‘Horizon 2020’s opportunities and challenges
The biomedical research perspective’

Hosted by Mairead McGuinness
Vice-President European Parliament
November 29, 2016

‘The value of collaborative research in Europe’
Karin Sipido

Past-President, Alliance for Biomedical Research in Europe
Chair, H2020 Scientific Panel for Health, DG RTD, Health Directorate
The value of health and biomedical research in Europe

‘Improved health and wellbeing of the people is the ultimate goal of research. This societal aspect is an important and traditional characteristic of European research and its emphasis and orientation toward humanitarian goals and solidarity.

In addition, health contributes to economic prosperity.

Research underpins every step in the innovation cycle, from discovery in bench and bedside research, to implementation in healthcare, and prevention.

It is part of a vision of science and knowledge in a participative society.’

‘Better Research for Better Health’

A vision for health and biomedical research - the Scientific Panel for Health, May 2016
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Europe as a whole spends about 10% of its gross domestic product on health care.
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The expected burden of disease is high..

Figure 1 World map showing diabetes prevalence as percent of population (colour scale), and absolute morbidity for the years 2000 and 2030 (projected). There are geographical, and socioeconomic trends. (King et al., 1998).
while the innovation chain is long

15 years
with re-iterative research
Expectations for health care are high..

P4 Medicine: Personalized, Predictive, Preventive, Participatory

Precision Medicine

Digital (e)Health

......

Are we ready?

1Aufray, Charron, Hood, 2010; 2Collins, 2015
In 2012 a proposal was put forward for a strategic, scientific-led action for health research and to create a “European Council for Health Research”

>> translated into Horizon 2020 proposal as ‘Scientific Panel for Health’

Jose Mariano Gago   Teresa Riera Madurell   Maria da Graca Carvalho
.. a broad mandate

‘.. the Scientific Panel for Health has been mandated to provide a comprehensive view on how to advance biomedical research in support of improving health in Europe, and to formulate recommendations to policy makers.’

*The Lancet, 2016*

Who we are

– 27 experts across disciplines and activities
– advisors and liaisons to the community
– policy experience and vision
– complementary to existing bodies

> to consult and connect
stakeholders

- Civic society
- Funders
- Charities
- Policymakers
- Private sector
- Academia
- Research organizations
A long and difficult way, full of regulatory hurdles

- Tissue research
- Specific rules for GMOs
- Other types of human research (interventional or not)
- Genetic testing & counseling
- Radioprotection laws
* Data protection: national specificities

EU

- In vitro diagnostics regulation
- Medical device regulation
- Cross border directive
- Clinical trial regulation
- ATMP directive
- Data protection regulation*

MSs x28

⇒ Streamline - Simplify - Harmonize

Europe must build an integrated and harmonized legal and ethical framework to foster relevant international clinical research
Biomedical and health research are drivers for better health and patient care through innovation and implementation into practice of novel findings. In a changing society new challenges demand a new research and innovation framework and strategy.

The European Commission's Scientific Panel for Health (SPH) is a science-led expert group based on the provisions of the Horizon 2020 Specific Programme that has been tasked with helping to achieve better health and wellbeing for all. 
a selection of stakeholder participation
Strategic Priorities in R&D for Global Health

- SPH workshop: mechanisms and perspectives on research strategy and agenda setting

- Speakers from EC (Cornelius Schmaltz), WHO (Tana Wuliji), Johns Hopkins /NIH (Michael Klag), FEAM (Bernhard Fleckenstein)
‘.. the Scientific Panel for Health is calling for the:

• development of a comprehensive policy for health research, defining and aligning common projects across EC directorates, the EU and member states,
• implementation of ‘health-in-all policies’

A long-term mechanism to ensure these policies and quality of research requires a science-led multi-stakeholders’ platform for European transdisciplinary health and biomedical research which could take shape as a European Council for Health Research or an Institute for Health.’

The Lancet, 2016
Case studies of collaboration

impact & support
Cancer Core Europe: Paving the Way for a Virtual European Cancer Institute

From new treatments to Outcomes Research

- Gustave Roussy Cancer Campus Grand Paris
- Cambridge Cancer Centre
- Karolinska Institutet
- Netherlands Cancer Institute
- Vall d’Hebron Institute of Oncology
- German Cancer Research Centre with its comprehensive cancer centre: the National Centre for Tumour Diseases

http://www.cancercoreeurope.eu/index.php
Collaboration in cardiovascular research

Source: Thomson Reuters WoS Core Collection
High impact of collaborative research

Source: Thomson Reuters WoS Core Collection
EU Research policy (Art. 163 & 178 of the Treaty on European Union) “strengthening the scientific and technological basis of Community industry” and “promoting all research activities deemed necessary for other policies”.

Public funding R&D - all

- Member states
- EU 28
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When it comes to collaborative research across borders the EU is the prime source of public funding.

* estimate based on MS funding schemes and EC reporting
‘Better research for better health’ calls for more high quality cross-border collaboration

next Framework Programme
‘European Council for Health Research’
‘EU Health Institute’
Thank you

Alliance for Biomedical Research in Europe