



AMPLIFY

CALL FOR RESEARCH PROJECTS

SECONDARY ANALYSIS OF TRIAL DATA TO AMPLIFY THEIR IMPACT

Guidelines for Applicants

PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

For any questions, please call (+32 2 268 48 16) or e-mail us (apply@anticancerfund.org).

SCOPE

This call for research projects (CfRP) invites proposals that focus on **secondary analysis** of data from **cancer clinical trials** to address questions beyond the original study objectives.

The new research question must be in line with the Anticancer Fund's mission, which is to **innovate with existing treatments**. Projects may address a broad range of cancer types, patient demographics, or interventions. They should aim to ultimately inform therapeutic decision-making in well-defined patient populations.

Proposals should outline a clear plan to generate findings that will have direct relevance to **clinical practice**.

We encourage applicants to contact apply@anticancerfund.org for any question related to the CfRP and to check eligibility of their proposal in case of doubt.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Only projects meeting **all** eligibility criteria will proceed to scientific evaluation. In case of doubt on any of these criteria, we recommend contacting us before working on an application to assess eligibility.

1. All interventions are available (at least) in Europe.

All interventions linked to the new research question are available and used in clinical practice in Europe. For medicinal products, they should be authorised for any indication (cancer or not cancer related) by at least one European competent authority (EMA or national) at the time of submission of the application.

2. Data derived from clinical trials.

The majority of the data must have been prospectively collected in the context of a clinical trial. Part of the necessary data may be collected elsewhere but it should be of high quality.

3. Results will be available within 18 months.

*Selected projects must be able to deliver the main results **within 18 months** after the awarding of the grant.*

4. The host institution of the applicant is a non-profit organisation.

A note of caution on clinical prediction models

As most clinical prediction models turn out to have no clinical utility, research questions aiming to retrospectively define clinical prediction models will not be considered unless they:

- address a clear clinical decision point.
- are simple to implement by other clinicians not involved in the research.
- aim to confirm or refine a model that has prospectively demonstrated clinical utility in a prior randomised trial.

We highly recommend using the checklist (Box 1) from the open access article of Florian Markowetz (<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41698-024-00553-6>) before submitting your clinical prediction study to *Amplify*.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Eligible applications will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

1. Quality of the research question

- Relevance of the question for clinical decision-making in today's therapeutic landscape
- Originality of the research question
- Strength of the rationale
- Appropriateness and quality of the methodology

2. Direct impact on clinical practice

- Ability to bring a level of evidence greater than what is currently known
- Ease with which the new findings can influence clinical practice
- Quality of the plan to implement the new findings into clinical practice (guidelines, drug labels, reimbursement, medical education ...)

3. Patient Benefit

- Relevance and importance of the outcomes to patients affected by the disease
- Expected impact on patient outcomes
- Level of Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) in defining or validating the new research question

4. Efficiency of applicants and team

- Track record of the applicants and team in performing high-quality secondary analyses
- Readiness to initiate and execute the project

BUDGET

- The budget must be realistic and should align with the scope of the project and be limited to the core activity linked to data analysis.
- Proposals should include a clear budget breakdown and demonstrate the feasibility of completing the project within the proposed timeline and financial limits.
- Eligible costs are personnel costs, i.e., salary of both scientific and technical staff, proportional to the extent to which they are employed on the project. Operating costs are accepted but should be limited and justified.
- Indirect costs or overhead costs are not eligible.
- We intend to provide funding of around 50.000 € per individual project but can consider smaller or larger amounts.
- We expect to fund up to three projects.
- We expect an institutional co-funding of at least 20% on the project, which should be indicated within the budget request presented to us. In-kind services provided by the academic institution involved in the project may count towards this co-funding. However, indirect costs or overheads cannot be considered as in-kind contributions or included in the institutional co-funding. An official letter of the institution should be added to the application.

SUBMISSION AND SELECTION PROCESS

This is a **1-step Call for Research Projects**

We ask all applicants to complete the application form which includes two main sections:

1. The **eligibility** section where applicants demonstrate that their proposal meets all the above-mentioned requirements.
2. The **project information** section where applicants provide details on their application.

----- **Deadline for submission is Thursday 14 January 2027, 17:00 CET** -----

The application form can be downloaded from <https://www.anticancerfund.org/en/RFA>

Following submission, applications will undergo an **internal assessment**. This process consists of an eligibility check and a preliminary internal review of the project proposal.

Based on the outcome of this assessment, applicants will receive initial feedback on their application, which needs to be addressed through a rebuttal letter.

Applications will then be further evaluated by **external experts**.

Before the external review takes place, applicants will be invited to a short meeting (max 30 minutes) with the internal evaluation team. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the initial feedback provided on the application; explain the evaluation process and the next steps; provide an opportunity for applicants to ask questions; and confirm whether there have been any circumstances or changes since submission that could affect the status of the proposal.

Applicants will be notified whether their application have been selected by **End March 2027**.

KEY DATES

