

TRANSCAN-4

Sustained collaboration of funders to support translational cancer research

Joint Transnational Call for Proposals 2026 (JTC-2026)

"Translational Research on Cancer Metabolism: Multidisciplinary Approaches for Diagnosis and Treatment"

Full Proposal Application Form

Please note:

- Proposals that do not meet the regional/national eligibility criteria and requirements **will be declined without further review.**
- All fields must be completed using "Arial font, size 11" characters, single-spaced.
- **Incomplete proposals (proposals missing any sections), proposals using a different format (font type, font size, number of character per section) or exceeding length limitations of any sections will be rejected without further review.**
- Refer to the "GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS" for information about the proposal structure.
- Once completed the full proposal must be converted in a single PDF document, formatted in DIN-A4, before being uploaded to the submission website.

CHECKLIST FOR THE COORDINATOR:

In order to make sure that your proposal will be eligible to this call, please collect the information required (help provided through the "Call Text", "Guidelines for Applicants" and your contact point) and verify all the sections below before starting to complete this application form.

- General conditions:

- The project proposal addresses only one of the two aims listed in the call text.
- The project proposal addresses the **AIM** of the call chosen during the pre-proposal.
- I am aware of the **regional/national requirements** of the corresponding funding organisations.
- The pre-proposal was positively evaluated and I have been invited to submit a full-proposal.

- Composition of the consortium:

- The project proposal involves at least 3 eligible partners and a maximum of partners (comprising the project coordinator) eligible for funding according to what is established in the call text, coming from at least three (3) different countries whose funders participate in the TRANSCAN-4 2026 Joint Transnational Call.
- The project coordinator is eligible to be funded by one of the participating funding organisations.

- The project consortium does not include more than two partners from the same country participating in the call (see “Guidelines for Applicants” for specific regional/national regulations).
- The project proposal involves no more than 6 partners. The maximum number of partners can be increased up to seven (7) if certain criteria are met (Check these criteria in the call text).
- The project proposal involves no more than one research group with its own funding.
- If a research group with its own funding is part of the consortium, the respective partner is indicated as a full partner in this proposal template.
- The project proposal involves **at least one early-career researcher (ECR) as principal investigator in a consortium.**

- **Eligibility of consortium partners:**

- I have checked that partners involved in the project proposal and requesting budget are eligible to receive funding from their funding organisation.
- If a research group with its own funding is part of the consortium, the respective partner is indicated as a full partner in this proposal template and the PT-potline, demonstrating, that their economic and human resources have already been secured and will be available at the start of the project. (This is requested to be demonstrated with this full-proposal submission with a written confirmation of the PI organisation.)
- Italian partners requesting funds from the Italian Ministry of Health (IT-MoH) have submitted the requested national additional documents in parallel in time.
- Lombardy partners requesting funds from “Fondazione Regionale per la Ricerca Biomedica”, FRRB, have submitted the requested regional document in parallel in time.
- Tuscany partners requesting funds from the Tuscany Region, TuscReg, have submitted the requested regional document in parallel in time.
- Spanish partners requesting funds from the National Institute of Health Carlos III (ISCIII) and The Scientific Foundation of the Spanish Association Against Cancer (AECC-FC) provided the requested national additional application form by uploading it on the online submission tool.
- Turkish partners requesting funds from The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkiye (TÜBİTAK), have applied via <https://uidb-pbs.tubitak.gov.tr/> in parallel to the 1st stage submission.

- **Ethical standards**

- The proposal complies with ethical principles (including the highest standards of research integrity as set out, for instance, in the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity; in particular, this includes avoiding fabrication, falsification, plagiarism or other research misconduct).

Project title (maximum 150 characters, including spaces)

Acronym (max. 10 characters)

**Project duration
(months)**

Total requested funding €

Keywords: Please indicate three to seven keywords by using the [MeSH](#) vocabulary representing: the scientific content [type of cancer; specific aim(s) and topic(s) (see Call Text, chapter 2. Aim of the Call)]; the methodological and technological approach(es)

Publishable project abstract (maximum 3,000 characters including spaces, equivalent to about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an A4 page)

Please note that this abstract will be published on the TRANSCAN website if your project is selected for funding.

The abstract should contain:

- *Background, rationale*
- *Hypothesis*
- *Aims (primary and secondary)*
- *Methods*
- *Expected results and potential impact*

Project coordinator (= partner 1 in the consortium, indicating whether or not the Coordinator is an Early Career Researchers (ECR)):

Last name	
First name	
Institution	
Department	
Address (and post code)	
Post code	
City	
Country	
Phone (and fax)	
E-mail	

Partner 2 (Please indicate if Principal Investigators participate as ECR).

Last name	
First name	
Institution	
Department	
Address (and post code)	
City	
Country	
Phone (and fax)	
E-mail	

Partner 3 (Please indicate if Principal Investigators participate as ECR).

Last name	
First name	
Institution	
Department	
Address (and post code)	
City	
Country	
Phone (and fax)	
E-mail	

The partners must be the same as for the pre-proposal. There is no widening process for this full proposal stage.

Adherence of the proposal to the scope, aims and specific topics of the call. Proposals will have to cover only one of the two undermentioned aims. Please select as appropriate. **Remember to maintain the same AIM chosen in the pre-proposal stage, otherwise your proposal will be discarded in the formal eligibility check without further review.**

- Aim 1: Enabling better cancer diagnostics and monitoring through metabolic markers
- Aim 2: Intercepting metabolic vulnerabilities to improve precision medicine

Project description

Please note: if the project comprises a clinical trial, section 18 of this form must be completed, in addition to the others.

1. Background and rationale (maximum 4,000 characters including spaces, equivalent to about one A4 page).

Medical need and present state of the art in the research field(s)

2. Preliminary results obtained by the consortium members, if applicable (maximum 3,000 characters including spaces, equivalent to about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an A4 page).

Figures related to the preliminary results, one page maximum, **must be included in this application form, because the electronic submission system does not allow uploading of more than one PDF file.**

3. Specific aims, research hypothesis and preliminary data, experimental design and working plan (maximum 12,000 characters including spaces, equivalent to about three A4 pages).

This section should contain:

- Project specific aims (maximum 3, either primary or secondary)
 - Research hypothesis and supporting preliminary data in a more detailed fashion compared to the homonymous sections of the pre-proposal
 - Experimental design, intended as the strategy that directs researchers towards the study aim(s).
- Experimental Design AIM 1
Experimental Design AIM 2 (if applicable)

Experimental Design AIM 3 (if applicable)

- Working plan, including a general overview of the entire consortium, and rationale of workpackages
- Synthetic description of the working plan at the workpackage level.

WP No.	WP: Brief task description	Participant(s) responsible for the WP (participation should be consistent with the financial plan)
1		
2		
3		
4		
N		

4. Methods, power calculation and statistical analysis, expected outcome and risk analysis. (Maximum 8,000 characters including spaces, equivalent to about two A4 pages).

a. Methods: This section should include a detailed description of the project methodology extended, whenever applicable, to all the following issues: study design, population(s) as defined by clearly stated inclusion and exclusion criteria, intervention/exposure, group/s of comparison and outcome of interest. Specific details on the procedural aspects will be added depending on the adherence of the proposal to the specific scopes, aims and topic of the call, as specified in the pre-proposal application, section 8, i.e., "Adherence of the proposal to the scope, aims and specific topics of the call". With specific regard to studies with a mixed design, the applicants are required to be clear about which parts of the study will be retrospective (i.e. based on patient data already collected and stored biological specimens), and which would include patients (and their specimens) to be recruited prospectively; and indicate the number of patients (or samples) in each of these groups.

Details have to be provided regarding the planning for the management and retention of biological samples, specifying whether cooperation with existing or creation of new biobanks is envisaged.

b. The proposed sample size has to be clearly supported in terms of power calculation. Details on the strategic plan for statistical analysis are required. With specific regard to clinical trials, interim analyses and stopping rules have to be anticipated and appropriately motivated.

c. A referral to the expected outcome has to be included. In specific regard to the intervention trials, this section has to include some justification for the expected treatment outcome.

d. Contingency plan: Please describe which problems or risks you may face in executing the project plan and which anticipating actions you will take to make sure your project will run efficiently. Consider for example accomplishment of the specific research objectives of the study, depletion of biospecimens, achievement of critical data end points, discontinuation of participation by human research participants, possible bias, regulatory aspects, or future funding.

5. Novelty and originality of the project (maximum 2,000 characters including spaces, equivalent to about half an A4 page).

6. Project feasibility, consortium governance and management of project coordination (maximum 4,000 characters including spaces, equivalent to about one A4 page).

This section should include:

- A description of the infrastructures and resources relevant to the implementation of the work plan, concept of data and material acquisition and storage, availability of biological resources, data management and elaboration.
- A description of the research consortium governance and management as well as of project coordination. This should include: i) a description of the governance and management structure and of project coordination planning (meeting, monitoring, etc.); ii) an outline of responsibilities and project effort (expressed in person months) of each participating research group per work package.

7. Potential impact in reference to the development, dissemination and use of the project results (maximum 2,000 characters including spaces, equivalent to about half an A4 page).

8. References (maximum 4,000 characters including spaces, equivalent to about one A4 page)

9. Timeline and milestones (maximum 2,000 characters including spaces, equivalent to about half an A4 page).

This section should include a graphic representation of the project time plan and the milestones (Gantt chart) on a 12-month basis, i.e. at 12, 24 and 36 months. A milestone is a critical point in time to ascertain that sufficient and successful progress has been made in the project.

The chart must be included in this application form, because the electronic submission system does not allow uploading of more than one PDF file.

10. Diagram which compiles the work plan, the contribution of the partners to each workpackage and their interactions (PERT diagram).

The diagram must be included in this application form, because the electronic submission system does not allow uploading of more than one PDF file.

11. Added value of the collaboration in the proposed transnational project (maximum 3,000 characters including spaces, equivalent to about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an A4 page).

This section should describe the quality of the transnational research consortium, illustrating:

- a) the level of expertise of the individual research teams in the field(s) of the proposal (team scientific track record, publications, patents, etc.);
- b) the quality of the collaboration between the research teams and added value of the research consortium with respect to the individual team.

12. Description of past and ongoing research projects of each participating group related to the present topic.

Specify funding or co-funding from other sources (include at least: title, ID number, amount and duration of funded project; topic and relevance; funding agency if applicable).

Project title	ID number (project number or application date)	Amount (€)	Duration of funded project (start-end date)	Topic and relevance to the requested proposal	Funding agency

Participation in former TRANSCAN calls: YES: Please specify:

NO:

13. Description of existing or potential patents (own or third party) and present/future position with regard to intellectual property rights, both within and outside the consortium (i.e. freedom to operate, barriers to sharing materials or results), if applicable (maximum 3,000 characters including spaces, equivalent to about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an A4 page).

14. Ethical and legal issues. Please delineate and provide confirmation that the study complies with local, national and EU regulations, concerning informed consent and other legal requirements for human experimentations, data protection, material transfer obligations and use of animals, if applicable (maximum 3,000 characters including spaces, equivalent to about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an A4 page).

15. Data Management Plan ^[1]. [Data Management Plans \(DMPs\)](#) are a key element of good data management. A DMP describes the data management life cycle for the data to be collected, processed and/or generated by a project. Please describe briefly how the research data in this project will be findable, accessible, interoperable and re-usable (FAIR). (maximum 8,000 characters including spaces, equivalent to about two A4 pages).

Consortia selected for funding may be required to submit a detailed DMP no later than six months after the start of the project. The project coordinator is responsible for sending this document to the JCS.

^[1] For more information on preparing a data management strategy/plan, please consult Annex 1 of http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/grants_manual/hi/oa_pilot/h2020-hi-oa-data-mgt_en.pdf

This proposal is not expected to contain a fully developed DMP.

This section should include information on:

- the handling of research data during & after the end of the project
- what data will be collected, processed and/or generated
- which methodology & standards will be applied
- whether data will be shared/made open access and
- how data will be curated & preserved (including after the end of the project).

16. Brief CVs for each research partner (i.e. the project coordinator and each principal investigator) including a description of the main domain of research and a list of the five most relevant publications within the last five years, demonstrating the competence to carry out the project (maximum 4,000 characters including spaces, equivalent to about one A4 page for each partner). **(Please highlight which Principal Investigators participate as ECR).**

17. Capacity building activities (optional section) (maximum 4,000 characters including spaces, equivalent to about one A4 page)

Please refer to the Call Text for the specific modalities of this section:

- a) Description of capacity building activities and relevance to the objectives of the proposal;
- b) Description of the candidate: CV, background (scientific, medical, etc.); scientific production; current work; and coherence of the training with the CV;
- c) Description of the host team (expertise in the field and qualification in research of the responsible person);
- d) Justification of the additional separate budget needed for these specific activities.

18. Clinical trial description (if applicable)

18.1. Clinical trial synopsis:

Principal/Coordinating Investigator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First name, last name, academic title • Institution and department (complete name) • Describe your experience in conducting clinical trials (maximum 300 characters)
Title of clinical trial	
Clinical trial type and phase	<i>e.g. randomized/non-randomized, type of masking, type of controls (active/placebo), parallel/factorial/cross-over, prognostic, diagnostic</i>

Objective(s)	<i>Which principal research questions are to be addressed? Specify clearly the primary hypotheses of the trial that determine sample size calculation.</i>
Intervention(s)	Experimental intervention /index test: Control intervention /reference test: Duration of intervention per patient: Duration of follow-up per patient:
Participants	Key inclusion criteria: Key exclusion criteria: Setting and location where data will be collected:
Endpoint(s)	Primary endpoint(s): Secondary endpoint(s): Describe how and when these endpoints will be collected:
Sample size	Number of patients to be assessed for eligibility: Number of patients to be allocated to the trial: Number of patients to be analysed: If applicable, interim analyses and stopping guidelines:
Randomization	Method that will be used to generate the random allocation sequence: Restriction details (e.g. blocking, block size), if any:
Statistical analysis	Efficacy / test accuracy: Summary Description of the primary efficacy / test accuracy analysis and population: Safety endpoints: yes/no Secondary endpoints:
Trial duration	First patient in to last patient out (months): Duration of the entire trial: Recruitment period (months):
Participating centres	Total number: Official name of the individual centres and respective location:

18.2 Trial flow chart.

18.3 Please describe the independent trial review (e.g. Institutional Review Board (IRB), Data and Safety Monitoring Board (DSMB), clinical event committee, scientific advisory or steering committee, ethical advisory board) (maximum 200 words).

19. Global financial plan: sum of year 1-3. Please describe the requested budget only. (Please note that eligibility of costs is subject to national/regional rules and regulations: refer to Annex 1 of the "Guidelines for Applicants").

Acronym:						
No.	Project coordinator	Partner 2	Partner 3	Partner 4	Partner 5	Partner 6
Name (principal investigator)						
Funding organisation						
Personnel (€) -Scientist -PhD-Student -Technician -Other						
Person months -Scientist -PhD-Student -Technician -Other						
Consumables (€)						
Equipment (€)						
Study / Clinical trial (€) ¹						
Travel (€) ²						
Capacity building (€) ³						
Other direct costs (€) ⁴						
National/regional overheads (€)						
Total requested budget (€)						

¹ If applicable: costs related to participants in the study/clinical trial (e.g. clinical trial drugs/compounds, clinical trial fees and insurance).

² Travel expenses should include the participation of the coordinators and/or national group leaders at an intermediate and/or a final status symposium to present the results of their projects (organised by TRANSCAN-4).

³ Separate budget for capacity building activities (if eligible for the funding organisation/country).

⁴ e.g. subcontracting, provisions, licensing fees, publications.

20. Individual financial plan: sum of year 1-3. This table should include the costs of the clinical trial, if applicable (Please note that eligibility of costs is subject to national rules and regulations: refer to Annex 1 of the "Guidelines for Applicants").

20.1 Partner 1 (coordinator)

Partner name:		
Funding organisation		
Country		
	Requested budget	Justification
Personnel (€)		<i>Please indicate the number of PMs, indicating the project tasks that justify the inclusion of that number of PMs.</i>
Consumables (€)		<i>Please identify the consumables to be included, and their importance within your projects' tasks and objectives.</i>
Equipment (€)		<i>Please indicate and justify the equipment to be acquired in accordance to project tasks and objectives. Applicants should also check if equipment is eligible in accordance to their national/regional regulations.</i>
Study/Clinical trial (€)		<i>Please indicate the concrete participation/work package(s) in the study/clinical trial.</i>
Travel (€)		<i>Please give an estimate on the number and main reasons for the travels within the project.</i>
Capacity building (€)		<i>Please indicate the type of capacity building and necessary efforts (PMs, travel etc.).</i>
Other direct costs (€)		<i>May include subcontracting, fees, insurances, etc. Please justify each predicted expenditure with relation to project tasks and objectives.</i>
Overheads (€)		<i>Please refer to your national/regional regulations before calculating overheads.</i>
Total budget (€)		

20.2 Partner 2

Partner name:		
Funding organisation		
Country		
	Requested budget	Justification
Personnel (€)		<i>Please indicate the number of PMs, indicating the project tasks that justify the inclusion of that number of PMs.</i>
Consumables (€)		<i>Please identify the consumables to be included, and their importance within your projects' tasks and objectives.</i>
Equipment (€)		<i>Please indicate and justify the equipment to be acquired in accordance to project tasks and objectives. Applicants should also check if equipment is eligible in accordance to their national/regional regulations.</i>
Study/Clinical trial (€)		<i>Please indicate the concrete participation/work package(s) in the study/clinical trial.</i>
Travel (€)		<i>Please give an estimate on the number and main reasons for the travels within the project.</i>
Capacity building (€)		<i>Please indicate the type of capacity building and necessary efforts (PMs, travel etc.).</i>
Other direct costs (€)		<i>May include subcontracting, fees, insurances, etc. Please justify each predicted expenditure with relation to project tasks and objectives.</i>
Overheads (€)		<i>Please refer to your national/regional regulations before calculating overheads.</i>
Total budget (€)		

20.3 Partner 3

Partner name:		
Funding organisation		
Country		
	Requested budget	Justification
Personnel (€)		<i>Please indicate the number of PMs, indicating the project tasks that justify the inclusion of that number of PMs.</i>
Consumables (€)		<i>Please identify the consumables to be included, and their importance within your projects' tasks and objectives.</i>
Equipment (€)		<i>Please indicate and justify the equipment to be acquired in accordance to project tasks and objectives. Applicants should also check if equipment is eligible in accordance to their national/regional regulations.</i>
Study/Clinical trial (€)		<i>Please indicate the concrete participation/work package(s) in the study/clinical trial.</i>
Travel (€)		<i>Please give an estimate on the number and main reasons for the travels within the project.</i>
Capacity building (€)		<i>Please indicate the type of capacity building and necessary efforts (PMs, travel etc.).</i>
Other direct costs (€)		<i>May include subcontracting, fees, insurances, etc. Please justify each predicted expenditure with relation to project tasks and objectives.</i>
Overheads (€)		<i>Please refer to your national/regional regulations before calculating overheads.</i>
Total budget (€)		

Please duplicate the financial plan for each additional partner if needed.

21. Signed declaration by the project coordinator and by all principal investigators, concerning the agreement of their respective team members to participate in the proposal.

Please note: All scanned signature pages should be assembled in the single PDF file of the application form, as the electronic submission system does not allow uploading of more than one PDF file.

I, the undersigned. Coordinator of the Project.....(acronym) declare to keep records with evidence that each of my respective team members agreed to participate in the proposal submitted.

Signature.....

I, the undersignedPartner n. 2 of the Project.....(acronym) declare to keep records with evidence that each of my respective team members agreed to participate in the proposal submitted.

Signature.....

I, the undersignedPartner n. 3 of the Project.....(acronym) declare to keep records with evidence that each of my respective team members agreed to participate in the proposal submitted.

Signature.....

(To be duplicated for all the other partners)