

Coming soon: Innovative Medicines Initiative 2 – Call 9

The **Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI)** will soon launch a **new Call for proposals**, giving researchers from diverse sectors the opportunity to participate in **ambitious public-private partnerships** that will pave the way for the development of the **medicines of the future**.

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.

IMI 2 – Call 9 includes the following indicative topics:

- Addressing the **clinical burden of *Clostridium difficile* infection (CDI)**: Evaluation of the burden, current practices and set-up of a **European research platform** (part of the **IMI New Drugs for Bad Bugs (ND4BB)** programme)
- Development of **immune tolerance therapies** for the treatment of **rheumatic diseases**
- **Data quality** in preclinical research and development
- Next generation of **electronic translational safety**
- Identification and validation of biomarkers for **non-alcoholic steatohepatitis (NASH)** and across the spectrum of **non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD)**
- Joint **influenza vaccine effectiveness** studies

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 market**

Tips for applicants

There are a lot of things applicants can do to increase their chances of submitting a successful proposal.

- **Start working early** – ideally before the Call launch.
- **Read and understand** the Call documents – time spent on this should be considered an investment.
- **Ask questions** – if anything is unclear, contact the IMI Programme Office.
- **Get informed** – by taking part in webinars and info days on the topics and IMI's rules and procedures.
- Make sure you address the **requirements of the topic** and that your consortium includes all the expertise needed to carry out the tasks expected of it.

Find out more

Draft texts of the topics can be found on the IMI website: bit.ly/futuretopics

IMI will also hold **webinars** on the topics in **April 2016**. Visit the IMI events page for details & to register: bit.ly/1RSPiTC

All information regarding future IMI Call topics is indicative and subject to change. Final information about future IMI Calls will be communicated after approval by the IMI Governing Board.

- **The evaluators aren't psychic** – ensure your proposal includes all the information the independent reviewers will need to assess it.
- Don't forget to address any **ethical issues** – this speaks for itself!
- Don't forget the **basics** – like application format, eligibility rules, and deadlines.

For additional advice, visit IMI's **Tips for Applicants** page bit.ly/tipsforapplicants

Find project partners

If you want to apply to take part in a new IMI project, one of your first tasks will be to find or build an applicant consortium, and to do this, you will need to find partners.

- **Start early** – building a consortium takes time.
- **Use your contacts** – this is the best way of finding partners.
- **Network at events** – like the IMI webinars, local info days, etc.
- **Use online partner search tools** – like the IMI partner search tools.
- **Use social media** – like Twitter or the IMI LinkedIn group.

For more information, visit IMI's **Partner Search** page bit.ly/IMIpartnersearch

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 70 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