

Innovative Medicines Initiative open Call for proposals on Ebola & related diseases

The **Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI)** has launched a **new, open Call for proposals** in the area of **Ebola and other filoviral haemorrhagic fevers (Ebola+)** programme: **future outbreaks**.

This Call, the second under the Ebola+ programme, provides an opportunity to **capture emerging scientific advances and to progress those rapidly into healthcare interventions**. As such, the key deliverables of projects funded under the Ebola+ programme must be outputs that will **increase our preparedness** to react to future outbreaks of Ebola and other filoviral haemorrhagic fevers.

Key deliverables could include (but are not limited to):

- the progression of a **novel vaccine candidate, diagnostic or treatment** up to a stage **ready for testing** in an outbreak setting;
- the development of **tools** to help with **pre-clinical and clinical development** of vaccine candidates and treatments;
- the development and/or validation of a **novel diagnostic test** that is sufficiently **sensitive, rapid, user-friendly, cheap, and usable** in resource-limited settings;
- the development of novel **strategies to improve the stability of vaccines** against Ebola and other filoviral infections during transport and storage, e.g. which would allow storage at 8°C or ambient temperatures for prolonged durations;
- the development of novel **manufacturing and delivery strategies**;
- the development of learning and strategies for optimal **deployment and adherence to vaccination programmes**;
- the facilitation of the exploitation of recent advances in our understanding of Ebola and other filoviral infections and the acceleration of their development into healthcare interventions.

IMI encourages small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), mid-sized companies, patients' organisations, regulatory authorities, academic teams, industry, hospitals and other organisations to form consortia and apply to participate in the new IMI projects.

Budget

The indicative IMI budget for the entire period of 2 years is **€70 million**. The entire budget for this call will be available as from the first cut-off date. Three months prior to each subsequent cut-off date, the remaining budget will be published on the IMI website. Following each cut-off date, all proposals received will be reviewed by a panel of independent experts and ranked in one single list. Proposals above threshold and within the available budget will be invited in ranked order to prepare a Grant Agreement.

Find project partners

IMI's **Partner Search Tool** - www.imi.europa.eu/content/partner-search - allows people interested in applying for IMI funding to search for potential project partners.

Find out more

The **full Call text** and details of **how to apply** can be found on the IMI website: bit.ly/IMI2Call8

IMI will also hold a **webinar** on the Ebola+ Call in **January 2016**. Visit the IMI events page for details & to register: bit.ly/IMlevents

Deadlines

The Call will remain **open for two years**, with the following **cut-off dates**:

- 16 March 2016
- 15 September 2016
- 16 March 2017
- 14 September 2017
- 15 March 2018

Why apply?

- Obtain **research funding**
- Take part in **scientifically excellent, patient-centric** research – IMI's research agenda for 2014-2024 focuses on getting the **right prevention and treatment** to the **right patient** at the **right time**
- Join unique consortia involving **top teams** from industry, academia, SMEs, regulators, and others
- Benefit from the **expertise, databases, and infrastructures** of consortium partners
- Boost the **visibility and status** of your organisation in Europe and globally and gain **access to new markets**

Spread the word

IMI's Calls for proposals offer researchers across Europe a **unique opportunity to participate in ground-breaking projects** that aim to deliver **tangible benefits for patients**.

Spread the word by **forwarding this flyer** to your contacts and networks.

You can also use the material at: www.imi.europa.eu/content/documents

About the Innovative Medicines Initiative

The Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) is working to **improve health** by speeding up the development of, and patient access to, **the next generation of medicines**, particularly in areas where there is an **unmet medical or social need**. It does this by **facilitating collaboration** between the key players involved in healthcare research, including universities, the pharmaceutical and other industries, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), patient organisations, and medicines regulators.

IMI is a **partnership** between **the European Union** and the **European pharmaceutical industry**, represented by the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA). IMI has a budget of **€3.276 billion** for the period 2014-2024. Half of this comes from the EU. The other half comes from large companies, mostly from the pharmaceutical sector; these do not receive any EU funding, but contribute to the projects 'in kind', for example by donating their researchers' time or providing access to research facilities or resources.

IMI was launched in 2008 and currently has over 60 ongoing projects, with more in the pipeline. Some focus on **specific health issues** such as neurological conditions (Alzheimer's disease, schizophrenia, depression, chronic pain, and autism), diabetes, lung disease, oncology, inflammation & infection, tuberculosis, and obesity.

Others focus on **broader challenges in drug development** like drug and vaccine safety, knowledge management, the sustainability of chemical drug production, the use of stem cells for drug discovery, drug behaviour in the body, the creation of a European platform to discover novel medicines, and antimicrobial resistance. In addition to research projects, IMI supports **education and training** projects.

Stay in touch

- Visit the IMI website: www.imi.europa.eu
- Sign up to the IMI Newsletter: bit.ly/IMInewsletter
- Follow us on Twitter: [@IMI_JU](https://twitter.com/IMI_JU)
- Join the Innovative Medicines Initiative group on LinkedIn: bit.ly/LinkedInIMI
- E-mail us: infodesk@imi.europa.eu
- Your national IMI contact: bit.ly/IMISRG