

RESEARCH 4 LIFE[©]

an  initiative

How to reach quality standards for successful EU grant application

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FP7 is dead, long live Horizon 2020

- Specific aims of Horizon 2020 have been suggested by expert opinion leaders
- Not all advices have been followed in the 2014/2015 calls
- Imaging plays a role in Horizon 2020
- However, calls are less specific than in FP7
- Therefore, nobody knows what the right strategy for writing grant applications will be in Horizon 2020

Horizon 2020 time lines

Call will be published on December 11th 2013

- PHC 11 – 2015: Development of new diagnostic tools and technologies: in vivo medical imaging technologies
- PHC 14 – 2015: New therapies for rare diseases
- PHC 17 – 2014: Comparing the effectiveness of existing healthcare interventions in the elderly
- PHC 18 – 2015: Establishing effectiveness of health care interventions in the paediatric population

Key issues for successful applications

Find the right partners for your consortium!

- do you want a specific consortium?
- or start from the science side (tackle a specific problem)?
- or is the combination of both the right approach?
- Strong partners fitting into your plans, previous cooperation!

Excellent science is more than the combination of good ideas!

Good management concepts are not too difficult!

Impact is a key issue (added value for European science/industry/patients, socioeconomic impact etc.)

The first step: excellent science

- Define a conclusive scientific strategy (this may take as much time as writing)
- The project needs to be planned from the perspective of the oncologist / surgeon / neurologist / endocrinologist ...
- A red line with clear-set aims is a necessity
- Be ambitious but realistic; implicit excellence!
- Listen to the EU (guidelines for applicants)

Take the reviewer by the hand and lead her/him through your application!!!!

The second and the third step

Excellent management can rely on a very much standardized section!

Listen to what the EU tells you!!! There are guidelines for applicants and DESCAs

Impact should play an important role when defining the science already

Be optimistic, stay realistic

Added value for European population/industry

The binding force: excellent selling!!!

Be aware that the reviewers are not a gang of completely incompetent madmen!

Why is your science better?

What makes your concept special?

Networks, impact, added value for population etc.

A concise concept with a clear red line!

Be honest and show your concept for tackling unexpected problems. How do you compensate for systematic disadvantages of your proposal?

How does EARL help?

Support in development of strategy

Support with administrative issues and management

Support with organization of meetings

Critical reviewing

EARL supports applications that make
a chance to get funding

Certain rules:

1. There is no obligation to use our support!
2. But: we will only support excellence!
(we do not have the resources to support anything)
3. Projects not fulfilling our quality expectations will not be supported!
4. In such cases, a rebuttal letter may be submitted to EARL
5. The decision taken by EARL is binding

The procedure

1. First, EARL has to be contacted with an idea for a proposal
2. If the idea is promising, a first evaluation will take place requiring a short draft
3. Feed-back for the draft will be given
4. Further development of the proposal
5. EARL review by experienced EU reviewers if possible
6. Adaptation of proposal according to criticism