



## **IMI Ebola+ programme – results of the first call for proposals**

***As of 16/01/2015***

***The Grant Agreements for some projects selected under the first call of the Ebola+ programme are still being finalised. Final information on all selected projects, including budget details, will be published once the Grant Agreements have been signed.***

Date: 15/01/2015

Research and  
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Project and partners	Acronym	IMI funding	EFPIA in-kind contribution	Abstract
<b>Vaccine development</b>				
<b>VSV-EBOVAC</b> Sclavo Vaccines Association (coordinator) University of Geneva BioProtection Systems Leiden University Medical Centre University of Gothenburg Università degli Studi di Siena Emory University University of Tübingen Microbiotec SRL Eidgenössisches Department für Verteidigung, Bevölkerungsschutz und Sport UK Department of Health		€3.9 million	€0	VSV-EBOVAC will build on existing work to advance the development of the Ebola vaccine candidate VSV-ZEBOV (‘vesicular stomatitis virus-vectored Zaire Ebola vaccine’). The World Health Organization (WHO) has identified VSV-ZEBOV as one of the three most promising Ebola vaccine candidates, and clinical trials are already underway in Europe and Africa. The VSV-EBOVAC project will use cutting-edge technologies to carry out in-depth analyses of samples taken from clinical trial participants before and after vaccination. This will allow them to gather vital information on both the strength of the immune responses triggered by the vaccine and vaccine safety.
<b>EBOVAC1</b> London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (coordinator) Crucell Holland, B.V. (one of the Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson) Oxford University La Centre Muraz INSERM Transfert		€58.3 million	€32.7 million	Between them, the two EBOVAC projects will assess, through clinical trials in Europe and Africa, the safety and tolerability of the ‘prime-boost’ Ebola vaccine regimen (Ad26.ZEBOV and MVA-BN-Filo) in development at the Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson. In a prime-boost vaccine regimen, patients are first given a dose to prime the immune system, and then a boost dose which is intended to enhance the immune response over time.  Phase I trials will be carried out by the EBOVAC1 project. These trials will gather preliminary information on the safety and tolerability of the

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<p><b>EBOVAC2</b> INSERM Transfert (coordinator) Crucell Holland, B.V. (one of the Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson &amp; Johnson), Oxford University La Centre Muraz London School of Hygiene &amp; Tropical Medicine</p>	<p>€22.8 million</p>	<p>€15.1 million</p>	<p>vaccine regimen. The immune response generated by the regimen will also be evaluated longer term.</p> <p>The Phase II and III trials, subject to review of the preliminary Phase I data, will be carried out in parallel by the EBOVAC2 and EBOVAC1 projects respectively to speed up the clinical development of the vaccine regimen. In these trials, larger groups of people will receive the vaccine regimen, allowing the projects to gather further information on the regimen's safety and immunogenicity, including in specific groups such as children and the elderly, and to assess its efficacy against Ebola virus.</p>
<p><b>Vaccine manufacture capability</b></p>			
<p><b>EBOMAN</b> Vibalogics (coordinator) Crucell Holland, B.V. (one of the Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson &amp; Johnson) Bavarian Nordic A/S</p>	<p>€1.0 million</p>	<p>€47.6 million</p>	<p>The focus of the EBOMAN project is on accelerating the development and manufacturing of a 'prime-boost' Ebola vaccine regimen (Ad26.ZEBOV and MVA-BN-Filo) in development at the Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson &amp; Johnson. Ebola vaccines can only be manufactured in facilities with an appropriate biosafety rating. Relatively few manufacturers have the biosafety rating required for the manufacture of Ebola vaccines, and this is slowing down the production of vaccine candidates. This project will establish a platform capable of rapidly producing sufficient quantities of the vaccine, while adhering to stringent quality and safety requirements. In the short term, this will ensure the delivery of sufficient quantities of the Ad26.ZEBOV and MVA-BN-Filo vaccine regimen to support the EBOVAC projects to perform the clinical trials. In parallel, this project will create additional vaccine production capacity to allow for the rapid preparation of large quantities of vaccines.</p>
<p><b>Deployment and compliance of vaccination regimens</b></p>			
<p><b>EBODAC</b> London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (coordinator) Janssen Pharmaceutica N.V. (one of the Janssen</p>	<p>€20.3 million</p>	<p>€5.4 million</p>	<p>The stigma surrounding Ebola, coupled with a suspicion of vaccines in general, could deter many people from getting vaccinated. The EBODAC project will develop a communication strategy and tools to promote the acceptance and uptake of new Ebola vaccines. One of the project's most important products will be a platform, based on mobile technology, dedicated to Ebola vaccines. As well as providing local</p>

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Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson) Grameen Foundation World Vision of Ireland			communities with information on Ebola and vaccines, the platform will send reminders to people receiving the ‘prime boost’ vaccine to return to get their second ‘booster’ dose and facilitate the tracking of vaccination coverage. EBODAC will also set up local training programmes to make sure the communication strategy, and its tools, will be ready for deployment in the local setting.
<b>Rapid diagnostic tests</b>			
<b>Mofina</b> (Coordinator TBC) altona Diagnostics GmbH Alere Technologies GmbH Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine Istituto Nazionale Malattie Infettive Lazzaro Spallanzani, IRCCS Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics Department of Health	€1.0 million	€0	The Mofina project will develop a new diagnostic test that will deliver results in under 45 minutes on whether the patient has Ebola or a related disease such as Marburg virus. Crucially, the device is designed to work well in sites where high-end laboratory infrastructures are simply not available, while also protecting users from infection. The project will draw on two existing technologies: a conventional Ebola virus test, and a point-of-care molecular diagnostics platform. After testing a prototype of the system, the project partners will validate it in the field.
<b>FILODIAG</b> GNA Biosolutions GmbH (coordinator) Mendel University in Brno Istituto Nazionale Malattie Infettive Lazzaro Spallanzani, IRCCS Emergency ONG ONLUS	€2.3 million	€0	The FILODIAG project aims to deliver an ultra-fast, accurate diagnostic instrument that will test for Ebola in under 15 minutes. Such a system could be used in both healthcare settings and at critical infrastructures like airports. Current tests for Ebola virus take a long time because samples must be heated and then cooled in each of the many processing cycles. This project will replace the heating/cooling steps with a technology based on laser-heated nanoparticles. Early tests of this technology have worked well. The project will add a step to concentrate the virus and refine and test the system before evaluating it in the field.

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<p><b>EbolaMoDRAD</b>  Folkhälsomyndigheten  (The Public Health  Agency of Sweden)  (coordinator)  Institut National de la  Santé et de la  Recherche Médicale  Institut Pasteur De  Dakar  Stockholms  Universitet  Coris BioConcept  Kobenhavns  Universitet  Public Health England  Institut Pasteur  Istituto Nazionale  Malattie Infettive  Lazzaro Spallanzani,  IRCCS  Statens Serum Institut  Université d'Aix-  Marseille  University of Stirling  Clonit srl  Helsingin yliopisto  (University of  Helsinki)  Emergency ONG  ONLUS  AJ Innuscreen GmbH  Inserm Transfert</p>	<p>€4.3  million</p>	<p>€0</p>	<p>The EbolaMoDRAD project aims to develop and validate in the field a rapid diagnostic tool that will be both simple and safe to use in low resource settings by people who may not have specialist training. At the same time, the project will implement a large-scale capacity building programme in West Africa with a strong focus on diagnostics, biosafety, and outbreak management. Finally, it will ensure its results are communicated widely, especially to public health bodies, charities, outbreak management teams, and local hospitals.</p>
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