

CAM and the Research Framework Programmes

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Objectives of DG RTD

Key objectives:

- Develop, coordinate and implement European research policies in collaboration with Member States*
- Support European research activities through the "Framework Programmes"

* REMINDER: EU contributes only about 5% of all public research funding in the EU



Structure of collaborative health research in FP7



Activity (Pillar) 4: Actions across the theme – EU policy needs

The Health theme structure and content

Pillar 3: Optimising the delivery of health care to citizens

- Translating clinical research into clinical practice - behavioural and organisational interventions, patient safety, better use of medicines, decision-making in clinical settings
- Health Care systems Research- Quality, efficiency, solidarity of health care systems, organisational, financial, regulatory aspects, best-good practice, workforce
- Enhanced health promotion and disease prevention, wider determinants of health, providing evidence of best public health measures – life styles, interventions, mental health in a life course perspective

The Health theme structure and content

Selection of Projects for funding:

- Research topics are published annually in the Work Programme
- Projects are selected through open calls and evaluated by independent experts
- Any type of organisation or institution can participate
- Research topics are increasingly broader to allow broader participation from the scientific community
- Proposals are selected on 3 criteria:
 - Scientific excellence
 - Impact
 - Implementation and management



Complementary and Alternative Medicine in FP7

- **HEALTH-2009-3.1-3: Complementary and Alternative Medicine FP7-HEALTH-2009-single stage.** In order to create the knowledge base concerning the demands for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) and the prevalence of its use in Europe, consensus on the terminology of CAM and the definition of respective CAM methods needs to be established. The current state with respect to the provider's perspective as well as needs and demands of the citizens should be explored; the different legal status of CAM in EU Member States needs to be taken into account. A roadmap for future European research in this area should be developed

FP7 Research Projects on CAM - some € 5.5 million in support

• **CAMBRELLA: a pan-European research network for complementary and alternative medicine (CAM)**

The goal of this collaboration is to develop a roadmap for future European research in CAM that is appropriate for the health care needs of EU citizens, and acceptable to the EU parliament as well as their national research funders and healthcare providers.

Consortium: Wolfgang WEIDENHAMMER, Munich + 15 partners in 12 EU countries

Duration: 1.1.2010-31.12.2012; **EU contribution:** 1.5 mill Euro; **Website:** cambrella.eu

• **Other projects addressing CAM:**

Health Technology Comparisons (IMMA), Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCMCancer, TCM-VASC, GP-TCM), and other traditional medicines (TIBETAN, MUTHI)

• **As well as minor elements of CAM in some public health projects**

Long term care; Primary care quality linkage to costs; Health inequalities

- From FP7 (2007-2013) **to** HORIZON 2020 (2013-2020)
- From gaps between research and innovation **to** a Common Strategic Framework (research, development, innovation, market uptake)
- From different priorities in different initiatives **to** common strategies with focus on major societal challenges

Among the Societal Challenges identified:

HEALTH, DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE AND WELL-BEING

How to provide better health, while maintaining an economically sustainable healthcare system ?

HEALTH, DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE AND WELL-BEING

Main Specific Challenges Considered

1. Health promotion and disease prevention

- Providing evidence
- Making health promotion and prevention more effective
- Understanding the fundamentals of health and disease
- Providing more effective vaccines and prevention methods
- Ensuring individual empowerment for self-improvement and self-management of health

HEALTH, DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE AND WELL-BEING

Main Specific Challenges Considered

2. Curing and treating diseases; managing disease, disability and reduced functionality successfully

- Improving our ability to treat disease
- Transferring fundamental knowledge to clinical practice
- Integrating MS information structures, and developing standards and harmonising access
- Supporting regulatory sciences

HEALTH, DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE AND WELL-BEING

Main Specific Challenges Considered

3. Increasing the sustainability and efficiency of the health and social care sector

- Ensuring evidence-based decision making and promoting best practices
- Ensuring individual empowerment for personalised and integrated care
- Optimising the effectiveness of healthcare systems

- No specific strategy for CAM at the moment (NB: CAMBRELLA is ongoing)
- DG RTD maintains an open mind: CAM projects can apply and participate on equal terms in the Framework Programs
- Broader research topics to allow a "bottom-up approach" – thus also allowing a broader segment of scientist to apply
- Horizon 2020 may aim at a broader, more holistic approach to health, including additional focus on well-being
- Research activities are selected on competitive basis of scientific excellence, impact and implementation

Thank you

