

## New research projects on Coronavirus (March 2020)

### Outcome of emergency funding action for coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 outbreak: 18 new projects

On 30 January 2020, the European Commission launched [a request for expressions of interest entitled “SC1-PHE-CORONAVIRUS-2020: Advancing knowledge for the clinical and public health response to the \[COVID-19\] epidemic”](#) with a budget of €10 million subsequently increased up to €48.5 million.

Such rapid reaction is made possible by the standing budget line for emergency research funds that the Commission maintains as part of the **Horizon 2020** annual work programmes for Health research.



[This enabled 17 projects to be short-listed for funding as the EC announced on 6 March 2020](#), to which an 18<sup>th</sup> project was added in late March<sup>1</sup>. In total, the 18 projects involve 140 research teams from across the EU and beyond who will work on:

- **Improving epidemiology and public health, including our preparedness and response to outbreaks.** These projects will help develop better monitoring systems in order to effectively prevent and control the spread of the virus, as well as contribute to the assessment of social dynamics.
- **Rapid point-of-care diagnostic tests.** Increased efforts will concentrate on enabling front-line health workers to make the diagnosis more quickly and more accurately, which will in turn reduce the risk of further spread of the virus.
- **New treatments**, in which a dual approach will be adopted. Firstly, accelerating the development of new treatments currently in the pipeline (including therapeutic peptides, monoclonal antibodies and broad-spectrum antivirals), and secondly, screening and identifying molecules that could work against the virus, using advanced modelling and computing techniques.
- **Development of new vaccines.** The research will focus on developing a prophylactic vaccine and a therapeutic vaccine, which will be used for prevention and treatment respectively.

The projects are listed below. Disclaimer: For each project, funding and composition of the consortium is subject to final European Commission decision and signature of Horizon 2020 Grant Agreement.

[For more information on EC support for coronavirus-related research.](#)

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<sup>1</sup> On 30 March, an 18th proposal was added to the initial shortlist after its evaluation was initially suspended pending the provision of some administrative information.

## 18 Horizon 2020 research projects on coronavirus short-listed for funding (March 2020)

<b>Epidemiology</b>			
<b>Acronym</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Lead partner institution</b>	<b>All partners</b>
<a href="#">I-MOVE-COVID-19</a>	Multidisciplinary European network for research, prevention and control of the COVID-19 Pandemic	Epiconcept (FR)	20 partners: AL, DE, ES(2), FR(5), IE, LT, NL(2), PT(2), RO, SE, UK(2)
<a href="#">RECOVER</a>	Rapid European COVID-19 Emergency research Response	Universiteit Antwerpen (BE)	10 partners: BE, CN, DE, FR(2), IT, NL(3), UK
<a href="#">HERoS</a>	Health Emergency Response in Interconnected Systems	Svenska handelshögskolan (FI)	11 partners: FR, FI(2), IT, MK, NL(2), PL(3), UK
EpiPose	Epidemic intelligence to minimize 2019-nCoV's public health, economic and social impact in Europe	Universiteit Hasselt (BE)	6 partners: BE(2), CH, IT, NL, UK
CORESMA	COVID-19-Outbreak Response combining E-health, Serolomics, Modelling, Artificial Intelligence and Implementation Research	Helmholtz-Zentrum für Infektionsforschung (DE)	7 partners: CH, CI, CN, DE(2), NL, NP
<b>Modelling</b>			
<a href="#">RiPCoN</a>	Rapid interaction profiling of 2019-nCoV for network-based deep drug- repurpose learning (DDRL)	Helmholtz Zentrum München Deutsche Forschungszentrum für Gesundheit und Umwelt (DE)	3 partners: DE, ES, FR
<a href="#">EXSCALATE4CoV</a>	EXaScale smArt pLatform Against paThogEns for Corona Virus	Dompé farmaceutici (IT)	18 partners: BE, CH(2), DE(2), ES, IT(10), PL, SE
<b>Diagnostics</b>			
<a href="#">CoNVat</a>	Combating 2019-nCoV: Advanced Nanobiosensing platforms for POC global diagnostics and surveillance	Fundacio Institut Catala de Nanociencia i Nanotecnologia (ES)	4 partners: ES(2), FR, IT
<a href="#">CoronaDX</a>	Three Rapid Diagnostic tests (Point-of-Care) for COVID-19 Coronavirus, improving epidemic preparedness, public health and socio-economic benefits	Danmarks Tekniske Universitet (DK)	8 partners: AT, CN(2), DK(2), IT(2), SE
HG nCoV19 test	Development and validation of rapid molecular diagnostic test for nCoV19	Hibergene Diagnostics (IE)	4 partners: CN, IE, IT, UK

<b>Treatment</b>			
<a href="#">Fight-nCoV</a>	Fighting-off Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) with broad-spectrum antivirals: establishing animal challenge model	Stockholms Universitet (SE)	6 partners: DE(2), DK, FR, SE(2)
<a href="#">SCORE</a>	Swift COronavirus therapeutics Response	Academisch Ziekenhuis Leiden (NL)	8 partners: BE(2), CH, DE(2), FR, NL(2)
<a href="#">Solnatide</a>	Exploration of safety, tolerability and clinical efficacy of Solnatide IMP in patients infected with the 2019 new coronavirus	APEPTICO Forschung und Entwicklung GmbH (AT)	5 partners: AT, DE, ES, IT, NL,
<a href="#">ATAC</a>	Antibody therapy against coronavirus (COVID-2019)	Karolinska Institutet (SE)	5 partners: BE, CH, DE, IT, SE
MANCO	Monoclonal Antibodies against 2019-New Coronavirus	Harbour Antibodies BV (NL)	8 partners: DE, ES, FR(2), NL(4)
<a href="#">CoroNAb</a>	Nanobodies and antibodies against 2019-nCoV	Karolinska Institutet (SE)	4 partners: CH, DK, SE, UK
<b>Vaccines</b>			
<a href="#">OPENCORONA</a>	Rapid therapy development through Open Coronavirus Vaccine Platform	Karolinska Institutet (SE)	7 partners: DE, IT, SE(5)
<a href="#">Prevent-nCoV</a>	Prevention of 2019 nCoV infection through development and clinical testing of a novel Virus Like Particle (VLP) vaccine	AdaptVac (DK)	6 partners: DE, DK(3), NL(2)

To contact the project lead partners of the shorted-listed proposals: [RTD-CORONAVIRUS@ec.europa.eu](mailto:RTD-CORONAVIRUS@ec.europa.eu)