



## NEWSLETTER 2

July 2019

# *ERA-PerMed: Achievements and Future Plans*



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According to the new EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) the ERAPerMed webpage informs on respective policies.

## Introduction

Our lifestyle, environment and biological makeup differ in each and every one of us. Just as we each require a distinct nutrition, we also develop diseases and react to treatment differently. Personalized medicine (PerMed) refers to a medical model, which utilizes the characterization of an individual's phenotype and genotype for tailoring the right therapeutic strategy for the right person at the right time, and/or to determine the predisposition to disease and/or to deliver timely and targeted prevention. The development of this new medical model brings with it complexities in several aspects, besides scientific challenges. These include clinical and technological obstacles, as well as, regulatory, ethical and legal challenges, both at the national and international levels. Transnational collaborations and efforts can profoundly enhance the PerMed research field and medical approach.

ERA PerMed is supported by 32 partners from 23 countries, thus making it the ERA-Net with the largest amount of partners in the health field. To align national research strategies, promote excellence, reinforce the competitiveness of European players in PerMed, and enhance the European collaboration with non-EU countries, national funding organizations gathered their forces and funding capacities and agreed to launch Joint Transnational Calls (JTC) for collaborative innovative research projects in PerMed.

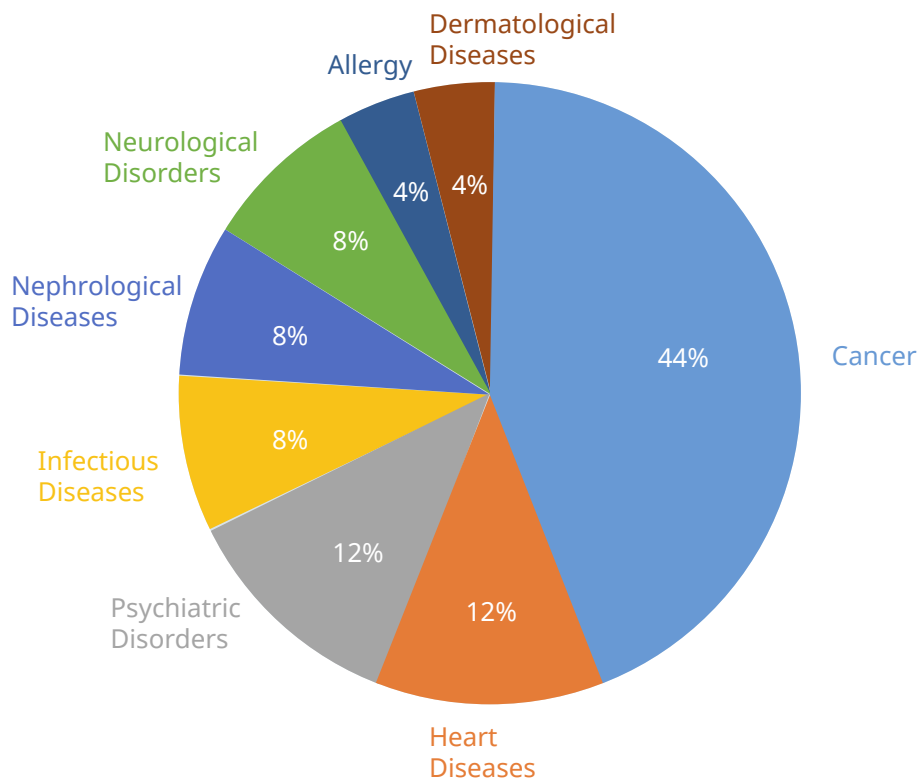


*ERA-PerMed Partners Meeting in Dublin, Ireland. May, 2019*

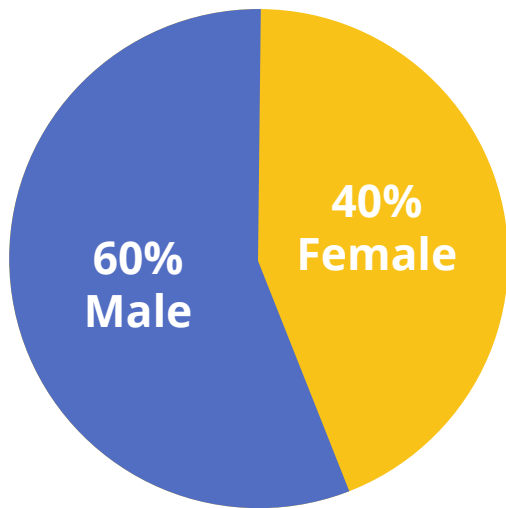
**JTC2018**

The first Call, JTC2018, on the topic of “Research Projects on Personalized Medicine – Smart Combination of Pre-Clinical and Clinical Research with Data and ICT Solutions” was cofunded by the European Commission (EC). Under this Call, 159 eligible preproposals were submitted and 50 were invited to submit full proposals. Our analysis shows that 58% of the projects of the full proposals that were submitted address both preclinical and clinical research, while 14% address preclinical research alone and 28% focus solely on clinical research. Furthermore, in regard to the application of data and ICT, the proposals were distributed equally between ‘enabling technology’, ‘application in healthcare’ or combination of both. Ultimately, 25 consortia were chosen to be funded with a total investment of about 28 million Euros for three years. As can be seen from the chart below, the disease categories covered by the the funded projects are as follows: 44% of the projects are on cancer, 12% on heart disease, 12% on psychiatric disorders, 8% on infectious diseases, nephrological diseases and neurological disorders each, and there is one project on allergy and another one on a dermatological disease. The JTC2018 projects’ coordinators are from 11 different countries and 40% of them are women.

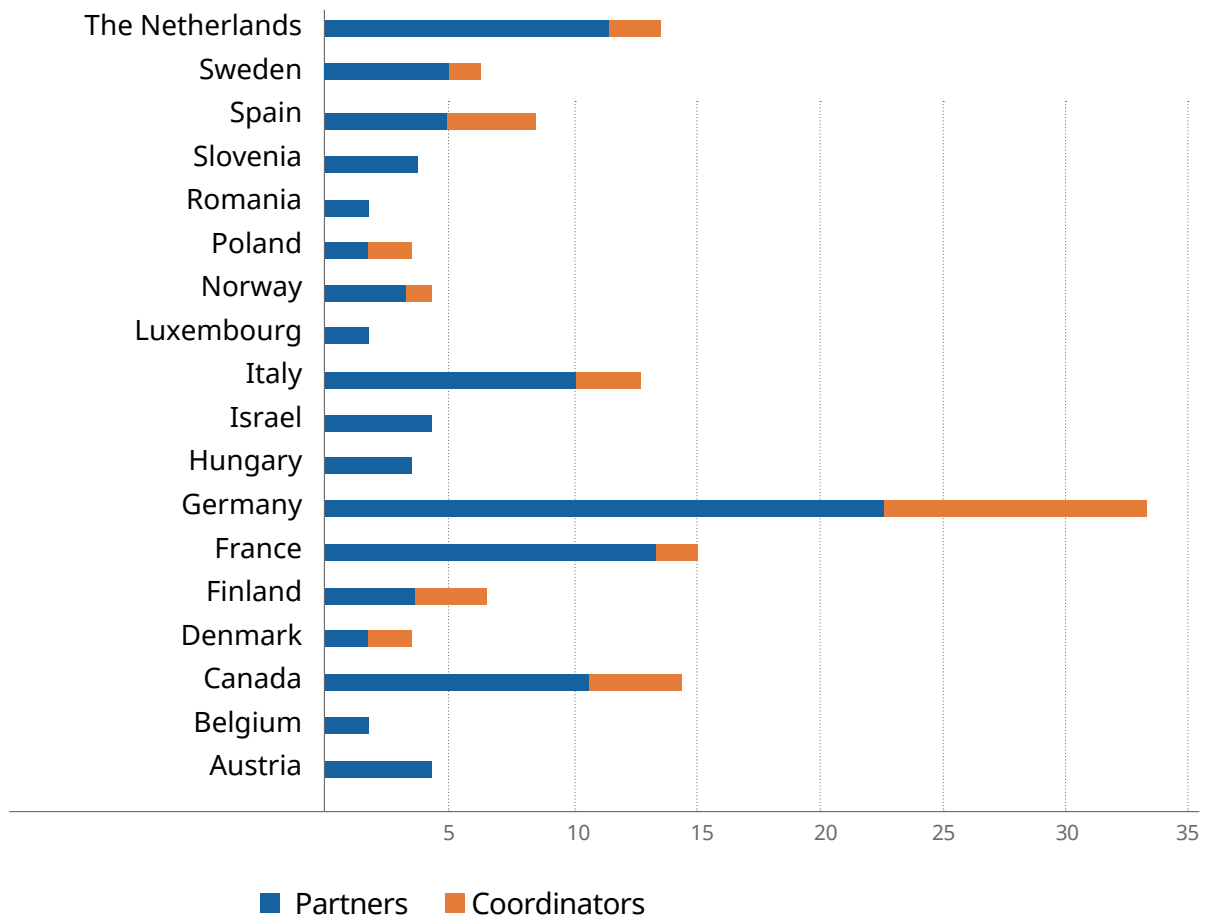
**Projects by disease category**



**Female vs. Male Coordinators**



**Number of Participants by Country**



**JTC2019**

In January 2019 ERA PerMed launched its second Call, JTC2019, with the support of 31 funding organizations from 22 countries on the topic “Personalized Medicine: Multidisciplinary Research Towards Implementation”. The aim of this Call is to foster research and innovation activities building close linkages between basic biomedical research, clinical research, bioinformatics, epidemiology, socio-economic research, as well as research on the integration of PerMed into clinical practice and on ethical, legal and social implications. The overarching goal is to improve disease management, with better patient stratification, diagnostics and treatment protocols, and disease prevention.

We welcome four new funding agencies that joined ERA-PerMed’s JTC2019: Academy of Scientific Research & Technology (ASRT) from Egypt (a new Call Steering Committee partner country in ERA PerMed), General Secretariat for Research and Technology (GSRT) from Greece (a new Call Steering Committee partner country in ERA PerMed), Fondazione Toscana Life Sciences (TuscReg) from Italy and The Foundation for Research of the Spanish Association Against Cancer (AECC-FC) from Spain.



















196 eligible preproposals were submitted under the JTC2019 out of which 56 were invited to submit a full proposal. The full proposal final evaluation will take place in Paris on September 10-11, 2019.

**STAY TUNED!**

*Upcoming Joint Transnational Call 2020*

*Preannouncement – Nov 2019*

[www.era-permed.eu](http://www.era-permed.eu)

ERA-PerMed Partners		JTC2019	
 Austria	 Italy	 Austria	 Israel
 Belgium	 Latvia	 Belgium	 Italy
 Canada	 Luxembourg	 Canada	 Latvia
 Croatia	 Netherlands	 Croatia	 Luxembourg
 Denmark	 Norway	 Denmark	 Norway
 Estonia	 Poland	 Egypt	 Poland
 Finland	 Romania	 Finland	 Romania
 France	 Slovenia	 France	 Spain
 Germany	 Spain	 Germany	 Sweden
 Hungary	 Sweden	 Greece	 Turkey
 Ireland	 Turkey	 Hungary	
 Israel		 Ireland	

**ERA PerMed News and Announcements:**

**2nd ICPeMed Workshop in Madrid, Spain - November 5-6, 2019**

The 2nd ICPeMed Workshop “Citizens, patients and implementation” is organised by the Spanish ICPeMed member ISCIII and will take place on 5-6 November, 2019 in Madrid. The workshop will include high-level plenary sessions and four working groups. The working groups will meet in parallel and discuss the following topics:

- 1) Personalised medicine: How to ensure awareness and empowerment for all citizens?
- 2) Which are the Ethical, Legal and Social Implications (ELSI) of personalised medicine research and implementation?
- 3) Transfer of research results into the market: How to optimise a safe, fast and economic process to implement personalised medicine approaches?
- 4) Personalised medicine in the health system: How to ensure sustainability and an effective collaboration between all health care players as well as with prevention services?

Workshop participation is by invitation only.

**ICPeMed “Best Practice in Personalized Medicine” Recognition**

The ICPeMed “Best Practice in Personalized Medicine” Recognition aims to recognize, encourage, promote and disseminate outstanding examples of best practices in personalized medicine.

The second edition (Call 2019) was open to candidates worldwide, who have published scientific papers and/or developed best practice strategies in the field of personalized medicine between January 1st, 2017 and October 31st, 2018.

The following awardees have been chosen:

- A Liquid Biopsy ‘hub’: integrating Nano-technologies to improve cancer diagnosis and therapy (Patrizio Giacomini, RCSS National Cancer Institute Regina Elena, Italy)
- Best Open Innovation in Science Practice for the Establishment of Interdisciplinary & Inter-Sectoral Collaboration Platforms for the Implementation of PerMed (Juergen Busch, Ludwig Boltzmann Gesellschaft, Austria)
- Translating genotype data into clinical pharmacogenetic recommendations: challenges and solutions (Sulev Reisberg, University of Tartu, Estonia)
- Development and integration of organoid models in personalized medicine platforms (Mark A. Rubin, University of Bern, Switzerland)

The four awardees will be invited to the ICPeMed Workshop on 5-6 November 2019 in Madrid and will present their results during a plenary session. They will receive a non-cash award of EUR 500 to support the dissemination of their work. Eight further highly-ranked proposals will be invited to present a poster of their work during the ICPeMed Workshop.

[The call for submission of proposals for the ICPeMed “Best Practice in Personalised Medicine” Recognition 2020 will presumably open in November 2019.](#)

## SAVE THE DATE: ICPeMed Conference 2020 in Paris

The second ICPeMed Conference will take place on 15-16 October 2020 at the Maison de la Chimie in Paris, France.

The international conference will bring together key opinion leaders along the entire value chain from research infrastructures, industry, education, health care providers, funding organizations, and will welcome representatives from ministries and the European commission.

Keynote lectures will focus on research towards the implementation of personalized medicine approaches into health care systems for the benefit of patients, citizens and the society as a whole and on the question of sustainability. In addition, in specific dedicated sessions, ICPeMed will feature best practice examples in personalized medicine research and will complement the conference programme by demonstrating achievements and activities of ICPeMed and its contribution to foster personalized medicine.

### Introducing EULAC-PerMed



EULAC-PerMed is a multidisciplinary project, in which experts from various disciplines, as well as different types of stakeholders, such as scientists, policy makers and funders, work together towards a bi-regional common consensus in personalized

medicine methodologies, data standards, and analysis of the potential uptake by the national/regional health systems. The overall goal of EULAC-PerMed is to strengthen the global efforts on development and promotion of PerMed and the cooperation of Europe with Latin American and Caribbean countries. The project was launched in January 2019 and is funded by the Horizon 2020 Programme of the European Commission.

### EULAC-PerMed Upcoming Events:

**November 7-8, 2019 – Madrid, Spain;** The first EULAC-PerMed Summer School on the topic of PerMed Research in Health Systems (back to back with the 2nd ICPeMed workshop). Focusing on skills to assess the impact of the research on PerMed in national health systems.

**December 9-13, 2019 – Montevideo, Uruguay;** The following events will take place: 1. A summer school on the topic of health technology assessment research in PerMed; 2. A stakeholder workshop to discuss and analyse the situation of PerMed in LAC countries (challenges, barriers and needs) and options for strengthening collaboration with Europe; 3. A technical workshop on the topic of innovative methodologies for data use and management PerMed research. Focusing on standards for improved interoperability, integration of data from multiple sources, and patient stratification methods.

For more information: [www.eulac-permed.eu](http://www.eulac-permed.eu)