



Innovative Medicines Initiative

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## PRESS RELEASE

### IMI IMPROVES FUNDING AND SIMPLIFIES RULES FOR PROJECT PARTICIPANTS

**BRUSSELS, 8 December 2011** – Today, the Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) announces important changes in its rules for project participants, improving the financial conditions for scientific teams and simplifying the management requirements for project participants.

IMI is improving its rules in order to better accommodate the expectations of both public and private partners in its collaborative projects. The new rules ensure the flexible and efficient use of public and private funds and contributions to optimise the investments in IMI projects.

Actual indirect (overhead) costs can now be reimbursed, whereas previously, only a flat rate of 20% was applicable. Funding of personnel costs is being made simpler through the new possibility to use an average personnel cost or, for owners of small and medium-sized enterprises, a flat rate similar to the one used in other EU programmes.

Overall, reporting and accounting procedures for project participants are simplified, reducing the administrative burden and expenses required for management and administration, making more funds and other resources available for scientific activities in the projects.

In addition, measures are taken to pursue greater transparency in financial and scientific reporting. Open access publication is encouraged, as participants of IMI projects are required to do their best to ensure that project publications become freely and electronically available. More details on the changes are available in the fact sheet attached and on [www.imi.europa.eu](http://www.imi.europa.eu).

Michel Goldman, IMI Executive Director commented: "In the first two years of IMI, we have learnt from the experiences of the scientific teams in the 23 ongoing IMI projects. By responding to their feedback, IMI reinforces its commitment to radically changing the ecosystem for pharmaceutical research. IMI is now even better equipped to engage public and private teams in collaborative projects, offering them a unique and attractive partnership to accelerate drug development in Europe."

Meanwhile, IMI is preparing further simplifications in the scientific reporting procedures for project participants, as well as in the application procedures for teams applying for IMI funding in response to IMI's Calls for proposals. These simplifications will be announced early 2012.

With its €2 billion research programme, IMI is the world's largest public-private partnership for medical research. IMI is a joint undertaking between the European Commission (€1 billion funding) and EFPIA, the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (€1 billion in-kind contributions).

**Attached:** Fact sheet

**Press contact:**

Kim De Rijck – IMI External Relations Manager

[kim.derijck@imi.europa.eu](mailto:kim.derijck@imi.europa.eu)

Tel: +32 484 89 62 27

**Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) - Executive Office**

**Kim De Rijck External Relations Manager**

[kim.derijck@imi.europa.eu](mailto:kim.derijck@imi.europa.eu) – [www.imi.europa.eu](http://www.imi.europa.eu) – Tel: +32 (0)2-221 81 83

Postal mail: IMI JU, TO56, Office 6/3, 1049 Brussels

Visiting address: Ave de la Toison d'Or 56-60, 1060 Brussels, Belgium

