



Innovative Medicines Initiative

IMI/KDR/DOC/2011-1208

## FACT SHEET

### IMI SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AGENDA – REVISION 2011

*The IMI Scientific Research Agenda (SRA) is a multiannual research plan setting out the research priorities of IMI. The priorities defined in the SRA form the basis for the research topics of IMI Calls for proposals. Scientific advances and changes in the industry led the IMI Scientific Committee to initiate in 2010 the revision of the original (2008) SRA. The process included consultation of stakeholders and resulted in a revised SRA in 2011.*

#### Summary of the revised IMI Scientific Research Agenda

The mission of the Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) is to help make Europe a world leader in drug research and development (R&D) to the benefit of patients and society. To this end, IMI will implement innovative patient-centred projects that address the principle causes of delay (bottlenecks) in the current biomedical R&D process.

To successfully tackle the pharmaceutical challenges and exploit the opportunities created by the latest major advances in science, as well as recent significant transformations in the pharmaceutical industry and healthcare systems in general, IMI will foster strategic initiatives focused on 'game-changing' or 'think big' ideas and areas where the maximum number of companies can join forces.

These 'think big' ideas are strategic themes under which future projects will be developed, and they will change the landscape in which pharmaceutical industry, academic institutions and healthcare systems operate.

**Eight important new research priorities** have been added to the revised Scientific Research Agenda; they will represent the basis for future Calls for proposals.

The **new priorities** are:

- Pharmacogenetics and taxonomy of human diseases;
- Rare diseases and stratified therapies;
- Systems approaches in drug research;
- Beyond high throughput screening - pharmacological interactions at the molecular level;
- Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient (API) technology (drug compound development);
- Advanced formulations;
- Stem cells for drug development and toxicity screening;
- Integration of imaging techniques into drug research.

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**Pre-competitive research** and **collaborative innovation** will continue to be core concepts for IMI. Furthermore, the revised IMI research strategy is **patient-centric**, and provides valuable opportunities for patient groups to participate in R&D as well as in Education & Training project consortia.

In the revised SRA, both new (2011) and initial (2008) research priorities are listed with some indicative Call topics.

The **initial research priorities** are:

- Safety Sciences
- Increasing Practicability of Biomarkers and Biobanks
- Coping with Regulatory and Legal Hurdles
- Knowledge Management
- Science Communication
- Neuro-psychiatric Disorders/Brain Disease
- Inflammatory Diseases
- Cancer
- Metabolic Diseases including cardiovascular diseases
- Infectious Diseases

**Both the initial (2008) and the revised IMI Scientific Research Agenda (2011) are available on [www.imi.europa.eu/content/documents#imi\\_research\\_strategy](http://www.imi.europa.eu/content/documents#imi_research_strategy)**

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