

NEW COVID-19 HORIZON 2020 Call – Deadline for application June 11

Ref: New Horizon 2020 Calls on COVID-19

Date: May 25, 2020

The European Commission has announced that another €122 million are being made available from Horizon 2020 for urgently needed research into the coronavirus.

Please find below some more details from the [online conference](#) held on May 20 to present the new call for proposals. This is focused on the calls which could be of interest for the UEG Community.

Very fast track calls for application, with deadline for application on June 11. Aim is to send a response to applicants by August 25 at the latest. It will not fund projects on diagnostics, therapeutics or vaccines. Most of the calls should last 2 years maximum, with first results in 3-6 months.

Possible to include eligible costs starting on the date of the application. This will be reimbursed afterwards if the proposal gets funded.

Five opportunities under the new call:

Topic 1: Repurposing of manufacturing for vital medical supplies and equipment

Call directed towards manufacturers; €23 million

Topic 2: Medical technologies, Digital tools and Artificial Intelligence analytics to improve surveillance and care at high Technology Readiness Levels

- €56 million: indicative budget expected from proposals: € 2-5 million
- Innovation Actions → no basic research, high Technology Readiness Levels (6-7 or higher)
- Two kind of proposals possible:
 - o have /about to receive the CE marking to proceed to large scale testing, piloting and deployment operations in critical healthcare areas
 - o already validated in lab environments with the aim to help accelerate developments and achieve conformity assessment (CE marking)
- areas to be addressed:
 - o fast, cost effective and easily deployable sampling, screening, diagnostic and prognostic systems ;
 - o environmental surveillance (sewage, air, etc) systems and data analytics as a sentinel for viral (re)emergence and spread in communities, based for example on optical biosensors or genetic ;
 - o low cost sensors, smart wearable devices and robotics/AI for telemedicine
 - o protection of healthcare practitioners and the general public

- innovative data driven services and tools combining data assets from various relevant privately

Topic 3: Behavioural, social and economic impacts of the outbreak responses

- €20 million ; indicative budget expected from proposals: €4-10 million
- Should combine social sciences, medical sciences and humanities to work on the social, economic, behavioural, impacts in relation to the public health responses, including mental health and health inequalities
- Aim of improving the public health preparedness and response for the current and future health crisis.

Topic 4: Pan-European COVID-19 cohorts (€20 million)

- €20 million ; indicative budget expected from proposals: €15-20 million which mean that one big comprehensive project is expected.
- identify risk and protective factors
- identify the most successful clinical management options and treatments
- Short (below 2 years, control and spreading of the virus), middle (3-4 years, vaccination) and long term (management of future outbreak) impacts should be included.
- Wide geographical area in Europe and beyond
- Attention to harmonisation of data collection and standardisation of protocols and newly established European COVID 19 research data sharing platform.
- Should liaise with CSA of Topic 5

Topic 5: Collaboration of existing EU and international cohorts of relevance to COVID-19

- €3 million. This topic is a CSA (Coordination and Support Action). It does not aim to fund research projects. Indicative budget expected of €2-3 million which mean that one big comprehensive project is expected.
- Aim: support international networking of existing, mainly longitudinal, cohorts in order to extract jointly agreed standardized data on COVID-19 diagnosed/serotyped and matched non infected individuals
- pool data from existing cohorts, provide evidence-based recommendations for health policies, and create a cohort framework to rapidly address pandemics in the future

Useful Links:

- [Webpage of the five calls](#)
- [Press release](#) from European Commission
- [Recording](#) of the webcast presenting the topics
- [UEG Research Switchboard on COVID-19](#) to find partners in the Digestive Health community