



# Research funding and data collection: Addressing the disparities

## Health economics



- Collect **economic data at national level** to achieve a better understanding of the associated costs and burden.
- Improve **vital statistics** and other types of **health data** that inform evidence-based policies.
- Perform **further cost-analyses** of the impact of chronic diseases, comorbidities, and complications to strengthen health economic data.
- Support the implementation of an **EU registry of non-communicable diseases** to allow a harmonised and centralized mechanism for the collection, monitoring and analysis of data on chronic diseases at EU level.

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## Research



- **Identify barriers** to conducting research in neglected areas to inform the development of effective strategies that encourage increased research activity and funding.
- **Prioritize** funding and research efforts in **disease areas with significant gaps** such as irritable bowel syndrome, pancreatitis, and alcohol-related liver diseases.
- Increase levels of research and funding for **neglected digestive cancers**, such as pancreatic cancers, to allow non-invasive population-based screening, particularly in higher at risk groups.
- Invest in **interdisciplinary research on primary and secondary prevention** of chronic digestive diseases including digestive cancers and foster **international collaborations** to facilitate analyses in large multi-national cohorts.
- Distribute **Horizon Europe grants** to fund research on **underfunded conditions** like irritable bowel syndrome, gastroesophageal reflux disease, eosinophilic oesophagitis and coeliac disease, ensuring resources reach areas with limited or no funding.
- Incorporate perspectives from **marginalized and disadvantaged patient groups** to guide research priorities and decisions on further avenues of study.
- Implement coordinated strategies to enhance surveillance, research activity, and funding, facilitating **collaboration and targeted support**.

This paper has been produced by United European Gastroenterology (UEG). UEG is a professional non-profit organisation combining all the leading European medical specialists and national societies focusing on digestive health. For more information visit [www.ueg.eu](http://www.ueg.eu).

### Resources

1. Michl, P, Lohr, M, Neoptolemos, JP, Capurso, G, Rebours, V, Malats, N, et al. (2021) UEG position paper on pancreatic cancer. Bringing pancreatic cancer to the 21st century: prevent, detect, and treat the disease earlier and better. United European Gastroenterol J. 2021; 9(7): 860– 871. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ueg2.12123>
2. Rose, TC, Pennington, A, Kyridemos, C, Chen, T, Subhani, M, Hanefeld, J, et al. Analysis of the burden and economic impact of digestive diseases and investigation of research gaps and priorities in the field of digestive health in the European Region—White Book 2: executive summary. United European Gastroenterol J. 2022; 10(7): 659–64. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ueg2.12298>
3. ECDA (2023) Recommendations to advance NCDs prevention and management in the EU ([accessible here](#)).