Call text: 14th JPIAMR transnational call for research projects within the ERA-NET JPIAMR-ACTION

“Disrupting drug Resistance Using Innovative Design”

Short title: DRUID

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PNC-Joint Programme Initiatives AMR”DRUID”

Aim of the call

- The DRUID Call aims to improve the **treatment** of **bacterial** and **fungal** infections and/or the **prevention** of the emergence/spread of resistance in **humans**, **animals** or **plants** through the the optimisation of the drug delivery, drug combinations and/or drug repuposing.

Topics of the call

- Optimization of drug delivery concentration ;
- Drug Repurposing;
- Optimization of drug combinations, alone or with adjunct therapies (including vaccines) ;
- Design and implementation of new strategies and/or innovative tools for improved application and delivery of antimicrobials.

- Proposal can include mathematical modelling, analysis to identify optimised combinations and conditions for clinical use, or treatment protocols based on combination therapy, personalised medicine and PK/PD. Studies may include companion diagnostics in the optimisation of treatment strategies.

Sub-topics are out of scope of the call:

- Antiviral and antiparasitic drug resistance
- Discovery and/or screening of new compounds, new vaccines and/or new targets
- Hit to lead optimisation
- Drug optimisation
- Proposals solely aiming to develop new diagnostics or new companion diagnostic (companion diagnostics in evaluation of the antimicrobials can be examined but they should not be the main topic of the proposal.)

One Health settings

The three One Health settings are covered by this call

- Human Health, and/or
- Animal Health (including wild-life, livestock, fishes, and pets), and/or
- Plants

- In the framework of this call, there is no need for a proposal to focus on more than one One Health setting.

- The eligibility of the considered One-Health setting may depend on your funding organisation

Type of studies/ experimental approaches

- In Vitro and/or
- Preclinical and clinical studies in human and veterinary settings, and/or
- Studies in crop/plant settings

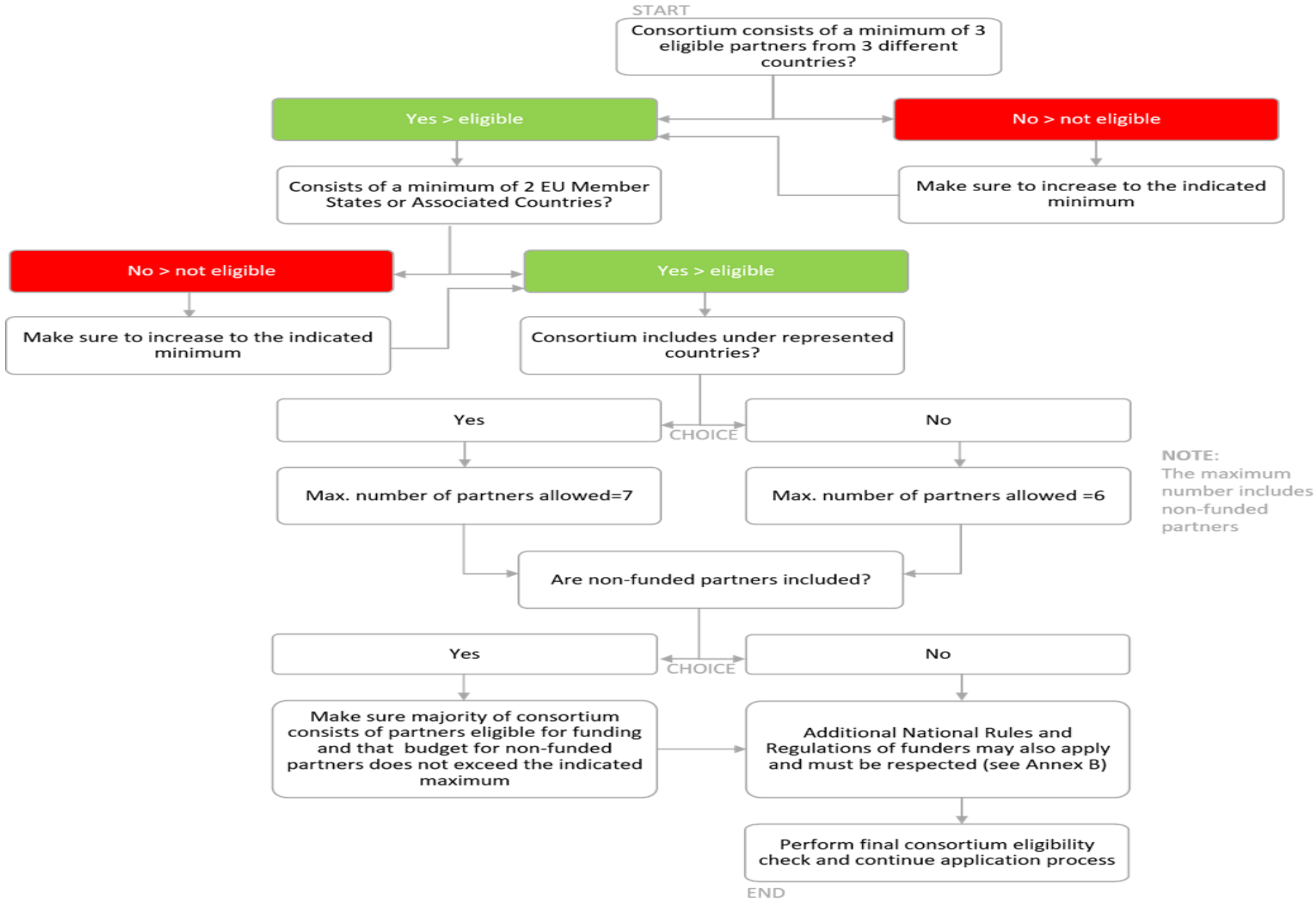
- The eligibility of the considered experimental approach may depend on your funding organisation.

Application

Eligibility

Eligibility rules for the consortia are:

- The consortium must include a minimum of three (3) eligible partners asking for funding from three (3) different countries (at least two from EU Member States or Associated Countries).
- The consortium can include a maximum of six (6) project partners (including non-funded partners, Figure 1). The maximum number of partners can be increased to seven (7) if at least a partners from an under-represented country is or under-funded countries (including LMICs) are included in the consortium.
- Additional National Rules and Regulations (Annex B) of funders also apply and must be respected.


START
Consortium consists of a minimum of 3 eligible partners from 3 different countries?
Yes > eligible
No > not eligible
Consists of a minimum of 2 EU Member States or Associated Countries?
Make sure to increase to the indicated minimum
No > not eligible
Yes > eligible
Make sure to increase to the indicated minimum
Consortium includes under represented countries?
Yes
CHOICE
No
Max. number of partners allowed=7
Max. number of partners allowed =6
NOTE:
The maximum number includes non-funded partners
Are non-funded partners included?
Yes
CHOICE
No
Make sure majority of consortium consists of partners eligible for funding and that budget for non-funded partners does not exceed the indicated maximum
Additional National Rules and Regulations of funders may also apply and must be respected (see Annex B)
Perform final consortium eligibility check and continue application process
END

Application

Widening

In order to promote inclusiveness and ensure global participation, relevance and impact of the submitted projects in and outside Europe, the Joint Call will implement a number of widening mechanisms before the evaluation of the full proposals:

- **At the pre-proposal stage**, the widening mechanism will apply to under-represented countries listed in footnote 3 and 4 in section 2.1. Consortia including a research team from an under-represented country have the opportunity to increase the total number of partners of the consortium to the maximum of seven (7).
- **At the full proposal stage**, the widening mechanism will be restricted to under-subscribed organisations, i.e. funding organisations that will most likely not use the budgets they dedicated to the call.

Evaluation criteria proposals:
1. Excellence

a. Fit to the scope of the call.

b. Clarity and pertinence of the objectives.

c. Credibility of the proposed approach and methodology, in relation to the research objectives.

d. Soundness and research base of the concept.

e. Novelty, ambition, timeliness, and innovation.

f. Excellence of the consortium with regards to competence, equity and diversity, including strength of scientific collaboration between partners, in relation to the research objectives.

Evaluation criteria proposals:
2. Impact

a. Impact of the proposal to improve reducing the treatment of bacterial and fungal infections. development and treatment of antimicrobial resistance. Justification of the choice of pathogen should be robust and demonstrate strength of need.

b. Potential of the expected results for clinic, public, and animal health, agriculture, or environment.

c. Added value of transnational collaboration and potential for fostering a longer term international network of researchers. For example, bringing together specific know-how and/or innovative technologies, gathering a critical mass of patients or biological material, sharing of resources (models, databases, biobanks, etc.), and international comparisons.

d. Potential reach of the project results, including dissemination and communication measures. Accessibility of the proposed innovative strategy (different geographical areas, different populations..)

e.Appropriateness of end user and stakeholder participation/engagement, for example, policy makers, industry, patient organisation, health and veterinary care, farmers etc.

Evaluation criteria proposals:
3.Quality and efficiency of the implementation

a. Coherence and effectiveness of the work plan, including appropriateness of the allocation of tasks within the given timeframe and balanced participation of project partners.

b. Social and gender equity, cultural sensitivity and economic viability of the project consortium and research proposal, including integrating demographic and socioeconomic factors where appropriate.

c. Quality of the proposed Open Science practices, data management and Intellectual Property management.

d. Appropriateness of the management and governance structures and procedures, including risk and innovation management.

e. Potential sustainability (including strategy to identify and address potential barriers) and relevance of the outcomes of the findings beyond the current project. (long term strategy)

f. Contingency plan, including risk assessment and mitigation (including of unforeseen circumstances like Covid-19).

g. Justification of the requested budget and cost-effectiveness of the project (appropriate distribution of resources in relation to project’s activities, partner responsibilities and time frame).

Ethics and legal requirements

- Proposals selected for funding will undergo an ethics review by an Ethics Panel. Applicants should anticipate this requirement, and ensure that they have consulted with relevant experts to verify the feasibility of the project, and that the proposal can be completed within the defined budget and within the prescribed time window. In the full proposal template a self-assessment checklist will need to be completed.

- Each funded consortium must have all necessary ethics approvals for research on animals, and/or research involving human subjects or data/samples obtained from human subjects according to national/regional law and regulation and in compliance with EU Horizon 2020 rules before initiation of such research.

Social and gender equity, cultural sensitivity and economic viability

- Consortia are highly encouraged to apply these principles to the composition, leadership and management of research projects, the impact to improving health and wellbeing should be considered.

- Research projects are expected to apply an intersectional and multi-dimensional approach by integrating sex, gender and other individual and population-level determinants of health (such as age, socio-economic status, ethnicity, religion, class, caste, and other factors) into the project's design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and knowledge translation activities.

- Research projects are expected to consider individual and population-level determinants of health when collecting and analysing data to design and/or implement interventions in ways that are accessible and affordable to target beneficiaries, to systematically capture and report on sex, gender, and other relevant factors in the project research outputs, and to meaningfully engage the participation of targeted marginalised groups in the research activities.

Open access and FAIR data

- Following the ambitions of open access, researchers involved in JPIAMR funded projects must ensure that science and society can be made aware of the information about the project as early as possible in the research process.
- In cases where there is information that cannot be shared (either by open access publication, or by sharing of data or biological materials), this must be explained, and substantiated in the JPIAMR reporting (e.g, temporary confidentiality may be accepted in the case of commercial exploitation).

Thanks for your attention