



## ENRF Briefing Note on Horizon 2020 Open Calls

### Innovation Procurement in health care

Next to the [Societal Challenge calls](#) (SC1) - Health, demographic change and wellbeing, it is key frontline nurses and nursing researchers get involved in public procurement. The Commission sees the innovation procurement as a tool to bring new solutions to the healthcare system with the use of two types of instruments:

1. pre-commercial procurement (PCP): public procurers coming together to explore and compare technologies in clinical practice;
2. public procurement of innovative solution (PPI): public procurers coming together to speed up the introduction of solutions in clinical practice (put in practice once the solution has been found).

In the PPI the market is informed by a pre-information notice about the requirements, to prepare it for the upcoming call, to this purpose the EC does a open market consultation to assess the readiness to deliver. These are not new public procurement procedures, but approaches to use existing public tendering mechanisms in such a way to optimise the innovation outcome to optimise growth opportunities for suppliers. It requires minimum 3 participants and two procurers.

The Commission also pointed out that innovative solutions are required to address societal challenges. Procurement represents in Europe for health 70% of GDP. The benefits for the procurers lay in the fit for purpose solution, better and more efficient public service, get a better value for money. The Commission continues saying that also for companies there are benefits related to the better anticipation of the demand for new solutions, shortening time to the market, transfer the results of the research to the market etc. So, the Commission agrees these are not 'the typical research projects' as these actions are part of a coordinated effort, it is important to have the right capacity when applying for these actions. Building this capacity of the research and end-user community is key to be successful.

Linked to the BN on the open calls related to the digital health and care services, the Commission is aware of the challenges related to healthcare service providers and users that face complex decisions when exploring and investing in new health and care solutions. The aim is to create favourable framework conditions for cross-border Communities of Practise (CoP) and create a network that will assist the health & care research and innovation ecosystems in taking investment decisions on future procurement of research and innovation and, eventually, on (large scale) deployment of eHealth systems and new care delivery models. When it comes to new models of care, nurses should be in the driving seat, recognised by the Commission. There is a need for policies, strategies in a concerted manner, as all the innovation in healthcare are users-driven, a strategy to be promoted.

For moving towards people-centred care models to become a reality, a new procurement framework is needed, and nurses should be part of this framework. It is important to focus on the big picture and not on the single disease. To procure solutions considering the holistic approach to and what is important for people it is key to implement coordination and integration of care. Nurses in advanced roles have a key role in the innovation procurement debate in which a value-based intervention focuses on health outcome, economical outcome and patient experience (PROMS and PREMS), with a focus on which field can be improved, and who is the target group and how to reach it.

The PaRIS project (OECD) is based on patient-reported measures to enable better decision at clinical and policy level, leading to better outcomes and more value. The PaRIS initiative focus on:

1. Specific conditions - supporting national health systems to collect patient-reported indicators in a comparable way for cancer care, hip and knee replacement and mental health, to accelerate and standardise work already underway;
2. Complex needs - addressing critical gaps in the measurement of patient-reported indicators for chronic illness multi-morbidity, to develop new survey, direct to patients and carers. Indicators need to be co-designed together with patients, providers and international partners.

There must be much stronger focus on prevention and primary prevention to keep people healthy. The aim is to improve healthcare in three dimensions: improve health of population, enhance patient care experience, and make the system sustainable.

Digital solutions can support the development of cost-effective health and care systems while improving healthcare and outcomes. Good quality digital solutions are affordable and have proved to enhance patient's self-care, but they are still stand-alone solution, fail to provide significant support to healthcare professions and involve patients. Therefore, the healthcare ecosystem must ensure that all the key players, for sure nurses, can implement digital solutions and care services between hospitals and patients 'home.

The solution is digitalisation, that can support to move care to community. And the Innovation Procurement calls in H2020 can play a key role in redesigning the health sector. Nurses and nursing researchers should get engaged, not only in the political debate, but equally important, the deployment frontline.

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