Health, Demographic Change and Wellbeing

Responding to this challenge, research and innovation (R&I) under Horizon 2020 is an investment in better health for all. It aims to keep older people active and independent for longer and supports the development of new, safer and more effective interventions. R&I under Horizon 2020 also contributes to the sustainability of health and care systems.

During the first four years of Horizon 2020 (Work Programmes for 2014/15 and 2016/2017), the EU will invest more than €2 billion in this Challenge; in calls for proposals or actions.

Personalising health and care

Research & Innovation supported by this call will:

- improve our understanding of the causes and mechanisms underlying health, healthy ageing and disease;
- improve our ability to monitor health and to prevent, detect, treat and manage disease;
support older persons to remain active and healthy;
and test and demonstrate new models and tools for health and care delivery.

Coordination activities

R&I supported by this call will leverage Member State activities in areas including neuroscience, cancer, systems medicine. It will contribute to European and international initiatives such as the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing [2], the Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases [3], the Joint Programming Initiative "More Years, Better Lives - the Challenges and Opportunities of Demographic Change" [4] and the Joint Programming on Neurodegenerative Diseases Research [5].

Other activities

Several activities not included in the 2014/15 and 2016/17 work programmes are also part of the 'Health, demographic change and wellbeing' challenge, notably the Innovative Medicines Initiative [6], the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) [7], and the Active and Assisted Living Programme [8].

Scientific Panel for Health

The Scientific Panel for Health [9] is a science-led expert panel, whose role will be to:

- analyse and propose solutions to bottlenecks that prevent improvements in health
- identify long term trends influencing health through foresight and recommend research and innovation priorities to respond to them
- aid in the translation and implementation of research and innovation results into practice

Horizon Prize for the Birth Day

Can you find a solution to reduce death & illness of mothers & babies at birth?

Win €1 million

Around the world, particularly in the developing world, hundreds of thousands of women and babies die on the day of birth, and millions more are left with serious illness.

Thanks to global efforts, since 1990 maternal deaths have dropped worldwide by 45% and the child
mortality rate by 51%.

However deaths or serious health effects for both mothers and their new babies are still unacceptably high, especially in low and middle income countries.

The 'Birth Day' Prize is an initiative of the European Commission in collaboration with the Bill & Melinda Gates and Merck Sharp & Dohme Corp have committed to award prizes to winners following evaluation of entries by the Commission.

The challenge of this 1 million challenge prize (with additional prizes of up to 1 million) is to improve care given during delivery in a health facility in order to reduce death and illness of mothers and babies around the world.

**Horizon Prize for better use of antibiotics**

This €1 million challenge prize addresses the issue of the unnecessary use of antibiotics, which is contributing to the growing problem of antibiotic resistance. The challenge is to develop a rapid test that will allow healthcare providers to distinguish at the point of care between patients with upper respiratory tract infections that require antibiotics and those that can be treated safely without antibiotics.

**Horizon Prize for a food scanner**

Given the increase in food-related health problems, the challenge set for this €1 million prize is to develop an affordable and non-invasive mobile solution that will enable users to measure and analyse their food intake. This solution will especially benefit people with conditions such as obesity, allergies or food intolerance.

This €1 million prize will be split into a maximum of three awards: € 800 000 will go to the winner and € 100 000 each to the first and second runner-ups.

[More information](#)
R&I performers

R&I supported by this societal challenge will enable the translation of findings from the laboratory into the clinic and other health and care settings, by engaging all relevant R&I performers. For instance,

- The Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) [6] will continue to support collaborative research projects and builds networks of industrial and academic experts to boost pharmaceutical innovation in Europe.
- The Active and Assisted Living Programme (AAL) [13] will continue to support market-oriented research and SMEs, and work in tandem with the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing [2] (EIP on AHA) to ensure the wider dissemination of best practices.
- A large number of European countries are participating in the Joint Programming Initiative on Antimicrobial Resistance [14] and in the Joint Programming Initiative on Demographic Change [4].
- The European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership 2 [15].
- Targeted support will be given to innovative SMEs in the area of healthcare biotechnology during the 2016-2017 period.

Work Programme 2018 - 2020 [16]
Work Programme 2016 - 2017 [17]
Work Programme 2014 - 2015 [18]

Links:
Open Info Day - SC1 - 12 July 2018 [19]
Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) [20]
European and developing countries clinical trials partnership (EDCTP) [7]
Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing [2]
Active and assisted Living Programme [8]
EU health research & innovation - success stories [21]
FP7 Health - 987 EU-supported research and innovation projects [22]
Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases [3]
Joint Programming - Neurodegenerative Diseases Research [5]
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