



Innovative Medicines Initiative

# The Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) Annual Implementation Plan 2012



## **Annexe I**

### **Annual Scientific Priorities 2012**

The scientific priorities for 2012 are based on the Scientific Research Agenda, which has been revised in 2011 following consultation of the IMI States Representatives Group and of the IMI Scientific Committee.

These priorities include the ones already established in the 2008 Scientific Research Agenda as well as new ones identified in the revised Agenda.

#### 8.1.1 Established research priorities present in the initial agenda

In close interaction with Regulatory Authorities, the development of:

- tools, methods and techniques for drug development and innovation or disease prevention;
- knowledge management approaches;
- expertise in biomedical R&D knowledge

in the following areas:

- safety sciences;
- cancer;
- infectious diseases;
- metabolic and cardiovascular diseases;
- inflammatory disorders;
- neuropsychiatric and brain disorders.

#### 8.1.2. New key research areas detailed in the updated agenda

- New taxonomy of human diseases and pharmacogenetics;
- Rare diseases and stratified therapies;
- Systems approaches in drug research;
- Beyond high throughput screening – pharmacological interactions at the molecular level;
- Active pharmaceutical ingredients technology;
- Advanced formulations;

- Stem cells for drug development and toxicity screening;
- Integration of imaging techniques into drug research.

As mentioned in the revised SRA, IMI will focus on defining strategic themes, as research clusters focused on 'game-changing' ideas and areas where the maximum number of companies can join forces. 'Think big' initiatives are to be developed which strategically integrate many different aspects of science and technological investigation. Under these, future projects will be defined that will change the landscape in which pharmaceutical industry, academic institutions and healthcare operate. It is anticipated that such "Think big" projects will be launched during 2012, such as projects focusing on anti-microbial resistance, on combination therapy development, and on innovative approaches for the identification of new lead compounds in drug development.

As for previous Calls, the evaluation and selection processes will be based on the following key principles: scientific excellence, transparency, fairness and impartiality, confidentiality, efficiency, speed and attention to ethical considerations.