

General Information about EDCTP Grants

About EDCTP

With the overall goal to reduce poverty in developing countries by improving the health of the populations, the European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) aims through European research integration and in partnership with African countries to develop new clinical interventions to fight HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis. EDCTP represents a new partnership between European countries and African partners based on Article 169 of the European Treaty and supported by the European Commission and the participating Member States. This will establish a genuine partnership with the research communities in African countries and support the strengthening of the individual and institutional capacities in Africa.

Scientific scope of EDCTP

EDCTP will (i) fund clinical trials, (ii) build/enhance capacities and overall capabilities for clinical trials in Developing Countries; (iii) create synergies across programmes (especially in Europe and in the South); (iv) encourage activities to inform policy.

EDCTP will not support pre-clinical research. EDCTP involvement starts after approval for first-in-human studies has been granted to a product.

The following disease priorities have been identified under the EDCTP programme. Not all of these are fundable for research, but may be integrated in the capacity-strengthening component.

Malaria drugs:

- Treatment of uncomplicated and drug-resistant falciparum malaria
- Treatment of severe malaria
- Treatment of young children and pregnant women

Malaria vaccines:

- Protection of young children
- If becoming available, protection of pregnant women

Tuberculosis drugs:

- New drugs or regimens, which shorten or simplify tuberculosis treatment
- New regimens for treatment and prevention of tuberculosis associated with HIV
- Surrogate markers of treatment response

Tuberculosis vaccines:

- For use in new-borns and patients co-infected with HIV/AIDS
- For use in those pre-infected with M. tuberculosis (if such vaccines are developed)

HIV/AIDS drugs (Antiretroviral Treatment, ART)

- Simplification of ART regimens and monitoring for adults and children
- New treatment and combination regimes
- Prevention of mother to child transmission

HIV/AIDS Vaccines

- Conduct of Phase II studies of prophylactic and immuno-therapeutic vaccines

Microbicides

- Conduct of Phase II and III studies
- Collecting safety data in uninfected and infected adolescent age group

Types of grants

EDCTP offers four types of funding which will be provided on competitive basis through grant schemes advertised on this website.

1. Clinical Trial grants –EDCTP will focus on Phase II and III trials.
2. Networking grants – to create alliances and to establish networks of European research groups and their African partners, to promote joint calls from European Member States in funding capacity strengthening and clinical trials in Developing Countries.
3. Capacity Building grants - EDCTP support is to strengthen the capacities for the conduct of clinical trials.
4. Training awards – to support and develop scientific leadership for the conduct of trials in Africa. EDCTP will provide awards for senior and post-doc fellowship as well as PhD

and MSc studentships. The training awards aim to create and strengthen both human and institutional capacity in African institutes to undertake clinical trials of interventions at internationally acceptable levels. EDCTP will also support the development of training programmes relevant to the conduct of clinical trials, particularly in Africa.

Open Call

EDCTP will advertise an Open Call for proposals on each grant scheme including the specifications of the various grant schemes on this website.

EDCTP plans to announce an Open Call for networking grants in the spring of 2005 and other grant schemes by June 2005. Grant schemes for subsequent calls will be available in due course.

General procedure

All grant proposals will be evaluated on the established criteria of the relevant grant scheme. All selection criteria will be published when the calls are launched.

Guidelines and criteria

EDCTP will fund activities based on scientific excellence, relevance to EDCTP mission and strength of capacity building component through peer review mechanisms.

Applications need to be submitted through eligible and legal institutions from Africa or from the European Member States. Involvement of a minimum of two European countries and/or African institutions is required in the application for Clinical Trials and some of the Networking grants. The European Member States should also be responsible for co-funding the project (in kind or cash).

EDCTP does not act as sponsor for clinical trials and applicants for clinical trials must document who shall sponsor their planned research.

Applicants should take note of the eligibility criteria that can vary within the grant schemes.

Funding Policy of EDCTP

It is the policy of EDCTP to complement the European Member States' National Programmes to carry out research and competence building programmes for the relevant grant. European Member States are expected to contribute with a minimum of 50% of the estimated resources needed to carry out such activities. Mechanism to ensure greater consistency and coordination of national research programmes will be developed soon.

Guidelines and instructions for submission of applications will be published on this website.

More information

Future calls, including guidelines and selection criteria shall be published on the EDCTP website at least eight weeks prior to the deadline for the calls.

For more information on EDCTP funding please send your queries to e-mail: info@edctp.org