



Chronic diseases Call topics

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Topic 1:

Evaluation of low-threshold interventions to tackle obesity, diabetes and other metabolic disorders in EU and LAC countries



Specific challenge:

Evidence-based interventions that can be provided at little cost need to be established and evaluated to tackle the chronic diseases epidemic and keep treatment costs under control.

Scope:

Evaluation of innovative treatment strategies (i.e. face-to-face visits with non health care workers, telephone counseling, smartphone app, information material send by mail only, at distance counselling based on web resources, E-health initiatives, design and validation of decision support tools, among others).



Topic 1:

Evaluation of low-threshold interventions to tackle obesity, diabetes and other metabolic disorders in EU and LAC countries



Expected impact:

The study will provide an estimate on two endpoints: effectiveness and compliance in the different intervention arms.

EU-LAC collaboration provides additional value since the influence of cultural context, genetics, population age, and type of health care system can also be studied.

Decision makers are provided with solid evidence which intervention provides best value for money.



Topic 2:

Inter-ethnic studies about the pathophysiology, prevention and treatment of chronic diseases



Specific challenge:

Ethnicity is a major determinant for the prevalence of chronic diseases. It is a modulator of the response to therapy.

The ethnic diversity of the EU and LAC countries is a unique opportunity to generate a network of institutions and projects in which individuals with different ethnic backgrounds are needed to study the role of genetic or cultural factors in chronic diseases



Topic 2:
**Inter-ethnic studies about the pathophysiology,
prevention and treatment of chronic diseases**



Scope:

Basic, clinical and translational studies in which ethnic diversity is a major determinant or a confounding variable.

Two or more ethnic groups should be included in the initiatives.

Special focus should be placed in the amerindian heritage, because these populations has been under-represented in chronic diseases studies



Topic 2:

Inter-ethnic studies about the pathophysiology, prevention and treatment of chronic diseases



Expected impact:

To generate:

- 1) Genetic, pharmacogenetic, and other omics projects in which the pathophysiology, prevention, prediction and treatment of chronic diseases are studied in two or more ethnic groups.
- 2) Initiatives assessing the effect of cultural or other environmental factors on individuals of the same heritage living in different environments.
- 3) Cultural adaptation of standardized interventions .



Topic 3:
Indicators for healthy aging in EU and LAC countries.



Specific challenge:

Healthy aging subjects provide a unique population to determine which modifiable, i.e. environmental, and non-modifiable, i.e. genetic, factors protect from chronic disease.

Several studies in centenarians have been published. However, subject characterization has been highly heterogeneous between studies and no study directly compared predictors of healthy aging in different world regions.



Topic 3:
Indicators for healthy aging in EU and LAC countries.



Scope:

Centenarians should be characterized using the same phenotyping protocol in both EU and LAC countries.

Assessment includes fasting blood analysis (extended metabolic profile including adipokines), genetics (genome-wide association study), questionnaires on e.g. demographics, cognitive, mental, and physical health, life events, activities of daily living, nutrition, and exercise.

Observational study/international registry

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Topic 3:
Indicators for healthy aging in EU and LAC countries.



Expected impact:

Environmental and genetic factors which contribute to healthy aging could be defined.

This knowledge will provide the basis to propose interventions (e.g. lifestyle, drugs) that protect from chronic diseases.

EU-LAC collaboration provides additional value since subject characterization is homogeneous and protective factors being present in both regions are prime candidates for further analysis.



Added value of the EU-LAC in the study of chronic diseases.



In summary, the collaboration between EU and LAC is a unique opportunity to generate new knowledge and implement translational research due to the differences in cultural context, genetic background, population age, and type of health care system.

Both regions have unique experiences which complement each other. This characteristic allows testing treatment or prevention strategies under different experimental conditions.



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