E-Rare-3 Call for Proposals 2017 for

"Transnational Research Projects for Innovative Therapeutic Approaches for Rare Diseases"

Call text

Submission deadline for pre-proposals: February 1, 2017
Submission deadline for full proposals: June 2, 2017

The links to pre-proposal template, electronic proposal submission, guidelines for applicants and further information including "Looking for collaborations module" and Interactive FAQ can be found at the E-Rare website

www.e-rare.eu

or contact the joint call secretariat:

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MINISTERIO DE ECONOMÍA, INDUSTRIA Y COMPETITIVIDAD

Instituto de Salud Carlos III

1. MOTIVATION

There are at least 7000 distinct rare diseases, the great majority being of genetic origin. Although individually rare, taken together rare diseases affect at least 26-30 million people in Europe. Moreover, they represent a major issue in health care: a large number of these diseases lead to a significant decrease of life expectancy and most of them cause chronic illnesses with a large impact on quality of life and the health care system.

Therefore, research on rare diseases is needed to provide knowledge for prevention, diagnosis and better care of patients. Yet, research is hampered by lack of resources at several levels: (1) Few scientists work on one specific disease, (2) There are few patients per disease and they are scattered over a large geographic area, causing difficulties to gather the necessary cohorts, (3) Existing databases and material collections are usually local, small, and not accessible or standardised, (4) Diseases often have complex clinical phenotypes and require interdisciplinary cooperation for research, hence, interdisciplinary approaches to treatment.

The specificities of rare diseases - limited number of patients, scarcity of relevant knowledge and expertise, and fragmentation of research - single them out as a distinctive domain of very high European added-value. Rare diseases are therefore a prime example of a research area that can strongly benefit from collaboration/coordination on a transnational scale.

In this context, the ERA-NET “E-Rare” for research programmes on rare diseases has been extended to a third phase “E-Rare-3” (2014-2019) to further help in coordinating the research efforts of European, Associated and non-European countries in the field of rare diseases and implement the objectives of International Rare Disease Research Consortium (IRDiRC).

The following parties,

- Austrian Science Fund (FWF), Austria
- Research Foundation Flanders (FWO), Belgium, Flanders
- Fund for Scientific Research - FNRS (F.R.S.-FNRS), Belgium, French-speaking community
- Canadian Institutes of Health Research – Institute of Genetics (CIHR-IG), Canada
- Fonds de recherche du Québec-Santé (FRQS), Québec (Canada)
- Academy of Finland (AKA), Finland
- French National Research Agency (ANR), France
- Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), Germany
- German Research Foundation (DFG), Germany
- General Secretariat for Research and Technology (GSRT), Greece
- National Research, Development and Innovation Office (NKFIH) of Hungary
- Chief Scientist Office of the Ministry of Health (CSO-MOH), Israel
- Italian Ministry of Health (MoH-IT), Italy
- Foundation for Biomedical Research and Innovation, Japan
- State Education Development Agency (VIAA), Latvia
- National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR), Poland
- Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI), Romania
- National Institute of Health Carlos III (ISCIII), Spain
- Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF), Switzerland
- The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBITAK), Turkey

have decided to open the **ninth E-Rare joint transnational call (JTC 2017)** for funding multilateral research projects on rare diseases. The call is being opened simultaneously by the parties in their respective countries. In addition, Patient Organisations (PO) - represented in this call mostly by EURORDIS - may also co-fund selected projects based on their mandate and research topic interest (see section 6.2 for details).

2. AIM OF THE CALL

The aim of the call is to enable scientists in different countries to build an effective collaboration on a common interdisciplinary research project based on complementarities and sharing of expertise, with a clear translational research approach.

Topics: **The research projects have to focus on the pre-clinical development of therapeutic approaches in suitable existing animal or cell models.**

Therapeutic approaches can include:

a. Cell-based therapy (e.g. somatic cell therapy, cell-based regenerative medicine, tissue engineering, therapies based on combination of cells with scaffolds or substrates, etc.)
b. Gene therapy (e.g. transfer of nucleic acids for therapeutic purposes including DNA, RNA, oligonucleotides, etc.)
c. Pharmacological therapy (e.g. use of chemicals or biopharmaceuticals including repurposing approaches, high throughput screening of molecules, etc.)

The following approaches and topics are excluded from the scope of the call:

a. Therapeutic approaches concerning rare infectious diseases, rare cancers and rare adverse drug events in treatments of common diseases
b. Interventional clinical trials or any project enrolling patients
c. Development of new cell or animal models. The relevant cell or animal model must be already established for the purpose of the project
d. Surgery or radiation therapies

Projects shall involve a **group of rare diseases or a single rare disease following the European definition** i.e. a disease affecting not more than five in 10.000 persons in the European Community, EC associated states and Canada.

The research projects submitted within this call must be based on novel ideas stemming from consolidated previous results and must be clearly endowed with a strong translational research orientation, i.e. bench to bed studies allowing a rapid implementation into public health-related decisions or into the clinics. In order to achieve this goal, the necessary expertise and resources should be brought together from academia, clinical/public health sector and private companies. The research teams within a consortium should include investigators from all scientific disciplines, research areas and expertise necessary to achieve the proposed objectives.

The research proposals must demonstrate complementary and synergistic interaction among the partner teams. There should be clear added value in the transnational collaboration over the individual projects, in term of:

i) Gathering a critical mass of subjects/patients and or subjects/patients databases and corresponding biological materials that would not be possible at a national scale;
ii) Sharing of resources (biobanks, models, databases, diagnostic tools, etc.) of specific know-how and/or innovative technologies, and of expertise. The projects should address the issues of potential efficacy of the proposed interventions and also clearly demonstrate the potential health impact.

The use of **existing European health research infrastructures** is strongly encouraged when appropriate, e.g. research infrastructures established as an European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ERIC) or identified on the roadmap of the European Strategy Forum on Research Infrastructures (ESFRI). Projects are invited to identify the existing European research data infrastructures that may be used and how these may be mobilised, in particular for long-term data curation and preservation (in accordance with EU and IRDiRC recommendations, www.irdirc.org).

The following ESFRI European Research Infrastructures were identified as potentially useful for this kind of study:

- Biobanking and Biomolecular Resources Research Infrastructure (BBMRI) - http://bbmri-eric.eu/about
- European Advanced Translational Infrastructure in Medicine (EATRIS) - http://www.eatris.eu/
- The European Clinical Research Infrastructures Network (ECRIN) - http://www.ecrin.org/
- The European Life Sciences Infrastructure for Biological Information (ELIXIR) - http://www.elixir-europe.org/
- European Infrastructure of Open Screening Platform for Chemical Biology (EU-OPENSCREEN) - http://www.eu-openscreen.eu/
- European Infrastructure for Phenotyping, Archiving and Distribution of Mouse Models (INFRAFRONTIER) - https://www.infrafrontier.eu/

The aim of the call is in compliance with the goals set by the International Rare Diseases Research Consortium (IRDiRC) which fosters international collaboration in rare diseases research. For more information see IRDiRC website: http://www.irdirc.org/

3. MANAGEMENT BOARDS

Two boards, the Call Steering Committee (**CSC**) and the Scientific Evaluation Committee (**SEC**), will manage the evaluation process of the call with support of the Joint Call Secretariat (**JCS**) (set up at ISCIII, Spain). SEC and CSC members will not submit or participate in proposals within this call. The process includes the evaluation procedure of pre- and full-proposals and the final selection and award of research projects.

- **The Call Steering Committee (CSC)** is composed of a single representative from each country/region funding organisation. The CSC will supervise the progress of the call and the evaluation of proposals. The CSC will make the final funding recommendation to the national/regional funding organisations on the proposals to be funded, based on the final ranking list provided by the SEC. All decisions concerning the call procedures will be taken by the CSC.
- **The Scientific Evaluation Committee (SEC)** is a panel of internationally recognised scientific experts responsible for the evaluation of submitted proposals. SEC members

must sign a confidentiality form and a statement to confirm that they do not have any conflicts of interest.

4. APPLICATION

4.1. Funding recipients/Eligibility

Joint research proposals may be submitted by applicants belonging to one of the following categories (according to country/regional regulations):

- academia (research teams working in universities, other higher education institutions or research institutes)
- clinical/public health sector (research teams working in hospitals/public health and/or other health care settings and health organisations)
- enterprise (all sizes of private companies). Participation of small and medium-size enterprises (SMEs) is encouraged when allowed by national/regional regulations

> ➢ Please note that the inclusion of a non-eligible partner in a proposal **leads to the rejection of the entire proposal without further review**. Whilst applications will be submitted jointly by research partners from several countries, individual groups will be funded by the individual funding organisation of their country/region that is participating in the E-Rare-3 JTC 2017. The applications are therefore subjected to **eligibility criteria of individual funding organisations**. Applicants **must** contact their corresponding national/regional representative and confirm eligibility with their respective funding organisations in advance of submitting an application (see national/regional contact details and Annex). **The adherence to the national/regional regulations in the "Guidelines for applicants" document is mandatory.**

Only transnational projects will be funded. Each consortium submitting a proposal must involve a **minimum of three eligible** and a **maximum of six eligible partners** from **at least three different countries** participating to the call (see list above). No more than two eligible partners from the same country participating in the call will be accepted in one consortium.
In order to recruit the necessary patients, data and/or samples for the proposed study, a consortium may need to collaborate with other centers. If this is the unique role of those centers, they will not be considered as partners of the consortium.

The Joint Call Secretariat and national/regional funding organisations will perform cross-checks in parallel submissions to other joint transnational calls (e.g. NEURON, JPND, EuroNanoMed, ERACo-SysMed and others) and national calls. Applicants shall avoid applying for same research activities to different calls. Double funding is not allowed.

Applicants are encouraged to **include partners from the participating underrepresented countries** (Hungary, Latvia, Poland, Romania and Turkey). If they include such partners, the maximum number of partners can be increased to **seven** or **eight** (see table below).

Additional partners that secure their **own funding** may join consortia. However, their number is **limited to two**. They must state clearly in the proposal if these funds are already secured or

if not, how they plan to obtain funding in advance of the project start. It will be required to document the availability of their funds before October 1, 2017.
The consortium coordinator must always be eligible to receive funding from the funding organisations participating in the call.
Only groups that contribute substantially to at least one of the work packages are considered as partners and should be indicated in the project.

Number of partners requesting funding	Possible number of additional partners with own funding
3	2
4	
5	
6	
7 (only possible with inclusion of 1 Eastern European partner)	1
8 (only possible with inclusion of 2 Eastern European partners)	0

Each transnational proposal must nominate a **project consortium coordinator** among the project partner principal investigators. The coordinator must be a project partner from an E-Rare-3 JTC 2017 funding country/region. The project coordinator will represent the consortium externally and towards the JCS and CSC, and will be responsible for its internal scientific management (such as controlling, reporting, intellectual property rights issues and contact with the JCS). Each project partner will be represented by a single principal investigator. Within a joint proposal, the principal investigator of each project partner will be the contact person for the relevant country/regional funding organisation.

Consortia of projects funded in previous E-Rare joint transnational calls can apply for funding for an extension of their cooperation. These consortia must clearly demonstrate the success of the current project and innovative scientific aims for their future collaboration. Their applications will compete with applications for new research projects.

The duration of the projects can be up to 3 years. Nevertheless, a partner can receive funding for less than 3 years according to E-Rare-3 JTC 2017 funding organisations eligibility criteria and regulations.

4.2. Submission of joint proposals

There will be a **two-stage submission procedure for joint applications**: pre-proposals and full proposals. In both cases, one joint proposal document (in English) shall be prepared by the partners of a joint transnational proposal, and must be submitted to the JCS by uploading it on the electronic submission system by one spokesperson, the coordinator.

Joint **pre-proposals** (in English) must be received by the JCS in an electronic version no later than **1st February 2017 at 05 p.m. CEST**. The pre-proposals should strictly follow the "Guidelines for applicants".

The decision on selection of applications for invitation to full proposal will be communicated by the end of April 2017.

Please note that **joint full proposals will be accepted only from those applicants who were explicitly invited by the JCS to submit them.** Full proposals (in English) must be received by the JCS in an electronic version no later than **2nd June 2017 at 05 p.m. CEST**.

In general, no fundamental changes between the pre- and full proposals concerning the composition of the consortia, objectives of the project or requested budget will be accepted. The CSC, however, may allow such changes only in exceptional cases, if detailed justification is provided to the JCS.

The selection on full proposals will be communicated to applicants as soon as possible and before the end of October 2017.

Further information on how to submit pre-proposals and full proposals electronically will be made available through the E-Rare website (www.e-rare.eu) and in the "Guidelines for applicants". The forms that have to be used for submission of pre-proposals and full proposals are available on the E-Rare website. Applicants should take note of individual national/regional rules, and should contact their national/regional contact person for any questions (see “contact information” section).

For applicants from some countries/regions it might be necessary to submit the proposals and/or other information directly to the country/regional funding organisations.

4.3. Further information

Applicants must contact their corresponding national/regional representative and confirm eligibility with their respective funding organisations in advance of submitting an application (see national/regional contact details and Annex). If you need additional information, please contact the JCS. **The adherence to the national/regional regulations in the “Guidelines for applicants” document is mandatory.**

5. EVALUATION

5.1. Evaluation criteria

Pre-proposals and full proposals will be assessed according to specific evaluation criteria (see below), using a common evaluation form. A scoring system from 0 to 5 will be used to evaluate the proposal’s performance with respect to the different evaluation criteria.

Scoring system:

0: Failure. The proposal fails to address the criterion in question, or cannot be judged because of missing or incomplete information.
1: Poor. The proposal shows serious weaknesses in relation to the criterion in question.
2: Fair. The proposal generally addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses that need corrections.
3: Good. The proposal addresses the criterion in question well but certain improvements are necessary.
4: Very good. The proposal addresses the criterion very well, but small improvements are possible.
5: Excellent. The proposal successfully addresses all aspects of the criterion in question.

Evaluation criteria:

1. Excellence
    a. Clarity and pertinence of the objectives
    b. Credibility of the proposed approach and methodology
    c. Soundness of the concept
    d. Innovative potential
    e. Feasibility of the project (adequate requested resources, time schedule)
    f. Competence and experience of participating research partners in the field(s) of the proposal (previous work in the field, specific technical expertise)

2. Impact
    a. Potential of the expected results for commercial exploitation and for future clinical, public health and/or other socio-economic health relevant applications;
    b. Added-value of transnational collaboration: gathering a critical mass of patients/biological material, sharing of resources (models, databases, diagnosis etc.), harmonization of data, sharing of specific know-how and/or innovative technologies, etc.
    c. Effectiveness of the proposed measures to exploit and disseminate the project results (including management of IPR), to communicate the project, and to manage research data where relevant
    d. Involvement of pertinent patient organisation, patient representatives or industry (if available).

3. Quality and efficiency of the implementation
    a. Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan, including appropriateness of the allocation of tasks, resources and time-frame
    b. Complementarity of the participants within the consortium
    c. Appropriateness of the management structures and procedures, including risk and innovation management
    d. Budget and cost-effectiveness of the project (rational distribution of resources in relation to project's activities, partners responsibilities and time frame)

    Sub-criteria 2a and 2b will be prioritized for assessing the impact of proposals (pre- and full proposal stage).
    Sub-criteria 2c, 2d, 3c and 3d will be taken into account only for the full proposal evaluation step.

Evaluation scores will be awarded for the 3 main criteria, and not singularly for the different aspects listed below the criteria. Each criterion will be scored out of 5. The threshold for individual criteria will be 3. The overall threshold, applying to the sum of the three individual scores, will be 12. The maximum score that can be reached from all three criteria together is 15 points.

5.2. Eligibility check of pre-proposals and first step peer review

5.2.1. Eligibility check

The JCS will check all pre-proposals to ensure that they meet the call's formal criteria (date of submission; number and country distribution of participating research partners; inclusion of all necessary information in English, page length of each section). The JCS will forward the proposals to the CSC members who will perform a check for compliance to country/regional rules as described in the "Guidelines for applicants".

Please note that proposals not meeting the formal criteria or the national/regional eligibility criteria and requirements **will be declined without further review.**

5.2.2. Peer review of pre-proposals

Pre-proposals passing the eligibility check (call secretariat and country/region) will be forwarded to the SEC members for a first evaluation (see evaluation criteria above). The SEC members will perform the assessment of the pre-proposal and fill the evaluation forms with scores and comments for each criterion. Each pre-proposal will be assessed by 2 SEC members. The SEC members will meet to establish a ranking of the proposals. The CSC will meet to decide which proposals will be accepted for the full proposal submission based on the SEC recommendations. The summary review report and eventual recommendations of the SEC will be forwarded to all applicants.

5.3. Evaluation of full proposals with right to reply (rebuttal stage)

5.3.1. Formal criteria check

The JCS will check the full proposals to ensure that they meet the call's formal criteria.

5.3.2. External reviewer's evaluation

Each proposal will be allocated to at least two external reviewers who fit the profile of the application.

5.3.3. Rebuttal stage

Before the SEC members see the reviews from external reviewers, each project coordinator will be provided with the opportunity of studying the assessments and commenting on the arguments and evaluations of the external reviewers, which remain anonymous. This stage allows applicants to comment on factual errors or misunderstandings that may have been committed by the external reviewers while assessing their proposal and to reply to reviewers' questions. However, issues which are not related with reviewers' comments or questions can not be addressed and the work plan cannot be modified at this stage.

The applicants will have up to one week (between the first and second week of July) for this **optional** response to the reviewers' comments.

5.3.4. SEC evaluation

The JCS will send full proposals, reviews and rebuttals to the SEC members. The SEC will meet to discuss each proposal and, after consideration of the evaluation criteria, external reviews, rebuttals and their own discussions, the SEC will make a classification of the proposals and rank proposals recommended for funding. The final summary review report prepared by the SEC members will be send to all applicants.

5.4. Funding decision

Based on the ranking list established by the SEC and on available funding the CSC will suggest the projects to be funded to the national/regional funding organisations. Based on these recommendations, final decisions will be made by the national/regional funding organisations and will be subject to budgetary considerations.

If necessary, the CSC will determine a priority order for proposals, which have been awarded the same score within a ranked list. The following approach will be applied successively for every group of *ex aequo* proposals requiring prioritization, starting with the highest scored group, and continuing in descending order:

- Availability of national funding;
- Maximization of use of national funding;
- Proposals that address diseases not otherwise covered by more highly-ranked proposals;
- Proposals with participation of underrepresented countries

The Joint Call Secretariat will communicate to all project coordinators the final decisions together with the consensus report of the evaluation from the SEC.

6. FINANCIAL AND LEGAL ISSUES

6.1. Funding model

The E-Rare-3 JTC 2017 Funding Partners have agreed to launch a joint call using the “virtual common pot” funding mode. This means that national/regional funding will be made available through national/regional funding organisations according to national/regional funding regulations.

Each country/region funds only its national/regional component of the transnational research project. Eligible costs and funding rates may vary according to the corresponding national/regional funding organisation regulations. Prior to submitting a proposal, applicants should verify their eligibility and financial support and thus must contact their national/regional contact person (see national/regional contact details). Funding is granted for a maximum of three years according to national/regional regulations.

6.2. Involvement of patients organisations

EURORDIS is a non-governmental patient-driven alliance of patient organisations representing 692 rare disease patient organisations in 63 countries. Through their involvement and coordination, interested patient organisations with research funding mandates will have access to the proposals so that they can evaluate the relevance to their mandate or pre-determined area of research interest. Patient organisations will develop an agreement with the

funding agencies to potentially co-fund selected proposals. The applicants will have the possibility to indicate if they are interested in the potential co-funding by Patients Organisations and if they agree to share the proposals content with Patients Organisations.

6.3. Funding contracts

Each project includes several consortium members called research partners and one project coordinator. Each research partner (including the project coordinator) will have a separate funding contract/letter of grant according to national/regional regulations with the appropriate national/regional funding institutions.

Changes to the composition of research consortia or in budget cannot occur during the contract/letter of grant, unless there is a good justification. Any minor changes have to be well justified and the relevant funding organisations will decide upon the proper action to be taken. However, in case of major changes, an independent expert can be consulted to help with the final decision of the funding organisations. The research partners shall inform the JCS and the respective funding bodies of any event that might affect the implementation of the project.

6.4. Research consortium agreement and ownership of intellectual property rights

The project consortium partners must sign a consortium agreement (CA) for cooperation addressing the issues given in “Guidelines for applicants” on consortium agreements (available on the E-Rare website). The research consortium is strongly encouraged to sign this CA before the official project start date, and in any case the CA has to be signed no later than six months after the official project start date. Please note that national/regional regulations may apply concerning the requirement for a CA (please contact your national/regional contact point or check the country-specific information on the guidelines). Upon request, this consortium agreement must be made available to the concerned E-Rare-3 JTC 2017 funding organisations.

Results and new Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) resulting from projects funded through the E-Rare-3 Joint Transnational Call 2017 will be owned by the researchers’ organisations according to national/regional rules on IPR. If several participants have jointly carried out work generating new IPR, they shall agree amongst themselves (Consortium Agreement) as to the allocation of ownership of IPR, taking into account their contributions to the creation of those IPR as well as the relevant guidelines on IPR issues.

The results of the research project and IPR created should be actively exploited and made available for use, whether for commercial gain or not, in order for public benefit to be obtained from the knowledge created.

The funding partners shall have the right to use documents, information and results submitted by the research partners and/or to use the information and results for their own purposes, provided that the owner’s rights are kept and taking care to specify their origin.

6.5. IRDiRC policies and guidelines

The project partners are expected to follow IRDiRC policies and guidelines and to participate in IRDiRC working groups. For more information see http://www.irdirc.org/.

7. RESPONSIBILITIES, REPORTING REQUIREMENTS AND DISSEMINATION

The **coordinators** of all the funded projects must submit **brief annual scientific project reports and a final scientific project report** (the latter should be submitted within six months of the end of the project) to FNRS, Belgium, which is responsible for monitoring the funded projects. All reports must be in English and use a common electronic reporting form that will be provided. The research partners are jointly responsible for delivery of the reports, and FNRS will only accept reports delivered on behalf of the consortium, via the project coordinator.

If required, each participant should submit financial and scientific reports to their **national/regional funding organisations**, according to national/regional regulations. The progress and final results of each individual contract/letter of grant will be monitored by the respective national/regional funding organisations.

The coordinators and/or national/regional group leaders might be asked to present the results of their projects at an **intermediate and/or a final status symposium** organized by E-Rare. The presence of at least one representative per project will be mandatory. Therefore, expenses related to these events should be foreseen accordingly in the budget of the project.

Funding recipients must ensure that all outcomes (publications, etc.) of transnational E-Rare-3 projects include a proper acknowledgement of ERA-NET E-Rare-3 and the respective national/regional funding partner organisations.

8. CONTACT AND FURTHER INFORMATION

The JCS is set up at ISCIII (The National Institute of Health Carlos III, Spain) to assist the CSC and the national/regional funding bodies during the implementation of the call. FNRS, Belgium, will be responsible for the follow-up phase until the funded research projects have ended. The JCS will be responsible for the administrative management of the call. It will be the primary point of contact referring to the call procedures between the research consortia, the funding organisations (CSC) and the peer reviewers. The project coordinator will be the person contacted by the JCS during the application procedure, so he/she must forward this information to the other participants.

Further information on the E-Rare-3 Project, the Call and the follow-up is available at the E-Rare website (www.e-rare.eu). It is advised to contact the national/regional contact person for any questions regarding the Call (please see national/regional contact details below).

ANNEX I. National/regional contact details

Country/Region	Institution	Website	National/regional contact
Austria	FWF	www.fwf.ac.at	Stephanie Resch Phone: +43(1) 505 67 40-8201;Email: stephanie.resch@fwf.ac.at Anita Stürtz Phone: +43(1) 505 67 40-8206; Email: anita.stuerzt@fwf.ac.at
Belgium (Flanders)	FWO	www.fwo.be	Olivier Boehme T +32 2 550 15 45 eranet@fwo.be Toon Monbaliu T +32 2 550 15 70 eranet@fwo.be www.fwo.be
Belgium (french speaking community)	FNRS	www.frs-fnrs.be/	Arnaud Goolaerts Phone: +32 (0)2 504 93 09 ; E-mail: arnaud.goolaerts@frs-fnrs.be
Canada	CIHR-IG	www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca	Adrian Puga Phone :613-952-5728 Email: adrian.puga@cihr-irsc.gc.ca
Canada (Québec)	FRQS	www.frqs.gouv.qc.ca	Fonds de recherche du Québec-Santé (FRQS) Karine Genest (514) 873-2114, ext 1275 karine.genest@frq.gouv.qc.ca Anne-Cécile Desfaits (514) 873-2114, ext 1368 annececile.desfaits@frq.gouv.qc.ca
Finland	AKA	www.aka.fi	Heikki Vilen +358 29 5335 135 heikki.vilen@aka.fi
France	ANR	www.agence-nationale-recherche.fr	Juliane Halftermeyer +33 1 78 09 80 22 Daria Julkowska +33(0) 1 78 09 80 78 E-RareCalls@agencerecherche.fr
Germany	BMBF/PT-DLR	www.gesundheitsforschung-bmbf.de	Dr. Michaela Girgenrath (++49) (228) 3821-1775 Michaela.girgenrath@dlr.de Ralph Schuster (++49) (0)228 3821-1233 Ralph.Schuster@dlr.de Sabrina Legies (++49) (228) 38211212 Sabrina.Legies@dlr.de Project Management Agency of the German Aerospace Centre (PT-DLR) -Health Research-

Germany	DFG	www.dfg.de	Katja S. Grossmann Tel: +49-2288852565 E-mail:Katja.Grossmann@dfg.de
Greece	GSRT	www.gsrt.gr	Sofia DIMITROPOULOUGeneral Secretariat for Research & Technology International S&T Cooperation Directorate Division of Bilateral & Multilateral Relations14-18, Mesogeion Av., 11510 Athens, GreeceTel.: (+30) 210 7458187, Fax: (+30) 210 7714153 E-mail: s.dimitropoulou@gsrt.gr
Hungary	NKFIH	www.nkfih.gov.hu	Gábor Tóth, PhD National Research, Development and Innovation Office Department of Research and Development Phone: +36 1 896 1727 E-mail gabor.toth@nkfih.gov.hu
Israel	CSO-MOH	www.health.gov.il	Avi Israeli Phone: + 972-2-5082156 E-mail avii@moh.health.gov.il Irit Allon Phone: +972-2-5082167 Irit.allon@moh.health.gov.il
Italy	MoH-IT	www.salute.gov.it	Directorate General for Health Research and Innovation Giselda Scalera (Head Office 5) Raffaelle Ruocco Phone: +39 06.5994.3233 Maria Jose Ruiz Alvarez Phone: +39 06.5994.3214 Francesca Martorina Phone: +39 06.5994.3066 E-mail: research.EU.dgric@sanita.it
Japan	FBRI	http://www.ibri-kobe.org	Tsutomu Nishimura Translational Research Informatics Center, Foundation for Biomedical Research and Innovation, 1-5-4 Minatojima-minamimachi, Chuo-ku, Kobe, Hyogo, 650-0047 Japan. Tel: +81-78-303-9093 e-mail: t-nishimura@tri-kobe.org
Latvia	VIAA	www.viaa.gov.lv	Uldis Berkis Valsts izglitibas attistibas agentura (VIAA) Valnu iela 1, LV-1050 Riga Tel: +371-29472349 e-mail: ULDIS.BERKIS@VIAA.GOV.LV
Poland	NCBR	www.ncbir.pl/	Marcin Chmielewski National Centre for Research and Development. Poland (NCBR) phone: +48 22 39 07 109 ; e-mail marcin.chmielewski@ncbr.gov.pl
Romania	UEFISCDI	http://uefiscdi.gov.ro/	Simona Stoian

			Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding Phone : +40213023893 E-mail: simona.stoian@uefiscdi.ro
Spain	ISCIII	www.isciii.es	Maria Druet SG de Programas Internacionales de Investigación Phone: +34 9182 22530; E-mail: mdruet@isciii.es
Switzerland	SNSF	www.snf.ch	Raphael Banz Swiss National Science Foundation Phone +41(0)31 308 21 82 E-mail: raphael.banz@snf.ch
Turkey	TÜBITAK	www.tubitak.gov.tr	Dr. Jale Şahin Phone: +90- 312- 298 9439 jale.sahin@tubitak.gov.tr The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TUBITAK) Directorate for International Cooperation Bilateral and Multilateral Relations Department

ANNEX II. Indicative funding commitments of the participating organisations of the E-Rare-3 JTC 2017

Country/Region	Participating organisation	Envisioned amount of funding (M€ for 3 years)	Anticipated number of fundable research partners
Austria	Austrian Science Fund (FWF)	0.6	2
Belgium	Research Foundation Flanders (FWO)	0.2	1
Belgium	Fund for Scientific Research - FNRS (F.R.S.-FNRS)	0.20	1
Canada	Canadian Institutes of Health Research Institute of Genetics(CIHR-IG) [1]	0.5	3-4
Canada	Fonds de recherche du Québec-Santé (FRQS)	0.36	1-2
Finland	Academy of Finland (AKA)	0.6	2
France	French National Research Agency (ANR)[2]	1.5	6
Germany	German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) German Research Foundation (DFG)	3 2.3	12-15 10-12
Greece	General Secretariat for Research and Technology (GSRT)	0.5	5
Hungary	National Research, Development and Innovation Office (NKFIH)	0.15	1-2
Israel	Chief Scientist Office of the Ministry of Health (CSO/MOH)[3]	0.24	4
Italy	Ministry of Health (MoH)	1	4-6
Japan	Foundation for Biomedical Research and Innovation	tbd	tbd
Latvia	State Education Development Agency (VIAA)	0.21	1
Poland	National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR),	0.4 Up to 0.2 per project, regardless of the number of Polish research groups in the project consortium	1-3
Romania	Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development & Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI)	0.5	

[1] CIHR-IG will fund to a maximum of $1.5 million Canadian over three years (currently equivalent to 1.06 Mio €) to support operational research costs only. The Canadian amount will not be adjusted to reflect conversion rate changes.

[2] Maximum funding of 250 000€ per research team

[3] The CSO/MOH will fund up to 4 projects. The funding commitment is up to 240,000 €, depending on budget availability. Maximum funding per grant is 60,000 €.

Spain	National Institute of Health Carlos III (ISCIII)	0.25	2-3
Switzerland	Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)	1 MIO CHF (currently 0.09 Mio Euros)	
Turkey	Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBITAK)	1	3-4

ANNEX III. Eligibility of beneficiary institutions for the participating organisations of the E- Rare-3 JTC 2017

Country/Region	Institution	Eligible benificiary institution		
		Academia	Clinical/public health	Company
Austria	Austrian Science Fund (FWF)	Yes (3)	Yes (3)	Yes (3)
Belgium (Flanders)	Research Foundation Flanders (FWO)	Yes	Yes (1,2)	No
Belgium (french speaking community)	Fund for Scientific Research - FNRS (F.R.S.-FNRS)	Yes (6)	Yes (7,8)	No
Canada	Canadian Institutes of Health Research Institute of Genetics (CIHR-IG)	Yes	Yes	No
Canada (Québec)	Fonds de recherche du Québec-Santé (FRQS)	Yes	Yes	No
Finland	Academy of Finland (AKA)	Yes	Yes	Yes
France	French National Research Agency (ANR)	Yes	Yes	Yes (1)
Germany	German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)	Yes	Yes	Yes (1)
Germany	German Research Foundation (DFG)	Yes (10)	Yes (11)	No
Greece	General Secretariat of Research and Technology (GSRT)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Hungary	National Research, Development and Innovation Office (NKFIH)	Yes	Yes	No
Israel	Chief Scientist Office of the Ministry of Health (CSO/MOH)	Yes	Yes	No
Italy	Ministry of Health (MoH-IT)	No	Yes (4)	No
Japan	Foundation for Biomedical Research and Innovation(FBRI)	tbd	tbd	tbd
Latvia	State Education Development Agency (VIAA)	Yes	Yes	Yes (1)
Poland	National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Romania	Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development & Innovation Funding (UEFISCDI),	Yes	Yes	Yes (1)
Spain	National Institute of Health Carlos III (ISCIII),	No	Yes	No
Switzerland	Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)	Yes (9)	Yes (9)	No
Turkey	The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey (TÜBITAK)	Yes	Yes	Yes (1)

Please note that the information on this table is only indicative

(1) The eligibility of companies and institutions is subjected to different conditions in each country/region. Further details regarding the eligible beneficiaries and other national/regional eligibility criteria and requirements are available on the "guidelines for applicants" and the E-Rare website (www.e-rare.eu).
(2) Only clinics associated with Flemish universities are eligible for the FWO.
(3) Applications for projects from FWF (Austria) may only be submitted by single natural persons. Affirmation of the research institution (academia, clinical/public health, enterprise) of the applicant is mandatory.
(4) Research Hospital: Istituti di ricovero e cura a carattere scientifico (IRCCS). Only IRCCS (The Italian Scientific Institutes for Health Research and Health Care). The list of the IRCCS by Region and City is available here: http://www.salute.gov.it/ricercaSanitaria/paginaInternaMenuRicercaSanitaria.jsp?id=1064&menu=strumentieservizi.
(5) For universities, research institutes affiliated to universities, university medical centers, research hospitals and for health promoting institutes and knowledge institutes the several ZonMw grant terms and conditions (as of 1 July 2013) apply. Companies are not eligible for funding of ZonMw in this call, however co-financing by companies or in kind contribution of companies is encouraged.
(6) The institution must belong to the French speaking community
(7) Clinical studies can be funded as long as they are addressing scientific questions without any link to industry of private sector.
(8) Schools of public health are eligible if they are linked or associated with an institution from the French speaking community.
(9) SNSF eligibility check refers to formal and material criteria. Applicants must show that they have successfully carried out research work for several years, and must be capable of running a project under their sole responsibility and leading the project team engaged for the (sub) project. Proposals that are manifestly inadequate to be forwarded to external experts for review or show obvious substantial insufficiencies in any of the SNSF scientific assessment criteria are rejected and not forwarded to external review.
(10) For some non-university academic institutions a duty to cooperate with university institutions may exist. See guideline 55.01 under http://www.dfg.de/formulare.
(11) Only non-profit clinics and institutions are eligible.
(12) Natural persons and partners from Academia can be considered as subcontractors. However, subcontractors are not partners in the sense of a Cooperative R&D Project. They have no right to exploit project results but provide defined tasks for partners, which are listed under the cost category "third-party costs".
(13) Institutions eligible for funding under the RER-ASSR Region-University Programme: all University Hospital-AOU and the following Scientific Institutes for Health Research and Health Care (IRCCS): IRRCS Istituto Ortopedico Rizzoli (Bologna), IRCCS Istituto delle Scienze Neurologiche (Bologna) and Baggiovara Hospital (Modena), as defined by the agreement signed between the universities and the Regional Administration.

Applicants need to contact their national/regional contact points for further information and refer to the national/regional information in the "Guidelines for applicants" document