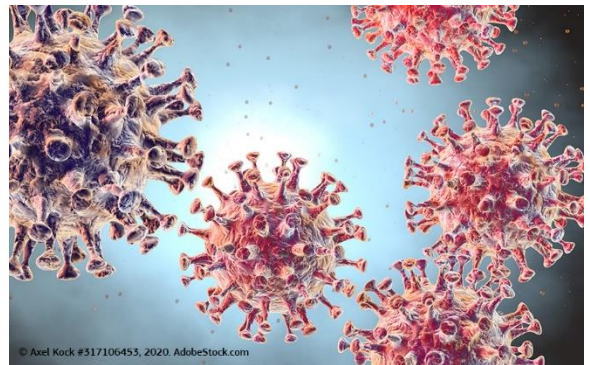


New research projects on Coronavirus (March 2020)

Outcome of emergency funding action for coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 outbreak: 18 new projects

On 30 January 2020, the European Commission launched [a request for expressions of interest entitled “SC1-PHE-CORONAVIRUS-2020: Advancing knowledge for the clinical and public health response to the \[COVID-19\] epidemic”](#) with a budget of €10 million subsequently increased up to €48.5 million.

Such rapid reaction is made possible by the standing budget line for emergency research funds that the Commission maintains as part of the **Horizon 2020** annual work programmes for Health research.



[This enabled 17 projects to be short-listed for funding as the EC announced on 6 March 2020, to which an 18th project was added in late March¹.](#) In total, €48.2 million was awarded to the 18 projects, which involve 151 research teams from across the EU and beyond who will work on:

- **Improving epidemiology and public health, including our preparedness and response to outbreaks.** These projects will help develop better monitoring systems in order to effectively prevent and control the spread of the virus, as well as contribute to the assessment of social dynamics.
- **Rapid point-of-care diagnostic tests.** Increased efforts will concentrate on enabling front-line health workers to make the diagnosis more quickly and more accurately, which will in turn reduce the risk of further spread of the virus.
- **New treatments,** in which a dual approach will be adopted. Firstly, accelerating the development of new treatments currently in the pipeline (including therapeutic peptides, monoclonal antibodies and broad-spectrum antivirals), and secondly, screening and identifying molecules that could work against the virus, using advanced modelling and computing techniques.
- **Development of new vaccines.** The research will focus on developing a prophylactic vaccine and a therapeutic vaccine, which will be used for prevention and treatment respectively.

The projects are listed below. Disclaimer: For each project, funding and composition of the consortium is subject to final European Commission decision and signature of Horizon 2020 Grant Agreement.

[For more information on EC support for coronavirus-related research.](#)

¹ On 30 March, an 18th proposal was added to the initial shortlist after its evaluation was initially suspended pending the provision of some administrative information.

18 Horizon 2020 research projects on coronavirus short-listed for funding (March 2020)

Acronym/ Title	Description	Project coordinator	Partners
PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE – Total EU funding : € 19.1 million			
I-MOVE-COVID-19 Multidisciplinary European network for research, prevention and control of the COVID-19 Pandemic	To obtain epidemiological, clinical and virological information on coronavirus and infected patients through the I-MOVE surveillance network spanning 11 countries.	Epiconcept (FR) Project details Website	25 partners: AL, DE, ES(5), FR(5), IE, LT, NL(2), PT(2), RO, SE, UK(5)
RECOVER Rapid European COVID-19 Emergency research Response	To gather comprehensive data from clinical and epidemiological studies to strengthen Europe's clinical research preparedness for future emerging infectious diseases.	Universiteit Antwerpen (BE) Project details Website	11 partners: BE(2), CN, DE, FR(2), IT, NL(3), UK
HERoS Health Emergency Response in Interconnected Systems	To improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the response to coronavirus outbreak by providing guidelines for improved crisis governance.	Svenska handelshögskolan (FI) Project details Project news	11 partners: FR, FI(2), IT, NL(2), PL(3), UK, US
EpiPose Epidemic intelligence to minimize 2019-nCoV's public health, economic and social impact in Europe	To understand epidemiological characteristics COVID-19, social dynamics of the outbreak, public health preparedness and response, and assess economic impact.	Universiteit Hasselt (BE) Project details	6 partners: BE(2), CH, IT, NL, UK
CORESMA COVID-19-Outbreak Response combining E-health, Serolomics, Modelling, Artificial Intelligence and Implementation Research	To help devise evidence-based response strategies by combining clinical, epidemiologic and immunological data from field studies and implementation research.	Helmholtz Zentrum für Infektionsforschung (DE) Project details	7 partners: CH, CI, CN, DE(2), NL, NP
EXSCALATE4CoV EXaSCale smArt pLatform Against paThogEns for Corona Virus	To exploit powerful computing resources to identify molecules capable of targeting coronavirus and develop an effective tool to counter future pandemics.	Dompé farmaceutici (IT) Project details Website	18 partners: BE, CH(2), DE(2), ES, IT(10), PL, SE

Acronym/ Title	Description	Project coordinator	Partners
DIAGNOSTICS – Total EU funding: € 6.4 million			
CoNVat Combating 2019-nCoV: Advanced Nanobiosensing platforms for POC global diagnostics and surveillance	To develop a point-of-care device using optical biosensor technology for rapid diagnosis and monitoring, and also monitor the evolution of viruses in animals and help prevent future outbreaks.	Fundacio Institut Catala de Nanociencia i Nanotecnologia (ES) Project details Project news	5 partners: ES(3), FR, IT
CoronaDX Three Rapid Diagnostic tests (Point-of-Care) for COVID-19 Coronavirus, improving epidemic preparedness, public health and socio-economic benefits	To deliver three complementary diagnostic tools, including one point-of-care diagnostic that can be used with minimal training.	Danmarks Tekniske Universitet (DK) Project details Website	8 partners: AT, CN(2), DK(2), IT(2), SE
HG nCoV19 test Development and validation of rapid molecular diagnostic test for nCoV19	To develop and validate a novel rapid molecular diagnostic test for coronavirus.	Hibergene Diagnostics (IE) Project details (TBC)	4 partners: CN, IE, IT, UK
TREATMENT – Total EU funding: € 17.0 million			
Fight-nCoV Fighting-off Coronavirus with broad-spectrum antivirals: establishing animal challenge model	To prepare the way towards broad-spectrum antiviral treatments that can be taken intranasally.	Stockholms Universitet (SE) Project details Project news	6 partners: DE(2), DK, FR, SE(2)
SCORE Swift COronavirus therapeutics Response	To develop a combination of anti-viral treatments for patients infected with the coronavirus.	Academisch Ziekenhuis Leiden (NL) Project details Project news	10 partners: BE(3), CH, DE(2), FR(2), NL(2)
Solnatide Exploration of safety, tolerability and clinical efficacy of Solnatide IMP in patients infected with the 2019 new coronavirus	To test peptide-based treatments targeting life-threatening pulmonary diseases in COVID-19 patients.	RTDS Association (AT) Project details Website	6 partners: AT, DE(2), ES, IT, NL

Acronym/ Title	Description	Project coordinator	Partners
TREATMENT – Total EU funding : € 17.0 million (cont.)			
ATAC Antibody therapy against coronavirus (COVID-2019)	To optimise, produce and test antibody therapies against coronavirus based on donated blood samples from recovered COVID-19 patients.	Karolinska Institutet (SE) Project details Project news	5 partners: BE, CH, DE, IT, SE
MANCO Monoclonal Antibodies against 2019- New Coronavirus	To develop and evaluate monoclonal antibodies as treatments against coronavirus.	Erasmus Universitair Medisch Centrum Rotterdam (NL) Project details	8 partners: DE, ES, FR(2), NL(4)
CoroNAb Nanobodies and antibodies against 2019-nCoV	To rapidly identify, validate and produce antibodies that block the ability of the virus to infect cells, which could be used for treatment and prevention in humans.	Karolinska Institutet (SE) Project details Project news	4 partners: CH, DK, SE, UK
RiPCoN Rapid interaction profiling of 2019-nCoV for network-based deep drug-repurpose learning (DDRL)	To identify approved drugs that can be repurposed to treat coronavirus by profiling how they interact with viral components using artificial intelligence.	Helmholtz Zentrum München (DE) Project details Project news	3 partners: DE, ES, FR
VACCINES – Total EU funding : € 5.7 million			
OPENCORONA Rapid therapy development through Open Coronavirus Vaccine Platform	To develop a vaccine that can also be used as a therapy against the coronavirus using a DNA vaccine platform.	Karolinska Institutet (SE) Project details Project news	7 partners: DE, IT, SE(5)
Prevent-nCoV Prevention of 2019 nCoV infection through development and clinical testing of a novel Virus Like Particle (VLP) vaccine	To develop and evaluate a potential vaccine that uses virus-like particles to expose coronavirus proteins to the immune system.	Københavns Universitet (DK) Project details Project news	6 partners: DE, DK(3), NL(2)

To contact project coordinators of shorted-listed proposals: RTD-CORONAVIRUS@ec.europa.eu