



The Innovative Medicines Initiative

Innovative funding for biotechs & SMEs in Europe

Pierre Meulien, IMI Executive Director
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IMI – Europe's partnership for health

IMI mission

IMI facilitates open collaboration in research to advance the development of, and accelerate patient access to, personalised medicines for the health and wellbeing of all, especially in areas of unmet medical need.

IMI phase 2 - Budget (2014-2020)

EU funding goes to:

Universities

SMEs

Mid-sized companies

Patient groups

etc...



€1.638 bn



€1.425 bn

Other
€213 m

IMI 2 total budget
€3.276 billion

EFPIA companies

receive no funding

contribute to projects 'in kind'

Associated Partners e.g. charities, non-EFPIA companies

IMI – Europe’s partnership for health

IMI2 Strategic Research Agenda

- Antimicrobial resistance
- Osteoarthritis
- Cardiovascular diseases
- Diabetes
- Neurodegenerative diseases
- Psychiatric diseases
- Respiratory diseases
- Immune-mediated diseases
- Ageing-associated diseases
- Cancer
- Rare/Orphan Diseases
- Vaccines

Aligned with WHO priorities

Over 11 500 researchers from an international, cross-sector community



Key concepts for topic definition

Industrial partners align themselves around a real challenge for industry and agree to work together and commit resources

New ideas from public sector, universities, SMEs etc. are needed to address the challenge

Scale is a key to success and is provided by IMI funding and the outcomes should be transformative for the industry as well as having a clear “public” value

What does an IMI project look like?

Industry partners

- Boehringer Ingelheim, Germany
- F. Hoffman-La Roche, Switzerland
- Novartis, Switzerland
- Takeda, United Kingdom
- Eli Lilly, United Kingdom
- Janssen, Belgium
- Pfizer, United Kingdom

Public consortium partners

- Academisch Ziekenhuis Leiden - LUMC, Netherlands
- Alma Mater Studiorum - University of Bologna, Italy
- Centro de Investigacion Biomedica en Red, Spain
- Erasmus Universitair Medisch Centrum Rotterdam, Netherlands
- Stichting Buro ECNP, Netherlands
- Stichting Katholieke Universiteit, Netherlands
- Stichting VU-VUmc, Netherlands
- Universitair Medisch Centrum Utrecht, Netherlands
- University of Exeter, United Kingdom

SMEs

- Biotrial Sas, France
- Concentris Research Management GmbH, Germany
- Drug Target ID BV, Netherlands
- P1vital Limited, United Kingdom
- SBGNeuro Limited, United Kingdom

Patients organisation

- European Federation of Associations of Families of People with Mental Illness, Belgium



(2016-2019 – 18M€)

Why should SME and biotechs consider participating in an IMI project?

- By engaging with all stakeholders, sectors, initiatives and funders across Europe, IMI provides for a dynamic ecosystem for research and business network
- Collaboration with large pharmaceutical companies allows access to whole value chain of drug discovery
- IMI ecosystem creates opportunities for further development and validation of assets while protecting background IP
- 100% funding for EU-based entities

'IMI is the only opportunity for Pharmacoidea to join the international drug development scene. IMI gave us the opportunity to get into partnership with big pharma companies that treat us like real partners and not just you know some small company from eastern Europe.'

Dr. Tamas Letoha, CEO, Pharmacoidea Ltd.



IMI IP policy to support innovation

- Opportunity of further development and/or validation of background assets
- Background and sideground assets protected (no transfer)
- New results owned by the generator(s) and right to transfer ownership / for non-exclusive license
- Result owner to design on the best protection modalities
- Access to expertise from the other partners on equal basis
- Access rights for exploitation purposes to be negotiated on a case-by-case basis
- Dissemination subject to conditions, such as respect of the legitimate interests

Rapid Ebola Diagnostic

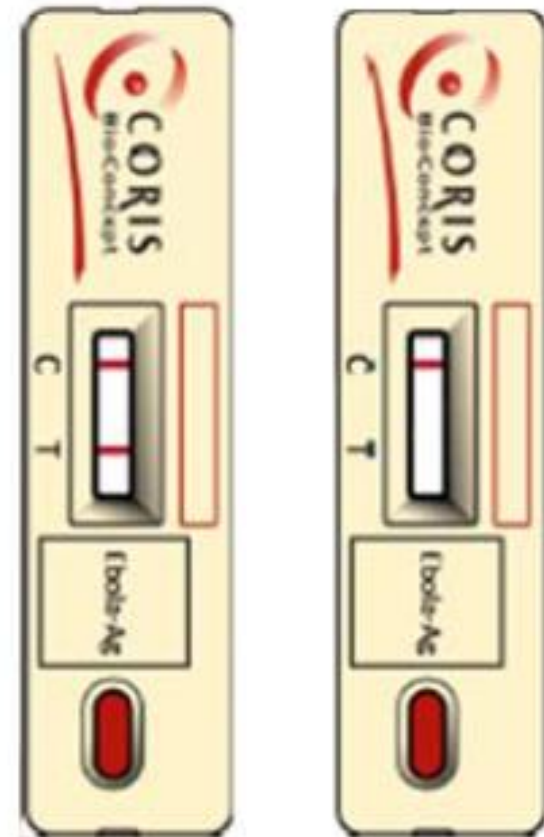
- Miniaturised Altona Ebola assay to fit Alere automated diagnostic system allows accurate diagnosis **in the field** with 75 minute turnaround.
- CE-IVD **approved for use** in Europe
- FDA registration in progress

Resulting from IMI2 [Mofina](#) project



Ebola Ag K-SeT rapid test

- Rapid Ebola diagnostic based on laminar flow developed by Coruis, an SME. Results available within 15 minutes.
- Final testing in current outbreak in DRC



Positive for
Ebola antigen

Negative

Resulting from IMI2 [EbolaMoDRAD](#) project

Medicines development



EUROPEAN
LEAD FACTORY

Joint European Compound Collection

320 000 cpds
from **7 pharma**
companies

200 000 cpds
from public
partners

European Screening Centre

Advanced, ultra
high throughput
screening
facilities &
expertise on
logistics, medicinal
chemistry, etc.

'The ELF provided the missing piece in the puzzle – a potent, selective compound that provides a strong starting point for further development towards the clinic.'

*Dr. Margit Mahlapuu, founder and CEO,
ScandiCure*

'The project has brought a new outlook into the company' [...] 'has provided Taros with the opportunity to broaden its scope and add new projects to the pipeline.'

*Dimitrios Tzalis, founder and CEO, Taros
Chemicals*

- ✓ Leading role for SMEs
- ✓ Quality & diversity of compounds recognised
- ✓ Award-winning IP solution
- ✓ Happy users!

Some observations from IMI first phase regarding SME involvement

- SMEs who are founder funded (rather than VC funded) seem to fit better with IMI.
- SMEs that are platform technology driven rather than new product development driven seem to find a good match with IMI projects.
- Scale is key to success.
- Administrative resources and IP should be anticipated.

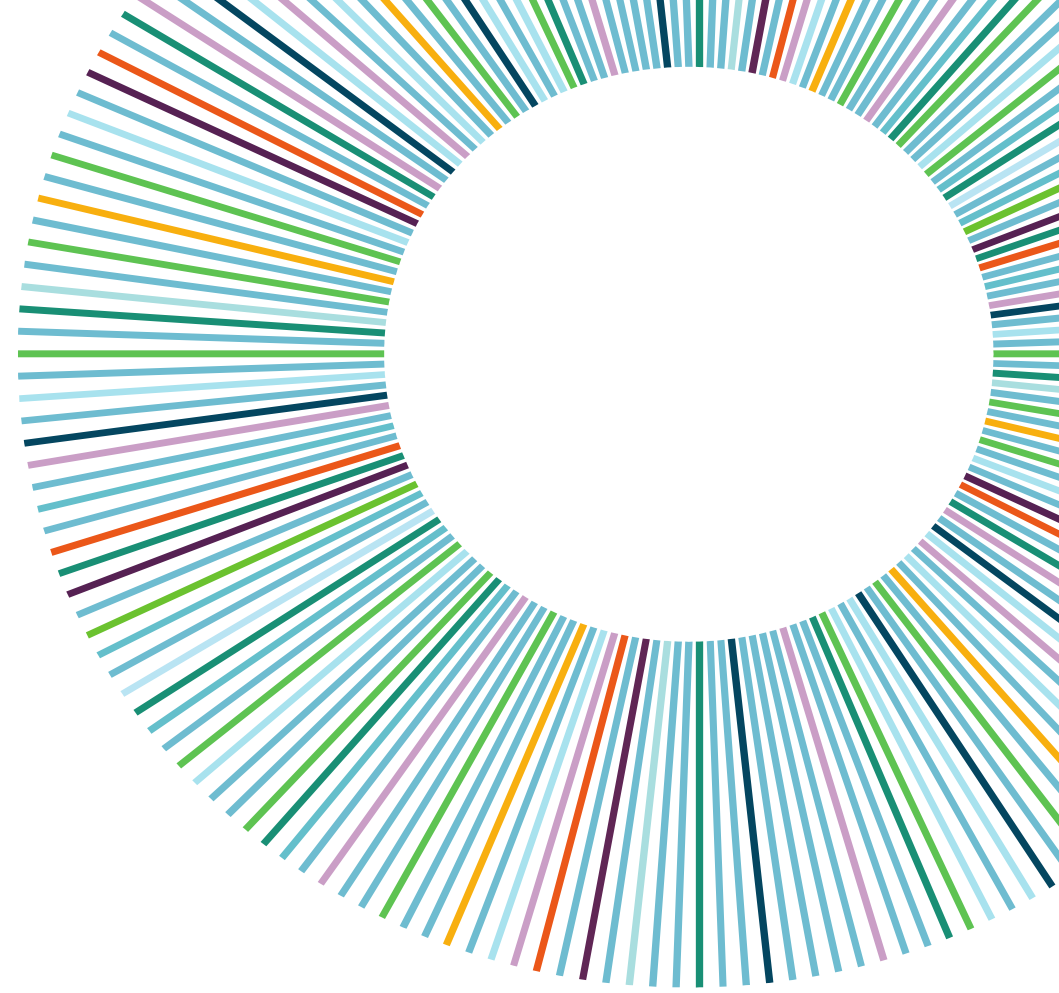
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**10 YEARS OF
BREAKTHROUGHS**
A HEALTHIER
FUTURE



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medicines
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