe on the basis of a positive narrative for demographic change and ICT innovation;
- Effective engagement of and networking with similar initiatives within Member States;
- Establishment and implementation of a methodology for tracking the outreach and impact of the award scheme;
- Mobilisation of (social) entrepreneurs, social partners, citizens, grass-roots initiatives, designers, brands, retailers, industrial operators, researchers, innovators, investors and other societal actors.

The proposal should present ways to promote and reward innovative and creative ideas that tap into the potential that lies in an ever growing number of active, healthy, mobile and solvent older citizens. Ideas may be found in enterprises, social innovation initiatives, local and regional governments.

The proposal can cover partly or fully the funding dedicated to the award itself during the first year of the project with the aim of attracting other sponsors for a long-term establishment of the award scheme. Until alternative long-term funding sources are defined and secured, proposals may use a share of the action budget during the project for the provision of financial support to third parties in the form of an award (prize) in line with the conditions set out in Part K of the General Annexes.

It must be clearly demonstrated how this action promotes the opportunities arising from demographic change and how it will build on existing EU and national networks and fora in the area (e.g. Horizon 2020, EIP-AHA, AAL JP, JPI MYBL, EIT Health, national strategies on demographic change, research networks...).

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of up to EUR 1 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact: The proposal should present quantitative and qualitative metrics for measuring its progress towards the expected impact in:

- Sustainable establishment and widespread recognition of a European Silver Economy Innovation Award scheme.
- Encouraging further innovation and entrepreneurship to improve the quality of life of the ageing population
- Increased interest by social entrepreneurs, investors, retailers, brands, designers, and public authorities in supporting the development of innovation for active and healthy ageing.
- Increased public awareness about the opportunities and potential of demographic change and innovation across Europe.

Type of Action: Coordination and support action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-HCO-12-2016: Digital health literacy

Specific Challenge: Citizens' digital health literacy is an essential element for successful eHealth deployment. However, citizens often do not have the necessary skills to understand

and appraise online health information and apply their knowledge to make health decisions. Digitally health literate citizens are empowered to play a more active role in their health management (improved self-management) and will be better informed about health issues. Digital health literacy can also help improve prevention and adherence to a healthy lifestyle, improve the use of pharmaceutical products enhance the safe and proper use of medicines, strengthen the patient involvement and empowerment, and finally improve health outcomes.

Scope: Proposals should provide support for the improvement of digital health literacy of citizens. In particular, proposals should design open access online courses ("MOOCs") for different population cohorts including children and the elderly and other high-risk patient groups, supporting an interactive learning environment. These courses should ensure user-friendliness and involve citizens to co-design, test and implement learning modules that would help them improve their digital health literacy skills. The courses should be designed tailored to users' needs based on a strong understanding and projections of key factors, drivers, barriers and trends of the future that affect digital health literacy, be targeted specifically to citizens with low levels of digital health literacy and take into account and quantifying demographic, social, cultural and gender differences and address critical and/or interactive skills and competencies, as well as support peer learning. The work should also articulate a roadmap roll-out, simulate system level changes and detail the most appropriate policy actions for ongoing enablement.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of up to EUR 2 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

- Increased awareness of the opportunities of eHealth tools and enhanced skills on how to use ICT for health-related purposes in order to obtain better health outcomes and safer care;
- A better understanding for citizens of online information on health-related topics and a better understanding of health, disease and their own capacity of intervention, including how to decrease the risks of self-medication and self-treatment;
- Positive impact at the personal level (knowledge, motivation, self-confidence, stronger feelings of control), involvement and empowerment;
- Strengthened evidence base on health outcomes, quality of life, safety of care, care efficiency gains from a more digitally health literate population;
- Improved adherence to a healthy lifestyle, to a preventive approach and to more empowered lifestyle choices.

Type of Action: Coordination and support action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-HCO-13-2016: Healthcare Workforce IT skills

Specific Challenge: Healthcare systems require a robust supply of both highly proficient eHealth/IT professionals as well as an overall workforce that has a sufficient level of IT skills to make the optimum use of eHealth information technology. There is a shortage in the EU of eHealth workers across the full spectrum of job roles, spanning clinical, social care, informatics, and administration. There is a dearth of structured education and training opportunities to address this shortage.

Scope: Proposals should focus on mapping, quantifying and projecting the need, supply and demand of workforce skills and competencies to develop IT skills and training programmes for the healthcare workforce taking into account the EU-US collaboration underway in this area under the [EU-US MoU eHealth Roadmap](#)⁶⁰ and other international cooperation in this area. The work should identify how key factors and trends will be investigated, the different scenarios the system and eHealth workforce face, quantify and model these futures as well as describe how the most robust policies to deliver the desired impacts and outcomes will be investigated. They should also demonstrate knowledge of systematic workforce investigations including skills and competences existing curricula and training, identify gaps and propose solutions to bridge them. A series of case studies in some of the areas where IT already has an impact on the provision of health services, will support the proposed solutions in the most critical areas for example in primary health care, monitoring of chronic diseases, high risk patient care and geriatrics. A familiarity with the ICT Skills' European eCompetence Framework for healthcare is also important.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of up to EUR 0.5 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

- Mapping of the current knowledge structure, identification and quantification of the main trends and gaps, catalysts and barriers in IT skills and training needs of the healthcare workforce for optimum use of eHealth solutions;
- Improved access to training programmes, including continuous professional development, and upgrading of skills for all types of actors in healthcare workforces;
- Assessment of the effectiveness of training strategies and requirements for provision of programmes in different scenarios;

⁶⁰ <http://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/news/transatlantic-ehealthhealth-it-cooperation-roadmap>

- Strengthened international collaboration in the area of healthcare professionals IT skills including contributions to the actions of the EU-US MoU eHealth Roadmap and better informed policy decisions.

Type of Action: Coordination and support action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-HCO-14-2016: EU-US interoperability roadmap

Specific Challenge: In order to implement the EU-US interoperability roadmap, activities including inter-alia piloting and standardisation activities need to be put in place. Further actions would be needed to implement recommended measures, taking into account the importance to have a convergent EU-US approach.

Scope: The main objective remains to achieve one single international standard for the patient summary and the possibility to establish pilots that will validate the principles established within the roadmap. The proposal should focus on the need to develop an interoperability framework taking into account the EU-US collaboration underway in this area under the [EU-US MoU eHealth Roadmap](#)⁶¹ and other international cooperation in this area. Consortium partners should demonstrate familiarity with transatlantic cooperation, standardisation process and ability to implement the activities outlined in the EU-US roadmap.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of up to EUR 1 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

- Improved international interoperability of eHealth Systems in the US and in Europe.
- Accelerated establishment of interoperability standards in eHealth and of secure, seamless communication of health related data.

Type of Action: Coordination and support action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

⁶¹ <http://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/news/transatlantic-ehealthhealth-it-cooperation-roadmap>

SC1-HCO-15-2016: EU eHealth Interoperability conformity assessment

Specific Challenge: This coordination and support action (CSA) aims at maintaining and developing the adoption and take-up of testing of eHealth standards and specifications as defined in the eHealth European Interoperability Framework (eEIF).

Scope: The proposal should aim at the establishment of a sustainable European Conformance Assessment Scheme associated with the maintenance of the eEIF, fostering a wider eHealth interoperability uptake for the entire European market.

The CSA relies on some of the recommendations of the EU funded ANTILOPE project. In particular, the proposal is expected to put in place a conformity scheme which should allow entities to test the capabilities of its healthcare products and related services in any accredited testing laboratory against the requirements of a set of standards and profiles that are recognized and listed in the eHealth EIF. This conformity scheme should ensure consistent testing results across testing laboratories and a suitable corresponding trusted label/certificate should be considered. It is expected that the proposal will bring together a wide range of relevant stakeholders with expertise in the development, implementation, assessment, maintenance and dissemination of such a conformity scheme.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of up to EUR 1 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

- Develop a core eHealth interoperability conformity scheme for the European market based on the eHealth EIF
- Enable healthcare systems suppliers to assess their conformance to the eHealth EIF and advertise such compliance to procurers
- Help procurers in their solution specifications and evaluation
- Facilitate the development and testing of cross-border, national, and regional eHealth projects
- Setting common criteria for effective benchmarking of different European eHealth implementations

Type of Action: Coordination and support action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-HCO-16-2016: Standardisation needs in the field of ICT for Active and Healthy Ageing

Specific Challenge: The area of ICT for active and healthy ageing (AHA) is a new cross-sectorial domain in which standards play a key role. Standardisation efforts in the area tend to be taken by the different domains' actors individually, often lacking a coordinated and targeted approach. Different national/regional initiatives, labels and standards are emerging in some of the related fields, which could potentially make interoperability difficult and impede or reduce scalable growth opportunities. Therefore, an action needs to be established that links together the standardisation needs from the different domains and addresses them in a coordinated way.

This action will support progress within the Silver Economy overall, since it will be directly contributing to its different sectors such as age-friendly environments, smart houses and integrated care. It will thus provide support to the other Active and Healthy Ageing topics published in this Work Programme.

Scope: The proposal is expected to foster user-centred ICT innovation on AHA by engaging, supporting and coaching stakeholders to develop and implement their actions in the area of standardisation. They should cover standardisation within the area of AHA, in particular in the domains of ICT infrastructures for the implementation and delivery of services for independent living in age-friendly buildings, scaling-up of innovative care services and interoperability profiles for independent living⁶².

Relevant activities at national and EU level, as well as by industry should be taken into account.

In order to comprehensively support relevant stakeholders in implementing their actions in the field of standardisation, proposals should clearly address the following:

- Mapping of the relevant harmonisation activities in the area and relevant on-going developments, focusing on standardisation efforts;
- Fostering cooperation between standard development organisations active in the field of AHA;
- Establishing a platform to facilitate discussion and decision-making among relevant stakeholders on the actions to be taken in the field of standardisation in ICT for AHA;
- A clear approach for how to engage relevant stakeholders throughout the action;

⁶² Interoperability profiles describe specific solutions to interoperability in a specific use case scenario. A profile documents how standards will be used in order to achieve interoperability. Profiles ensure implementers and users are talking about the same solution without having to restate all the technical details that establish actual interoperability.

- Identifying harmonisation and standardisation needs in the field of ICT for AHA and the best ways to address them through the various existing mechanisms such as standards, specifications, requirements, procurement, legislation, etc.;
- Providing guidance on best practise in co-developing standards and certificates within the covered areas, such as age-friendly environments;
- Providing guidance on procurement and coaching on how to best exploit the opportunities to foster innovation in the field of AHA;
- Identifying the relevant major standardisation actors and their potential contribution on the needs identified;
- Coordinating relevant contributions to AHA standardisation from EU (and national) funded R&I projects.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of up to EUR 1 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact:

- Engagement of required stakeholders to ensure lasting impact;
- Identification of standardisation and other types of harmonisation needs and creation of a clear roadmap with actions needed to address them;
- Accelerated progress in the establishment of favourable framework conditions for introducing user-friendly ICT solutions for AHA into the European market and a metrics for measuring the progress;
- Elaboration of a first draft for smart / age-friendly home guidelines and roadmap for the development of a certification or label;
- Networking and match-making among stakeholders, including R&I projects and relevant standardisation bodies.

Type of Action: Coordination and support action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

SC1-HCO-17-2017: Support for large scale uptake of Digital Innovation for Active and Healthy Ageing

Specific Challenge: Several activities on scaling up of digital innovation for active and healthy ageing are currently pursued by the Commission in cooperation with a large number

of different stakeholder groups and partner organisations. A coordination and support action is needed to promote the effective uptake and impact of these activities and to leverage additional investments by mobilising other national and regional programmes together with private investments.

Scope: Proposals should provide support to administration, external communication and coordination of the stakeholder groups and partners engaged in the development and implementation of the following three activities:

(i) Coordinated support to innovators, buyers / industry integrators, distribution networks and investors to facilitate successful introduction of innovations to the market: The work should maximise EU-wide and global market uptake of innovative digital solutions developed by EU funded projects in the area of active and healthy ageing. Under the guidance of the European Commission, this support action will develop and execute an "Innovation to Market (I2M)" plan of activities that will enable early cross-border engagement across the EU and internationally. The I2M plan will build on existing European initiatives and networks in this area, and ensure that project innovators leverage these networks and identified market needs together and link to organisations and access to finance facilities that work with start-ups and SMEs.

(ii) Coordinated support to the further development of a European "Blueprint" on Digital Innovation for Active and Healthy Ageing: The work should include an updated roadmap⁶³ setting out the most important ICT enabling technologies (building on technology roadmaps from major EU ICT initiatives behind them) which will impact on key user scenarios in active and healthy ageing in the short, medium and long terms. The support action will enhance the European policy vision and strengthen the community of public and private stakeholders actively supporting it.

The support action will also facilitate the cooperation of key stakeholders, such as industry, financial institutions, investors, insurers, the research community and public authorities (health and care organisations) that are committed to innovate at large scale, to mobilise private investments and identify market opportunities as well as threats to Europe's digital health and care delivery and silver economy sectors.

(iii) Coordinated support to the activities of the EIP on AHA: An important component of the policy vision on digital innovation for active and healthy ageing is the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing (EIP on AHA). Through its strategic implementation plan (SIP) and subsequent Scaling-up Strategy, the EIP on AHA partners have identified a number of priority action areas. Stakeholder action groups have developed action plans for the period of 2016-2018 for implementing innovative services for the ageing population. In its third call launched in 2016, Reference Sites have also committed to undertake investments in scaling up innovation for active and healthy ageing. Since 2015 the EIP on AHA has developed a Monitoring and Assessment Framework (MAFEIP) that is

⁶³ See existing roadmap at <http://www.aalliance.eu>

designed to capture the impact of different EIP on AHA activities. Under the guidance of the European Commission and in collaboration with the EIP on AHA Governance Board, the coordination and support action will provide support for the development and execution of EIP on AHA Action Group plans 2018-2020, support Reference Sites initiatives to scale up innovation across the EU, manage the MAFEIP tool to capture the impact of the EIP on AHA activities, strengthen the external communication of the EIP on AHA vis a vis investors, industrial players, start-ups / SMEs and public authorities. The coordination and support action will use the MAFEIP tool to produce outputs illustrating the impact of the EIP on AHA activities on a regular (annual) cycle.

The coordination and support action should provide centralised administrative support, state of the art external communications and operational coordination based on a strategy to support the new I2M plan, the policy vision on digital innovation for active and healthy ageing, and the EIP on AHA.

The coordination and support action will lead to extended reach to (and continued support by) external stakeholders, including industry players, the investment community, health and care organisations, national and regional public authorities and governments. It will seek to establish the foundations for the self-sustainability of the EIP on AHA organisation (beyond 2020).

The coordination and support action will identify synergies, establish communication links and build on relevant research and innovation activities of H2020 and other European Union, national and international programmes targeting Active and Healthy Ageing. This way it may also relate to the WHO's Active and Healthy Ageing⁶⁴ strategy by contributing to more effective and personalized health care services to the ageing population.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU up to EUR 2 million would allow this specific challenge to be addressed appropriately with an anticipated duration until 31 December 2020. Nonetheless, this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts.

Expected Impact: Proposals should present quantitative and qualitative indicators to capture the impact of the policy actions in the following areas:

- Increased uptake of digital solutions for Active and Healthy Ageing, including results from relevant Horizon 2020 research and innovation activities.
- Accelerated progress on favourable framework conditions to scaling-up digital innovation for active and healthy ageing across the EU.
- Increased levels of participation by external stakeholders in the development and execution of the policy activities as described above (policy vision, I2M and EIP on AHA).

⁶⁴ <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2015/older-persons-day/en/>

- Contribution of the policy activities to i. The Quality of Life of the EU population, ii. The Sustainability of Health and Care delivery and iii. Economic growth and job-creation in the EU.
- Increased levels of investment by public authorities and private investors in digital innovation for health and active ageing that result from policy activities.
- Enhanced communication with external stakeholders and coordination of activities within the EIP on AHA and between the EIP on AHA and other new or existing policy activities.
- Enhanced synergies with other relevant CSAs and Research & Innovation projects financed by the European Commission.

Type of Action: Coordination and support action

The conditions related to this topic are provided at the end of this call and in the General Annexes.

Conditions for the Call - Personalised Medicine

Opening date(s), deadline(s), indicative budget(s):⁶⁵

Topics (Type of Action)	Budgets (EUR million)		Deadlines
	2016	2017	
Opening: 20 Oct 2015			
SC1-HCO-10-2016 (CSA)	3.00		16 Feb 2016
SC1-HCO-11-2016 (CSA)	1.00		
SC1-HCO-12-2016 (CSA)	2.00		
SC1-HCO-13-2016 (CSA)	0.50		
SC1-HCO-14-2016 (CSA)	1.00		
SC1-HCO-15-2016 (CSA)	1.00		
SC1-HCO-16-2016 (CSA)	1.00		
SC1-PM-12-2016 (PCP)	18.00		
SC1-PM-13-2016 (PPI)	10.50		
SC1-PM-18-2016 (RIA)	10.00		
SC1-HCO-01-2016 (CSA)	2.00		13 Apr 2016
SC1-HCO-02-2016 (CSA)	2.00		
SC1-HCO-04-2016 (CSA)	2.00		
SC1-HCO-05-2016 (CSA)	2.00		
SC1-HCO-06-2016 (CSA)	2.00		
SC1-PM-01-2016 (RIA)	30.00		
SC1-PM-04-2016 (RIA)	30.00		
SC1-PM-05-2016 (COFUND-EJP)	50.00		

⁶⁵ The Director-General responsible for the call may decide to open the call up to one month prior to or after the envisaged date(s) of opening.

All deadlines are at 17.00.00 Brussels local time.

The Director-General responsible may delay the deadline(s) by up to two months.

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SC1-PM-06-2016 (RIA)	40.00		
SC1-PM-09-2016 (RIA)	60.00		
SC1-PM-11-2016-2017 (RIA)	30.00		
SC1-PM-21-2016 (RIA)	40.00		
SC1-PM-14-2016 (RIA)	5.00		07 Jun 2016
Opening: 15 Mar 2016			
SC1-PM-22-2016 (RIA)	10.00		28 Apr 2016
Opening: 28 Jul 2016			
SC1-PM-02-2017 (RIA)		44.00	04 Oct 2016 (First stage)
SC1-PM-07-2017 (RIA)		20.00	11 Apr 2017 (Second stage)
SC1-PM-08-2017 (RIA)		65.00	
SC1-PM-10-2017 (RIA)		44.00	
SC1-HCO-03-2017 (ERA-NET-Cofund)		5.00	
SC1-HCO-07-2017 (RIA)		24.00	
SC1-HCO-08-2017 (CSA)		1.00	
SC1-PM-03-2017 (RIA)		15.00	
SC1-PM-11-2016-2017 (RIA)		30.00	
SC1-PM-20-2017 (RIA)		9.00	
Opening: 20 Sep 2016			
SC1-HCO-17-2017 (CSA)		2.00	31 Jan 2017
SC1-PM-15-2017 (RIA)		26.50	
Opening: 08 Nov 2016			
SC1-PM-16-2017 (RIA)		19.00	14 Mar 2017
SC1-PM-17-2017 (RIA)		19.00	
SC1-PM-19-2017 (PPI)		8.26	
Overall indicative budget	353.00	331.76	

Beneficiaries will be allowed to charge the cost of clinical trials on the basis of unit costs established in line with a methodology set up in the Commission Decision (C2014) 1393, which is available on the Participant Portal. This applies to topics SC1-PM-01-2016, SC1-PM-02-2017, SC1-PM-03-2017, SC1-PM-04-2016, SC1-PM-06-2016, SC1-PM-07-2017, SC1-PM-08-2017, SC1-PM-09-2016, SC1-PM-10-2017, SC1-PM-11-2016-2017, SC1-PM-13-2016, SC1-PM-14-2016, SC1-PM-15-2017, SC1-PM-20-2017, SC1-PM-21-2016, SC1-PM-22-2016, SC1-HCO-01-2016, SC1-HCO-02-2016, SC1-HCO-03-2017, SC1-HCO-04-2016, SC1-HCO-06-2016, SC1-HCO-07-2017, SC1-HCO-08-2017, SC1-HCO-11-2016 and SC1-HCO-16-2016.

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 the following topics: SC1-PM-01-2016, SC1-PM-02-2017, SC1-PM-03-2017, SC1-PM-04-2016, SC1-PM-06-2016, SC1-PM-07-2017, SC1-PM-08-2017, SC1-PM-09-2016, SC1-PM-10-2017, SC1-PM-11-2016-2017, SC1-PM-14-2016, SC1-PM-15-2017, SC1-PM-16-2017, SC1-PM-17-2017, SC1-PM-18-2016, SC1-PM-20-2017, SC1-PM-21-2016, SC1-PM-22-2016, SC1-HCO-01-2016, SC1-HCO-02-2016, SC1-HCO-03-2017, SC1-HCO-04-2016, SC1-HCO-06-2016, SC1-HCO-07-2017, SC1-HCO-08-2017, SC1-HCO-10-2016, SC1-HCO-11-2016, SC1-HCO-12-2016, SC1-HCO-13-2016, SC1-HCO-14-2016, SC1-HCO-15-2016, SC1-HCO-16-2016.

Indicative timetable for evaluation and grant agreement signature:

For single stage procedure:

- Information on the outcome of the evaluation: Maximum 5 months from the final date for submission; and
- Indicative date for the signing of grant agreements: Maximum 8 months from the final date for submission.

For two stage procedure:

- Information on the outcome of the evaluation: Maximum 3 months from the final date for submission for the first stage and maximum 5 months from the final date for submission for the second stage; and
- Indicative date for the signing of grant agreements: Maximum 8 months from the final date for submission of the second stage.

Exceptional funding rates:

SC1-PM-13-2016,	The funding rate for PPI actions is limited to 35% of the total
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SC1-PM-19-2017	eligible costs to leverage co-financing from the procurers in this specific case.
SC1-PM-12-2016	The funding rate for PCP actions is limited to 90% of the total eligible costs to leverage co-financing from the procurers in this specific case.

Eligibility and admissibility conditions: The conditions are described in General Annexes B and C of the work programme.. The following exceptions apply:

SC1-PM-14-2016	<p>Additional admissibility criterion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants in the EU collaborative projects are required to conclude a coordination agreement with the participants in the coordinated project funded by MIC (Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications) or NICT (National Institute of Information and Communications Technology). A final draft of this agreement has to be provided with the proposal. <p>Additional eligibility criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposals submitted to this call which do not include coordination with a Japanese proposal will be considered ineligible. • The proposed project duration shall not exceed 36 months. • The Japanese authorities can consider non-eligible proposals with participation of partners from third countries (countries other than Japan, EU and Associated states). Consultation to MIC or NICT representatives is highly advisable before submitting proposals involving third country organisations. • Proposals will only be selected on the condition that their corresponding coordinated Japanese project will be funded by MIC or NICT.
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Evaluation criteria, scoring and threshold: The criteria, scoring and threshold are described in General Annex H of the work programme. The following exceptions apply:

SC1-PM-14-2016	Criterion 3 "Quality and efficiency of the implementation": additional evaluation sub-criterion: Balanced effort between the two coordinated projects and a research plan properly involving coordinated research activities between Europe and Japan, that
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	ensure a more genuine EU-Japan cooperation and represent an added value to the activities.
SC1-PM-01-2016, SC1-PM-02-2017, SC1-PM-03-2017, SC1-PM-04-2016, SC1-PM-06-2016, SC1-PM-07-2017, SC1-PM-08-2017, SC1-PM-09-2016, SC1-PM-10-2017, SC1-PM-11-2016- 2017, SC1-PM-14- 2016, SC1-PM-15- 2017, SC1-PM-16- 2017, SC1-PM-17- 2017, SC1-PM-18- 2016, SC1-PM-20- 2017, SC1-PM-21- 2016, SC1-PM-22- 2016	The thresholds for each criterion in a single stage process will be 4, 4 and 3. The cumulative threshold will be 12. The same applies to the second stage of the two-stage call for topics SC1-PM-02-2017, SC1-PM-07–2017, SC1-PM-08–2017, and SC1-PM-10–2017.

Evaluation Procedure: The procedure for setting a priority order for proposals with the same score is given in General Annex H of the work programme.. The following exceptions apply:

SC1-PM-05-2016	The page limit for sections 1-3 of the proposal is 70 pages.
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The full evaluation procedure is described in the relevant [guide](#) published on the Participant Portal.

Consortium agreement: Members of consortium are required to conclude a consortium agreement, in principle prior to the signature of the grant agreement.

Fast Track to Innovation Pilot

Full details on this pilot are provided in the separate call for proposals under the Horizon 2020 Work Programme Part – Fast Track to Innovation Pilot (Part 18 of this Work Programme).

SME instrument

Full details on the continuously open SME instrument call (*H2020-SMEInst-2016-2017*) are provided under the Horizon 2020 Work Programme Part – Innovation in SMEs (Part 7 of this Work Programme).

This Work Programme part contributes the following two challenges of the SME instrument call:

SMEInst-05-2016-2017 - Supporting innovative SMEs in the healthcare biotechnology sector

Specific Challenge: The healthcare biotechnology sector offers huge business and commercial opportunities; however it also requires heavy and risky investments which are often lacking in Europe, hampering the development of the industry.

The challenge includes either:

a) Cell technologies in medical applications (phase 1 only for 2016 deadlines and phase 2 for all deadlines in 2016 and 2017)

Cell technologies include cell manufacturing (culture, multiplication, scale-up and automation), preservation, banking and transport; identification, cell sorting and delivery, imaging, tracking, process and quality control; genetic engineering and gene editing; production of therapeutic biomolecules. The medical applications of cell technologies include diagnostics and biosensors; cell and gene therapy, tissue engineering, bio-artificial organs, haematology, immunotherapy, and vaccine and antibody production; predictive toxicology, synthetic biology, and modelling development and disease processes.

However, the diversity, complexity and variability of living cells pose challenges for bringing safe, reliable, regulatory-compliant and cost-effective products to the market and to the patient. SMEs developing cell-based products and processes have limited financial resources to take the critical steps to move from proof of concept to practical application while at the same time addressing considerations such as scale-up/scale-out, automation, logistics, regulatory pathways and business models.

Particular attention should be given to dialogue with regulators and compliance with safety and regulatory requirements, such as those pertaining to cell procurement, GMP, ethics, clinical trials, ATMPs and medical devices.

The challenge addresses cells from any eukaryotic source though their eventual application must be to human medicine.

Or:

b) Clinical research for the validation of biomarkers and/or diagnostic medical devices (only at the first cut-off date in 2017 and for phase 2 applications - phasing out of the topic PHC-12-2014/2015 introduced in the Work Programme 2014-2015)

Biomarkers are used in clinical practice to indicate both normal and pathological conditions. They are also used for predictive or prognostic purposes. They are being used increasingly in medicine and many potential new biomarkers are proposed every year. However, only a few of these have been validated for clinical use. To achieve validation a robust analytical method is required and a link to a pertinent clinical process or endpoint needs to be demonstrated.

This validation process should provide evidence for high analytical value, appropriate sensitivity and specificity, and clinical validity. Particular attention should be given to validation of biomarkers with potential for rapid uptake into clinical practice. Both in vivo and in vitro potential biomarkers are eligible. Priority is given to the validation of disease-related biomarkers (i.e. diagnostic, susceptibility/risk, monitoring and prognostic biomarkers). Validation of the clinical performance of new diagnostic devices can also be supported, either in combination with the biomarker validation or against existing standards.

SMEInst-06-2016-2017 - Accelerating market introduction of ICT solutions for Health, Well-Being and Ageing Well

Specific Challenge :The challenge is to help overcome the current gaps in exploitation of promising research results in ICT for Health, Well-being and Ageing well and to stimulate increased availability and market uptake of relevant ICT products and services. This concerns both interoperable and secure eHealth⁶⁶ solutions for consumers and institutional healthcare delivery building on standards and new ICT solutions and innovation ecosystems for ageing well building on open software platforms⁶⁷, in order to deliver new and more efficient care to European citizens and respond to new market opportunities for SMEs.

Particular attention should be given to potential for disruptive innovation and fast market uptake in ICT for health, wellbeing and ageing well. In particular it will be interesting for SMEs and young companies that are looking for swift support to their innovative ideas.

Scope: The SME instrument consists of three phases, including a coaching and mentoring service for beneficiaries. Participants can apply to phase 1 or directly to phase 2.

⁶⁶ eHealth in Digital Agenda, see <http://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/ehealth>
eHealth projects - Research and Innovation in the field of ICT for Health and Wellbeing: an overview, see <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/news/ehealth-projects-research-and-innovation-field-ict-health-and-wellbeing-overview>.

⁶⁷ an open platform describes a software system which is based on open standards, such as published and fully documented external application programming interfaces (API) that allow using the software to function in other ways than the original programmer intended, without requiring modification of the source code. Using these interfaces, a third party could integrate with the platform to add functionality. The opposite is a closed platform. An open platform does not mean it is open source, however most open platforms have multiple implementations of APIs.

In phase 1, a feasibility study shall be developed in order to verify the technological/practical as well as economic viability of an innovation idea/concept with considerable novelty to the industry sector in which it is presented (new products, processes, design, services and technologies or new market applications of existing technologies). The activities could, for example, comprise risk assessment, market study, user involvement, Intellectual Property (IP) management⁶⁸, innovation strategy development, partner search, feasibility of concept and the like to establish a solid high-potential innovation project aligned to the enterprise strategy and with a European dimension. Bottlenecks in the ability to increase profitability of the enterprise through innovation shall be detected and analysed during phase 1 and addressed during phase 2 to increase the return in investment in innovation activities. The proposal should contain an initial business plan based on the proposed idea/concept. It should outline the specifications of a more elaborate business plan, which is to be the outcome of the project, and the criteria for success.

Funding will be provided in the form of a lump sum of EUR 50.000. Projects should last around 6 months.

In phase 2, innovation projects⁶⁹ will be supported that address the specific challenges identified and that demonstrate high potential in terms of company competitiveness and growth underpinned by a strategic business plan. Activities should focus on innovation activities such as demonstration, testing, prototyping, piloting, scaling-up, miniaturisation, design, market replication and the like aiming to bring an innovation idea (product, process, service etc.) to industrial readiness and maturity for market introduction, but may also include some research. For technological innovation, Technology Readiness Levels of 6 or above (or similar for non-technological innovations) are envisaged; please see part G of the General Annexes.

Proposals shall be based on an elaborate business plan. Particular attention must be paid to IP protection and ownership; applicants will have to present convincing measures to ensure the possibility of commercial exploitation ('freedom to operate').

Proposals shall contain a specification for the outcome of the project and criteria for success. They will include an explanation of how the results of the supported project are to be commercialised and of what kind of impact on the company is expected.

The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 0.5 and 2.5 million⁷⁰ would allow phase 2 to be addressed appropriately. Nonetheless,

⁶⁸ This is not limited to the costs of acquiring and enforcing European or international IPR titles but could include auditing and risk management schemes to protect IP assets across planned supply and distribution chains and more generally IP valorisation plans to enhance return on investment and lever commercial investment into the relevant project.

⁶⁹ In the case of SMEInst-05-2016-2017, research type activities in medical application and clinical validation, including support for clinical studies and trials, will be predominant and will necessitate reimbursement at 100%. The Technology Readiness Levels indication does not apply.

⁷⁰ In the case of SMEInst-05-2016-2017, phase 2 proposals can request a contribution from the EU of between EUR 1 and 5 million.

this does not preclude submission and selection of proposals requesting other amounts (higher or lower). Projects should last between 12 and 24 months⁷¹.

Phase 3 of the SME Instrument aims to increase the economic impact of the funding provided by the SME Instrument phase 1 and 2 grants and by the business coaching. Phase 3 is not subsequent to phase 1 and/or 2, but provides specific support to SME instrument beneficiaries during and after phase 1 or 2.

All support under phase 3 of the SME instrument will be accessible through a single, dedicated entry point, which will serve as an information portal and a networking space.

This platform will offer access to two main strands of services:

- Access to markets
- Access to finance

In addition, phase 3 will create opportunities for partnering, networking and training, which are set out in the Dedicated Support Actions at the end of this call.

SME instrument beneficiaries are also offered dedicated business innovation coaching and mentoring support. This service is facilitated by the Enterprise Europe Network and delivered by a dedicated coach through consultation and signposting to the beneficiaries. The coaches are recruited from a central database managed by the Commission and have all fulfilled stringent criteria with regards to business experience and competencies.

Throughout the three phases of the instrument, the Network will complement the coaching support by providing access to its innovation and internationalisation service offering. This could include, for example, depending on the need of the SME, support in identifying growth potential, developing a growth plan and maximising it through internationalisation; strengthening the leadership and management skills of individuals in the senior management team and developing in-house coaching capacity; developing a marketing strategy or raising external finance.

Expected Impact:

- Enhancing profitability and growth performance of SMEs by combining and transferring new and existing knowledge into innovative, disruptive and competitive solutions seizing European and global business opportunities.
- Market uptake and distribution of innovations⁷² tackling the specific challenges in a sustainable way.

⁷¹ In the case of SMEInst-05-2016-2017 projects can last up to 36 months.

- Increase of private investment in innovation, notably leverage of private co-investor and/or follow-up investments.
- The expected impacts should be clearly described in qualitative and quantitative terms (e.g. on turnover, employment, market seize, IP management, sales, return on investment and profit).

Type of Action: SME Instrument

⁷² In the case of SMEInst-05-2016-2017, the development of innovative solutions should lead to value creation through the increased use of cell-based products/processes, biomarkers and/or diagnostic medical devices in industrial or clinical settings, and should contribute to technical and regulatory progress in these domains.

Other actions⁷³

1. Subscription fee: Human Frontier Science Programme Organisation

An annual subscription to the international Human Frontier Science Programme Organisation (HFSP)⁷⁴ will allow EU non-G8 Member States to fully benefit from the Human Frontier Science Programme (HFSP) and provide increased visibility for European research, as well as contributing to the implementation of the Union's strategy for international cooperation⁷⁵ in research and innovation.

Type of Action: Subscription

Indicative timetable: 2016 and 2017

Indicative budget: EUR 4.96 million from the 2016 budget (precise amount is EUR 4.958.000) and EUR 5.06 million from the 2017 budget (an amount not exceeding EUR 5.06 million)

2. InnovFin Infectious Diseases (InnovFin ID) Pilot⁷⁶

Infectious diseases (ID) are a major global threat to health. ID R&D is hampered by a funding gap and a lack of investment by industry. In addition, many existing ID treatments and vaccines are jeopardised by the emergence of antimicrobial resistance, which threatens the effective prevention and treatment of an ever-increasing range of infections. Combating ID is a public health priority for the EU.

InnovFin Infectious Diseases aims to finance pre-commercial stage investments in the field of ID, i.e. the project produces innovative vaccines, drugs, medical and diagnostic devices or novel research infrastructures for combatting infectious diseases. Projects developing innovative vaccines, drugs, medical and diagnostic devices must have gone successfully through the preclinical stage and preferably through early stage clinical development and now require clinical validation or be ready for later stage clinical trials in order to be eligible for InnovFin ID. Projects on research infrastructures must refer to facilities, resources and related services to be used by the scientific community to conduct top-level research and must be novel e.g. not replicate what already exists, in order to be eligible for InnovFin ID. The InnovFin ID Operation must have proven public health impact and potentially have market prospects. It will make loans of between EUR 7.5 million and EUR 75 million to SMEs, midcaps, special project vehicles, research institutions and other legal entities for the purposes

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⁷⁴ The European Union is a member of the HFSP Organisation (HFSP) and has funded HFSP under previous Framework Programmes

⁷⁵ COM(2012)497

⁷⁶ The indicative budget complements the allocation in 2015 of EUR 100 million to this pilot facility from revenues and repayments generated by the FP7 RSFF.

of corporate or project finance, and to large pharmaceutical companies for financing the development of pre-identified medical products on a risk-sharing basis. Other forms of finance may also be possible. Projects and/or the IP development (such as clinical trials) can be undertaken outside the EU or Associated Countries.⁷⁷

Expected impact: **InnovFin Infectious Diseases** will help in:

- increasing EU investments in ID research;
- de-risking investments and hence encouraging industry, in particular, to invest more heavily in this area;
- preparing for further roll-out to the market of new drugs, vaccines, diagnostics and medical technologies to combat ID;
- fostering the healthcare sector and hence creating jobs and growth in the EU.

Type of Action: Financial Instrument

Indicative timetable: First quarter of 2016 and first quarter of 2017

Selection procedure: EIB checks the financial viability of each potential financing operation, while DG Research & Innovation, assisted by other Commission DGs, approves each operation against eligibility criteria⁷⁸ set for the pilot. Eligible projects will be financed on a first-come, first served basis.

Indicative budget: EUR 50.00 million from the 2016 budget and EUR 50.00 million from the 2017 budget

3. First interim evaluation of the EDCTP2 programme

A first interim evaluation of the second European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership programme (EDCTP2) is required by decision No 556/2014/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council. This decision requires the Commission to carry out an interim evaluation of the EDCTP2 Programme by 30 June 2017 with the assistance of independent experts, and deliver by 31 December 2017 a report on that evaluation to the European Parliament and to the Council, including the Commission's conclusions of the evaluation and observations. Furthermore, the decision requires that the result of the interim evaluation of EDCTP2 Programme shall be taken into account in the interim evaluation of Horizon 2020. The interim evaluation will assess the progress of the EDCTP2 programme towards the objectives set out in decision No 556/2014/EU, and in particular in its Annex 1, taking into account observations and recommendations made in evaluations of the first EDCTP programme, and on whether the level of financial contribution of the participating states is

⁷⁷ Please see part A of the General Annexes.

⁷⁸ See p.2 of

http://www.eib.org/attachments/documents/innovfin_infectious_diseases_flysheet_en.pdf

appropriate. A special allowance of EUR 450/day will be paid to the experts appointed in their personal capacity and acting independently and in the public interest.

Type of Action: Expert Contracts

Indicative timetable: Fourth Quarter of 2016 to Second Quarter of 2017

Indicative budget: EUR 0.15 million from the 2016 budget

4. First interim evaluation of the IMI2 programme

A first interim evaluation of the second Innovative Medicines Initiative programme (IMI2) is required by decision No 557/2014/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council. This decision requires the Commission to carry out an interim evaluation of the IMI2 Programme by 30 June 2017 with the assistance of independent experts, and deliver by 31 December 2017 a report on that evaluation to the European Parliament and to the Council, including the Commission's conclusions of the evaluation and observations. Furthermore, the decision requires that the result of the interim evaluation of IMI2 Programme shall be taken into account in the interim evaluation of Horizon 2020. The interim evaluation will assess the progress of the IMI2 programme towards the objectives set out in decision No 557/2014/EU, taking into account observations and recommendations made in evaluations of the first IMI programme. A special allowance of EUR 450/day will be paid to the experts appointed in their personal capacity and acting independently and in the public interest.

Type of Action: Expert Contracts

Indicative timetable: Fourth Quarter of 2016 to Second Quarter of 2017

Indicative budget: EUR 0.15 million from the 2016 budget

5. European registry for human embryonic stem cell lines

A contribution for 4 years will be made to ensure the continued registration of human Pluripotent Stem Cell (hPSC) lines in a European registry maintained by Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin. The aim is to gather and make available detailed information on the different hPSC lines derived in Europe and beyond, thereby also avoiding needless creation of new cell lines. This registry operates through an internet website that will continue to provide high quality data about the lines (e.g. cell characteristics), details regarding their source and contact information regarding their location.

Legal entities:

Berlin- Brandenburg Centre for Regenerative Therapies – BCRT Charité ,
Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Augustenburger Platz 1, D-13353 Berlin, Germany

Type of Action: Grant to identified beneficiary - Coordination and support actions

The standard evaluation criteria, thresholds, weighting for award criteria and the maximum rate of co-financing for this type of action are provided in General Annexes D and H of the work programme.

Indicative timetable: Third quarter 2016

Indicative budget: EUR 1.00 million from the 2016 budget

6. Studies, activities of the Scientific Panel for Health, conferences, events and outreach activities

A number of specific contracts will be signed under existing framework contracts in order to support operations of the independent secretariat of the Scientific Panel for Health; the tracking of research results, outcomes and impacts; the dissemination and exploitation of project results; in order to contribute to the definition of future challenge priorities; and to organise conferences (the subjects of which may include but are not limited to the annual Conference of the Scientific Panel for Health⁷⁹), events and outreach activities. Should existing framework contracts prove unsuitable or insufficient to support the abovementioned activities, one or more calls for tender may be launched as appropriate.

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged: studies, technical assistance, conferences, events and outreach activities.

Type of Action: Public Procurement - 13 specific contracts (indicative numbers) under an existing Framework Contract and nine direct service contracts (indicative numbers)

Indicative timetable: Some 10 contracts expected for 2016 (indicative); and 12 contracts expected for 2017 (indicative)

Indicative budget: EUR 2.40 million from the 2016 budget and EUR 3.61 million from the 2017 budget

7. External expertise

This action will support the use of appointed independent experts for the monitoring of running projects, where appropriate, as well as for the evaluation of entries submitted to prize contests and for the evaluation of the EDCTP2 annual work plans.

Type of Action: Expert Contracts

Indicative budget: EUR 2.72 million from the 2016 budget and EUR 2.90 million from the 2017 budget

⁷⁹ The Scientific Panel for Health is mandated by Regulation (EU) No 1291/2013 establishing Horizon 2020

8. Horizon Prize on reducing maternal and new-born morbidity and mortality - the Birth Day Prize⁸⁰

The UN summit of September 2015 adopted the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as part of the post-2015 development agenda. The third proposed goal aims to "Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages". More specifically it aims to reduce by 2030 the global maternal mortality ratio to less than 70 per 100,000 live births (and less than 140 per 100,000 for countries with maternal mortality ratio above 400 per 100,000) as well as reduce child and neonatal deaths. As a result of coordinated and targeted global efforts since 1990, maternal deaths worldwide have dropped by 45% as per 2013 data. The child mortality rate has also dropped by 51%, from 90 deaths per 1,000 live births in 1990, to 46 in 2013. However the rate of these reductions is still insufficient, and according to the World Health Organization in 2013 approximately 300,000 women died from preventable causes related to pregnancy and childbirth. Overall, maternal and perinatal conditions contributed the seventh highest burden of disease globally⁸¹, and 6.3 million children died under the age of five. These deaths are disproportionately concentrated in the developing world⁸², where 99% of maternal deaths occur, three-quarters due to preventable or treatable conditions such as haemorrhage, hypertensive disorders of pregnancy, and sepsis. In addition, for every woman who dies of pregnancy-related causes, 20 or 30 others experience acute or chronic morbidity, often with permanent sequelae that undermine their normal functioning⁸³. This represents, according to some, 10-20 million women worldwide each year⁸⁴, with the highest number in low- and middle-income countries, especially among the poorest women. The Birth Day Prize will reward solutions to reduce the burden of maternal and/or new-born morbidity and mortality and/or stillbirth during facility-based deliveries.

The specific rules of the contest will be published in late 2015 or early 2016 by the European Commission⁸⁵, which will directly launch and manage the contest and award the prize based on the judgement of independent experts.

Expected results: A novel solution is expected to improve the outcome of facility-based deliveries, which might be of a clinical, technological or managerial nature, or a combination of these. Any solution must take full account of relevant social factors and have the potential of scaling up rapidly.

⁸⁰ A possible co-funding is under discussion with other funders such as Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

⁸¹ Lozano, R, Naghavi, M, Foreman, K et al. Global and regional mortality from 235 causes of death for 20 age groups in 1990 and 2010: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2010. *Lancet*. 2012;380: 2095–2128

⁸² [Lale Say](#), [Doris Chou](#), [Alison Gemmill](#), [Özge Tunçalp](#), [Ann-Beth Moller](#), [Jane Daniels](#), [A Metin Gülmezoglu](#), [Marleen Temmerman](#), [Leontine Alkema](#), Global causes of maternal death: a WHO systematic analysis, [The Lancet Global Health](#), [Volume 2, Issue 6](#), June 2014, Pages e323–e333

⁸³ <http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/91/10/13-117564/en/>

⁸⁴ <http://www.ossyr.org.ar/pdf/bibliografia/2.5.pdf>

⁸⁵ On the [Participant Portal](#) but also actively publicised elsewhere to maximise participation.

Eligibility criteria: The contest is open to all legal entities (including natural persons) or groups of legal entities regardless of their place of establishment.

Essential award criteria: The prize will be awarded, after closure of the contest, to the contestants who in the opinion of the jury demonstrate a solution (which is at least a system pilot demonstrated in an operational environment) that best addresses following cumulative criteria⁸⁶:

- Demonstrated (through scientifically sound and well-established methods) reduction of maternal and/or new-born morbidity and mortality and/or number of stillbirths in facility-based deliveries
- Absence of clear safety concerns (also with respect to the potential effect in the longer term – no adverse effects)
- Potential for rapid scalability

Details on the evaluation criteria, thresholds, weighting for award criteria will be specified in the rules for this contest published at the launch of the contest.

Indicative timetable of contest(s):

Stages	Date and time or indicative period
Opening of the contest	28 April 2016
Deadline for submission of application	6 September 2017
Evaluation and solutions demonstration (if applicable)	Third quarter of 2017
Award of the prize	Fourth quarter of 2017

Type of Action: Inducement prize

For the common Rules of Contest for Prizes please see General Annex F of the work programme

Indicative budget: EUR 1.00 million from the 2016 budget (the launch of the contest is subject to the availability of the appropriations following the vote of the budget for the year concerned)

9. Expert group for alternatives to animal testing

An expert group will be established to examine the development, validation and implementation of alternative methods to animal use for scientific, regulatory and safety

⁸⁶ Further clarification of these criteria might be published in the Rules of Contest

activities, identify potential gaps and assess trends and further requirements. The experts should make a comprehensive analysis of relevant research projects and initiatives supported at European and Member State levels, identify future interdisciplinary research opportunities in this area taking into consideration the optimal synergies with promising international endeavours, assess the socio-economic impact as well as the innovation and business potential, and provide recommendations to address the bottlenecks to the validation and rapid implementation of alternative tests in the various sectors. The experts should also explore the challenges of a European observatory on alternative methods and propose options for its set up. The group of experts will deliver the results to the Health Directorate of DG Research and Innovation as a series of reports, of which the first interim one should be ready for the stakeholders' conference foreseen around the end of 2016 as action 4 of the reply from the European Commission to the STOP VIVISECTION citizen's initiative⁸⁷. The overall output of this expert group should translate into clear and implementable strategies for research, validation and implementation into alternatives for animal testing.

A special allowance of EUR 450/day will be paid to the experts appointed in their personal capacity who act independently and in the public interest.

Type of Action: Expert Contracts

Indicative timetable: 2016

Indicative budget: EUR 0.20 million from the 2016 budget

10. Presidency events - eHealth

A maximum of EUR 300,000 will be allocated to one Presidency in each year, for the organisation of a conference focusing on eHealth.

Legal entities:

1 - 2016: The Dutch Presidency of the Council of the European Union / Ministerie van Volksgezondheid, Welzijn en Sport, Parnassusplein 5, 2511 VX Den Haag, The Netherlands

2 - 2017: The Maltese Presidency of the Council of the European Union / Ministry for Energy and Health, Auberge de Castille, Valletta VLT 1061, Malta

Type of Action: Grant to identified beneficiary - Coordination and support actions

The standard evaluation criteria, thresholds, weighting for award criteria and the maximum rate of co-financing for this type of action are provided in General Annexes D and H of the work programme.

Indicative timetable: First semester 2016; First semester 2017

Indicative budget: EUR 0.30 million from the 2016 budget and EUR 0.30 million from the 2017 budget

⁸⁷ http://ec.europa.eu/environment/chemicals/lab_animals/pdf/vivisection/en.pdf

11. Establishing EU mHealth hub including evidence for the integration of mHealth in the healthcare systems

Exchange of best practices and innovation monitoring are essential to support wider deployment of mHealth solutions on non-communicable diseases (NCDs) within Member States or countries associated to Horizon 2020. Evidence on mHealth effectiveness to help support the management of non-communicable disease still remains fragmented in Europe, as illustrated by the results to the Green Paper consultation on mobile Health.

An EU innovation hub would enable wider collaboration among EU researchers and private stakeholders in mHealth. This could become the “right arm” of EU action in mHealth by streamlining efforts in research and innovation, passing the difficult stage from research to large scale deployment.

The WHO and ITU would be in charge of developing this hub. They have a unique expertise in the field of developing e-Health innovation hubs as reflected by their successful ‘knowledge and innovation hub’ models. The cooperation between these two international organisations is crucial to mHealth as they have a complementary role, bringing together both the health and the telecommunications angle at the international level. Such cooperation has proven to be very successful with the "Be Healthy be Mobile initiative" where they ensured the development of several mHealth strategies, involving Member states at their highest level.

Scope: The core activities of the ‘innovation hub for mHealth’ should focus on fostering research and innovation in mHealth and bolster policy making efforts in implementing mHealth strategies tailored to the need of the European countries and regions involved.

The hub should act as a convening platform to bring together experts and innovators for institutionalising best practices in mHealth whilst avoiding the creation of silos and fragmentation in mHealth knowledge across the EU.

Emphasis should be put on the development of a multi-stakeholder ecosystem targeted at increasing collaboration between various stakeholders such as researchers, national, regional, local authorities, and mHealth manufacturers, supported by a central resource that tracks innovation and best practices and identifies gaps in policy while fostering cross-border knowledge sharing among Member States or countries associated to Horizon 2020.

The hub should gather evidence on health outcomes, quality of life, care efficiency gains of mHealth solutions to support treatment and prevention of NCD through the creation of a central database, and/or integration of existing databases, that will constitute a repository of all evidence on mHealth effectiveness and benefits, including common criteria and methodology for comparing mHealth solutions, best practices and innovative solutions, business models/reimbursements, governance and oversight of apps with specific solutions targeting identified groups: vulnerable populations and with chronic diseases.

The action may involve financial support to third parties in line with the conditions set out in Part K of the General Annexes. The selection process open to relevant health authorities and

innovation institutes in the EU Member States or countries associated to Horizon 2020 should be defined. Transparency and a good geographical balance should be ensured. The hub will help to fully implement mHealth programme or strategy of selected third parties, for which financial support will be granted.

Comparison of solutions and situations in the database between different countries and regions should be made in order to identify specific contextual links as well as to identify opportunities for exchange of knowledge and experience on mHealth best practices and solutions.

In the longer term, the hub should aim to become self-sustaining and therefore develop measures of sustainability, while seeking at covering the whole territory of the European Union.

Expected Impact:

1. Creating evidence on health outcomes, quality of life and care efficiency gains in the NCD management by using mHealth solutions.
2. Enabling mHealth to be deployed in national and regional level health services and to deliver large scale benefits, first of the selected entities, and later in the rest of Europe.
3. Becoming the focal point for expertise on mHealth in the EU and identifying and highlighting trends and gaps in policies, standards, regulations, etc. and best practices and barriers to the creation of consistent mHealth infrastructure and strategy.
4. Unique platform to support innovation in and up-scaling of mHealth by convening cross sector stakeholders (young entrepreneurs, start-ups, governments, technical officers etc.).
5. Creating synergies with the existing EU platforms of stakeholders such as eHealth network of Member States and also the EU EIP on Active and Healthy Ageing. (requirement, scope, impact).

Legal entities:

- 1 - World Health Organisation, Avenue Appia 20, 1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland
- 2 - International Telecommunication Union, Place des Nations 1211, Geneva 20 Switzerland

Type of Action: Grant to identified beneficiary - Coordination and support actions

The standard evaluation criteria, thresholds, weighting for award criteria and the maximum rate of co-financing for this type of action are provided in General Annexes D and H of the work programme.

Indicative timetable: First semester 2016

Indicative budget: EUR 3.00 million from the 2016 budget

12. Grant to map the biomedical research projects funded by major funding organisations around the World

A contribution will be made to ensure the upgrade and maintenance of the unique, web-based information sharing platform mapping biomedical research funded projects that was created by major funding organisations around the World, the World RePORT. The objectives of this platform are to facilitate communication and coordination between funders, to provide more transparency and openness on funding flows and to allow increased cost-effectiveness of funding. Created as a pilot project in 2011 by the Heads of International Research Organizations (HIRO), including the EU, it is hosted by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) of the United States, and maintained and upgraded by the NETE Solutions Corporation, the NIH IT subcontractor. The platform brings together leading health research funding agencies of key countries and organisations (currently USA, Canada, France, the United Kingdom, Germany, Sweden, the European Commission and the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership). The World RePORT facilitates also the development of common standards for data on publicly released funding and enables data aggregation. It will also contribute to the implementation of the G7 strategy for research funding in the area of poverty-related and neglected diseases and to the international cooperation in research and innovation.

Legal entities:

Funding will be provided through an action grant to the company NETE E Solutions Corporation, 8280 Greensboro Drive Suite 200, McLean, VA 22102 VA, United States

Type of Action: Grant to identified beneficiary - Coordination and support actions

The standard evaluation criteria, thresholds, weighting for award criteria and the maximum rate of co-financing for this type of action are provided in General Annexes D and H of the work programme.

Indicative timetable: Second quarter 2017

Indicative budget: EUR 0.07 million from the 2017 budget

HORIZON 2020 - Work Programme 2016 - 2017
Health, demographic change and well-being

Budget⁸⁸

	Budget line(s)	2016 Budget (EUR million)	2017 Budget (EUR million)
Calls			
H2020-SC1-2016-2017		353.00	331.76
	<i>from 08.020301</i>	300.00	257.00
	<i>from 09.040301</i>	53.00	74.76
Contribution from this part to call H2020-DS-2016-2017 under Part 14 of the work programme		11.00	
	<i>from 09.040301</i>	11.00	
Contribution from this part to call H2020-FTIPilot-2016 under Part 18 of the work programme		17.30	
	<i>from 08.020301</i>	14.70	
	<i>from 09.040301</i>	2.60	
Contribution from this part to call H2020-IOT-2016-2017 under Part 17 of the work programme		10.00	
	<i>from 09.040301</i>	10.00	
Contribution from this part to call H2020-SMEInst-2016-2017 under Part 7 of the work programme		53.00	92.50
	<i>from 08.020301</i>	35.00	80.00
	<i>from 09.040301</i>	18.00	12.50
Other actions			
Prize		1.00	
	<i>from 08.020301</i>	1.00	
Expert Contracts		3.22	2.90
	<i>from 08.020301</i>	2.50	2.00
	<i>from 09.040301</i>	0.72	0.90

⁸⁸ The budget figures given in this table are rounded to two decimal places.

HORIZON 2020 - Work Programme 2016 - 2017
Health, demographic change and well-being

Public Procurement		2.40	3.61
	<i>from 08.020301</i>	<i>0.50</i>	<i>1.50</i>
	<i>from 09.040301</i>	<i>1.90</i>	<i>2.11</i>
Grant to Identified beneficiary		4.30	0.37
	<i>from 08.020301</i>	<i>1.00</i>	<i>0.07</i>
	<i>from 09.040301</i>	<i>3.30</i>	<i>0.30</i>
Financial Instrument		50.00	50.00
	<i>from 08.020301</i>	<i>50.00</i>	<i>50.00</i>
Subscription		4.96	5.06
	<i>from 08.020301</i>	<i>4.96</i>	<i>5.06</i>
Estimated total budget		510.18	486.20