

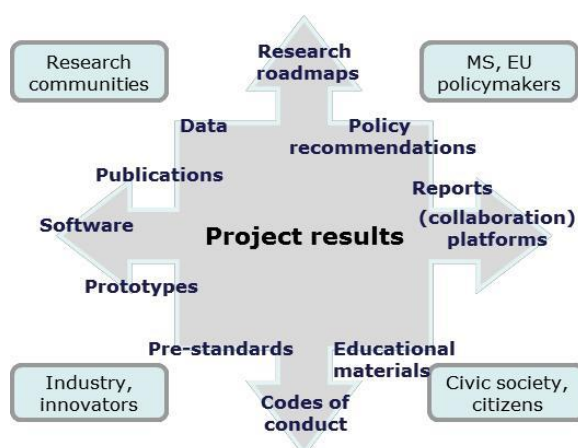
IMI2 project guidelines for the dissemination of results

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Dissemination is an important activity for all IMI2 projects, a fact that is recognised in the Model Grant Agreement for IMI2 projects, which requires that you make your scientific work and results openly available, as early as possible and in a form that is an easily accessible, understandable and reusable.

This guide provides an overview of the rules related to the dissemination of results that apply to IMI2, together with tips and links to help you prepare and report on dissemination activities.

WHAT do we mean by results? Results are any tangible or intangible output of the project, such as data, knowledge and information, whatever their form or nature, whether or not they can be protected, as well as any rights attached to it, including intellectual property rights. Key results are the outputs generated during the project that can create an impact during and after the funded activity is finished, either by the project partners or by other stakeholders that access such results and further build on them.



Source: European Commission. H2020 Common Support Centre/J5

WHY? It is your legal obligation and an essential element of all good research practice. In addition, by sharing the results of your research in a timely and effective manner, you can:

- trigger novel approaches and solutions to the drug development process that will ultimately benefit patients;
- raise awareness among potential users on how they can benefit from your research results;
- increase the visibility and value of your research and the collaborative nature of your work;
- contribute to strengthening and promoting your organisation's profile;
- help to raise funds for the sustainability of your results and for follow-up projects;
- make research more efficient and contribute to avoiding duplication of research resources.

TO WHOM? In order to have an impact, your project results need to be disseminated in a targeted manner to those stakeholders that can best make use of them in their work. Examples of potential beneficiaries are peer

researchers, industry and other commercial actors, regulators and HTA bodies, patient organisations and healthcare professionals.

WHEN? Based on your *Plan for the exploitation and dissemination of results*, you need to thoroughly plan your dissemination activities from the start of the project and they should represent a continuous activity throughout the lifetime of the project – and after its end; they should be effective at a European level. Bear in mind that dissemination is an aspect that evaluators examine during the project review.

HOW? As shown below, the dissemination activities should go beyond the standard practice of publishing research results in scientific journals.

Distinguishing between dissemination and communication activities

IMI2 project partners have a contractual obligation to communicate on the project (Art. 38 of the IMI2 JU Multi-Beneficiary Model Grant Agreement) and disseminate the project’s results (Art. 29.1 of the IMI2 JU Multi-Beneficiary Model Grant Agreement). As the table below shows, both activities are closely connected but should not be confused.

Examples of communication and dissemination activities:

Communication	Dissemination
About the project and results	Of results only
Multiple audiences (beyond the project’s own community)	Audience that may use the results in their own work e.g. peers, industry and other commercial actors, regulators and HTA bodies, patient organisations, healthcare professionals, policymakers
Inform and reach out to society, show the benefits of research	Enable use and uptake of results by describing and making them available



Source: European Commission

Note that there can be exceptions to the obligation to disseminate results for certain activities if:

- the results need to be protected as a trade secret (i.e. confidential know-how), or;
- dissemination conflicts with any other obligations under the Grant Agreement (e.g. personal data protection).

Dissemination of your results – things to consider

When planning and carrying out the dissemination of your project's results, make sure you:

- ensure consistency between the dissemination activities and the project's *Plan for the exploitation and dissemination of results*: describe in your plan concrete measures for dissemination of all key results and verify that they facilitate and support each of the impacts aimed at in the work plan;
- consider the other beneficiaries' legitimate interests before undertaking a dissemination activity and give them — unless otherwise agreed — at least 45 days advance notice, together with sufficient information on the dissemination activity;
- identify areas and stakeholders that could make use of your results;
- use effective channels and platforms for all groups of potential users – stakeholder networks and platforms, innovation-domain-specific platforms, Enterprise Europe Network (EEN), regulators' platforms, policymakers' platforms, your project website;
- evaluate if the planned dissemination activities are proportionate to the impact expected from the action;
- assess concrete follow-up actions/results of your dissemination measures;
- regularly update/review the project's plan for the exploitation and dissemination of results. It is essential to closely capture, monitor and manage results over the entire lifetime of the project (timed with the outputs of the project, and continuing after project end); adjust dissemination and exploitation plans accordingly;
- regularly update the project's website; it should contain complete information about the project, relevant events, results and potential impact. On the website you should also link to the website of IMI;
- prepare and publish on the project website summaries that are easily understandable by potential partners and others who could potentially be interested in your results. It will contribute to facilitating the exploitation of your results;
- inform your scientific officer and the IMI communications team of any important project outputs and the IMI office will disseminate them further (e.g. by publishing them in the online catalogue of IMI project tools);
- consistently specify that the project has received funding from IMI and display the IMI and EFPIA (and Associated Partners) logos and the European Union emblem on any dissemination material. Remember that, whenever possible, the statement will have to be translated into the language of the dissemination activity. According to Art. 29.4 of the IMI2 Grant Agreement, the formal acknowledgement of IMI's support should read:

‘This project has received funding from the Innovative Medicines Initiative 2 Joint Undertaking (JU) under grant agreement No [Number]. The JU receives support from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme and [insert names of the JU members other than the EU] [and [insert names of the Associated Partners]]’;
- include the reference to JU funding and support from the EU and JU members (and Associated Partners) – even when the dissemination of the project result is combined with other data;
- remember to include a disclaimer when disseminating a project result, clearly stating that it reflects only the author's view and that the JU is not responsible for any use that may be made of the information it contains.

Project reporting and dissemination

A major tool for dissemination will be the project's periodic and final reports. Make sure you:

- submit quality deliverables and well prepared periodic/final project reports in a timely manner;
- include a publishable executive summary of the entire project in your final report, giving an overview of the results, their exploitation and dissemination, together with the conclusions about the project and its socio-economic impact. The executive summary will be published on the IMI website and on CORDIS;
- include in your periodic/final reports information related to all project outputs, clearly mentioning which of the deliverables are confidential;
- provide a short synthesis on the reported dissemination activities and outputs that goes beyond a plain 'shopping list of performed activities'. If relevant, outline the significance of your results for future policymaking;
- mention only activities directly linked to the project, and the type of audience reached.

How IMI can help your dissemination efforts

IMI will support the dissemination of your project and raise the visibility of your project results through:

- publication of project information and results on the IMI website: project factsheets, success stories from projects, newsletter and the IMI Annual Activity Report;
- additional communications channels: IMI LinkedIn and Twitter accounts, brochures, leaflets, presentations given at IMI events or by organising your participation in other relevant sectoral events.

IMI catalogue of project tools

We have started building a [catalogue](#) of accessible tools generated by our projects. Send us a link to the research resource/tool you would like to make available to the research community together with a very short description. Please also indicate the access conditions to the resource and we will publish it on the IMI website.

Closeout meetings

Once your project's final report has been submitted, IMI will convene a closeout meeting.

The aim of a closeout meeting is to have a face-to-face discussion between the consortium and IMI Programme Office on the project. It provides an opportunity for the consortium to present to the IMI office how the project has reached its objectives, to highlight tangible results, put the achievements of the project into context, and discuss its potential impact and legacy management.

A key focus of the meeting is on how to enhance external communications and dissemination on the project, in particular highlighting its main achievements and impacts. The dialogue with the project contributes to identifying and highlighting those assets and results that would deserve to be further exploited and developed in future research, e.g. in a new IMI topic, in training/education activities or in applied research such as drug development.

The IMI communication team will prepare a closeout factsheet to communicate on your project's achievements and impacts. The factsheet will be published on the IMI website and promoted through other IMI channels including the newsletter and social media. Depending on your project outputs, other communication materials may be produced, e.g. stories on specific findings, stories focused on specific partners, participant testimonials etc.

EU resources and platforms for dissemination support

CORDIS Community Research and Development Information Service

[CORDIS](#) is the European Commission's primary portal for promoting results of EU-funded research projects, and it does so through:

- publication of project information submitted through the Participant Portal: project factsheet, public deliverables, publishable report summaries;
- communication support: CORDIS Wire, News, Research EU magazines;
- dissemination products: Results Packs, Results-in-Brief.

IMI will actively work to raise your visibility within the European institutions by proposing your project for relevant EU events, reports, articles and briefings.

Questions?

If you want to learn more, do not hesitate to reach out to your scientific officer or the IMI communications team at: communications@imi.europa.eu. For a comprehensive overview, these guidelines should be read together with the [Communication guide for IMI projects](#) and the [Open access guidelines](#).

Dissemination of results cannot replace communication activities (or vice-versa); both provisions must be complied with.

Always inform us of interesting results concerning your project. We can help make them more visible.

Useful links

[IMI1](#) and [IMI2](#) Call document pages (access to IMI templates, legal and guidance documents)

[Horizon 2020 Participant Portal Online Manual 'Dissemination & Exploitation of Results'](#)

[Making the Most of Your H2020 Project. Boosting the impact of your project through effective communication, dissemination and exploitation](#)

Training

[Sign up for free IPR webinars](#)