

HORIZON 2020

HEALTH PARTNERING DAY 2017

HEALTH, DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE & WELLBEING



7 DECEMBER 2017, BRUSSELS

Session 1: Better Health and Care

Proposal for a European-Russian Platform for HIV and HCV Research in vulnerable populations (ERP-HIV/HCV)

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Project idea / Company expertise



CNAIDS: CNAIDS is a national Center at ISS, the Italian NIH. Its mission is to improve public health interventions for the diagnosis, prevention and cure of HIV/AIDS by a *translational research* approach (bench-to-bedside) and through population-based studies for the surveillance and characterization of emerging genetic forms of HIV, HBV and HCV circulating in Italy and in developing countries (i.e. South Africa), particularly in vulnerable populations.

CNAIDS products: preventative and therapeutic vaccines against HIV/AIDS and new therapies against HIV-associated tumors. A therapeutic vaccine based on HIV Tat and a drug-repositioning therapy based on HIV protease inhibitors for treatment of Kaposi's sarcoma are ready for phase III trials.

Topic: SC1-BHC-21-2018: Research on HIV, tuberculosis (TB) and/or hepatitis C (HCV) in patients with mono-, co-infections and/or comorbidities in the context of fostering collaboration with the Russian Federation.

Proposal objectives:

1. To monitor and characterize the genetic forms of HIV and HCV circulating in Europe and Russia, in the general population and in vulnerable populations (migrants and inmates).
2. To evaluate genetic determinants of HIV and HCV and of the host that can be involved in disease progression.

Proposed partnership: a consortium composed of at least four EU countries (including Italy) and Russia. At least one country should be from Eastern Europe.

Required partners skills: 1) Presence of a **network of clinical centers** for enrollment of patients cohorts (migrants and/or inmates). 2) Molecular biology and nucleic acid sequencing; 2) Phylogenetic/phylogenetic analysis; 3) Cell biology; 4) Experience in technology transfer and capacity building.

CNAIDS skills in relation to the topic text: Availability of a network of 15 clinical centers present on the Italian territory for patients enrollment and previous experience in working with migrants and inmates; 3) Real-time PCR and Digital PCR; 4) NGS sequencing (Illumina). 5) Bioinformatic analysis of NGS data. 6) Phylogenetic trees (HIV, HBV and HCV); 7) HIV isolation and biological characterization; 8) Cell biology; 9) Basic and advanced immune assays.

CNAIDS involvement in major projects:

- FP6 AVIP; Project ID: LSHP-CT-2004-503487, Thematic Priority: LSH-2002-2.3.0-1, AIDS Vaccine Integrated Project. **COORDINATOR.**
- FP6 VIAV; Project ID: LSHP-CT-2004-012188. Very Innovative AIDS Vaccine. **COORDINATOR.**
- FP6 MUVAPRED; Project ID: LSHP-CT-2003-502340, Mucosal Vaccines for Poverty Related Diseases. **PARTNER.**
- FP6 EUROPRISE Project ID: LSHP-CT-2006-037611; European Vaccines and Microbicides Enterprise. **PARTNER.**
- Italy-South Africa cooperation "Program to support the Ministry of Health of South Africa in the implementation of a national program of global response to HIV & AIDS", Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. **COORDINATOR.**
- Italian National AIDS Program. **COORDINATOR.**

Topic

Keywords

- HIV → **Mesh term:** HIV
- HCV → **Mesh term:** Hepatitis C
- Russia → **Mesh term:** Russia
- Migrants → **Mesh term:** Transients and Migrants
- Inmates → **Mesh term:** Prisoners
- Prisons → **Mesh term:** Prisons
- Phylogenesis → **Mesh term:** Phylogeny
- Genotypes → **Mesh term:** Genotypes
- Host genetic determinants → **Mesh term:** Humans, genetics

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