

Dutch Kidney Foundation

Call for Proposals

Innovation Grant 2020

Information sheet 18 December 2019



The Dutch Kidney Foundation (DKF) Grant Requirements ('Subsidievoorwaarden Nierstichting Nederland') apply to all awarded DKF subsidies as well as all proposals for DKF subsidies. Applicability of general and other conditions of the applicant, the applicant's institute and of third parties is explicitly excluded.

Disclaimer

The execution of a DKF Call for proposals, selection of pre-proposals for full application and positive DKF grant award decisions are conditional on DKF revenues and budgetary means. The DKF explicitly reserves the right to cancel an initiated Call for proposals, to suspend a running procedure or to lower a grant amount in relation to earlier statements.

Grant

The Innovation Grant is an initiative of the section Healthcare & Innovation (C&I) of the Dutch Kidney Foundation (DKF). The advisory board for this call is the Scientific Board (Wetenschappelijke Raad, WR). The C&I Program Committee (PC) has decision authority.

Call and Budget 2020

- The deadline for the Innovation Grant 2020 is **Monday 6th of April 2020**, 23:59h (digital).
- The WR will discuss the applications during their meeting on the 30th of June 2020.
- The total available budget for this call is € 600.000.

Scope

This call is open to all topics relevant to kidney patients and/or prevention of (progression of) chronic kidney disease (except renal cancer) and to all types of research ranging from basic to implementation and from behavioural to social to medical research, within the conditions of this grant.

Behavioural science and social science are broadly conceived, examples of relevant disciplines are psychology, health care science, nursing science, sociology, sexuality studies, gerontology, social work and cognitive science. The call is explicitly open to projects and applicants from this domain.

Aim

Stimulation of innovation in renal research, diagnosis, prevention, therapies and patient care through the support of innovative biomedical, behavioural and social research projects.

Innovation Potential

Innovation Grant proposals are assessed on showing high innovativeness and originality. Furthermore, a proposal must show that, if successful, it can have a high impact. Impact domains are: the quality of life of (future) kidney patients, prevention of kidney disease, renal science, the renal field in the Netherlands, society at large. For this call the DKF accepts a relatively high risk of hypothesis failing.

Applicant

Biomedical, behavioural and social researchers who are interested in advancing the renal field can apply. The applicant is working at a research institute in the Netherlands.

Criteria and Priorities

Proposals are assessed on innovation, relevance and quality using the assessment criteria as listed below. A detailed description of the criteria can be found in the 'DKF Criteria Set' on our website for professionals. Furthermore, Innovation projects fit in with '[Nierziekte de baas](#)', the joint Dutch renal strategic agenda for innovation and research (In English '[Beating kidney disease](#)'), and the [Dutch National Research Agenda](#).

Innovation potential

- Innovativeness (opportunity for innovation)
- Originality (rationale and approach)
- Innovation profile (high risk / high gain)

Relevance

- Relevance for kidney patients and/or prevention of kidney disease
- Broad impact (patients, risk groups and/or the general public as well as the impact from a scientific, clinical/preventive and societal perspective)
- Cost-benefit

Quality

- Rationale and intervention
- Quality of the individual group(s) and research environment
- Work plan
- Human studies (if applicable)
- Animal studies (if applicable)
- Approach and feasibility

Proposals are assessed on relevance and quality from the patient's perspective according to the following criteria:

- Relevance for (future) patients
- Patient reported outcome measures
- Feasibility and risks
- Information and support
- Patient participation
- Communication of results

Conditions

The DKF General Funding Requirements (*1 January 2017*) apply. Additional conditions are described below.

1. Grant

- Proposals submitted to this call can not be submitted in other DKF calls in the same calendar year.
- The Innovation Grant is a seeding grant for new research projects. The grant can not be used as additional funding for another project. An awarded Innovation Grant can not be followed up by a later second Innovation Grant by the same group on the same topic.
- The grant application budget is calculated with the DKF Project Funding Model (PFM), which awards standard personnel years in different categories. For more information, see the PFM information sheet on our website for professionals.
- An Innovation Grant awards up to € 100.000 for a research period of 2 years.
- A proposal may include a budget for extra expenses (outside the PFM lump sums for personnel years) for fees for patient representatives, equipment and consumables, and for outsourcing technical parts of the project. This budget for extra expenses must not exceed 20 percent of the total requested budget. The extra budget for outsourcing (as part of the budget for extra expenses) must not exceed 10 percent of the total requested budget. This budget for extra expenses and its motivation have to be specified on the application form. The total maximum budget for an Innovation Grant remains € 100.000. The DKF will assess the proportionality of the extra budget proposed.
- The DKF encourages a Grant to be co-funded by other organisations and companies. In that case:
 - There are no (potential) conflicts between the conditions and requirements of this Grant and the conditions and requirements of the co-funder(s);
 - Co-funding is unconditional with respect to intellectual property rights and publication of results;
 - A contract for co-funding must be approved by the DKF.

2. Participation

- The applicant's working base is a research institute in the Netherlands.
- The project is executed in the Netherlands, parts of the research may be performed abroad.
- The DKF encourages collaboration with foreign research institutes.

3. Data Sharing and Intellectual Property Rights

- Project participants shall comply with the DKF Data Sharing Policy and GDPR. Participants must strive for rapid and wide availability without restrictions of research data resulting from research funded by the Innovation Grant. Data availability may be delayed as a consequence of procedures for protection of intellectual property rights (IPR).
- IPR protection is handled according to the ownership follows inventorship principle.
- IPR management must be conducted in collaboration with the DKF and the IPR departments of the participating research institutes. Innovation participants timely inform the DKF of any plans and activities regarding IPR protection and licensing or IPR transfer to third parties.
- The DKF will not develop an IPR portfolio.
- The DKF may challenge planned IPR protection or patent usage that it considers to be inhibiting or restraining scientific endeavour, renal research or advances in renal patient care/prevention of CKD.
- Project participants must timely report to the DKF any results that are of value for the communication of results of DKF projects: e.g. forthcoming publication in a prominent scientific journal, forthcoming publication of research results that have a high impact on patient care, etc.

4. Publications

- The DKF encourages research groups to implement and follow the ARRIVE (Animal Research: Reporting of In Vivo Experiments) guidelines in the design and reporting of animal research to increase its reproducibility and quality.
- The DKF supports and encourages Open Access publishing, preferably via the Gold Route which makes the final version of an article freely and permanently accessible for everyone, immediately after publication. More information can be found on openaccess.nl.

Application and Assessment Procedure

1. Application

- Grant proposals are written in English, except for the section 'Patient Perspective' that is completed in Dutch. The most recent version of the relevant DKF form is used for submission.
- Grant proposals will be assessed by the PC on complying with the conditions.
- Each grant proposal will be reviewed by at least two WR reviewers and by patient reviewers coordinated by the Dutch Kidney Patient Association. Possible conflicts of interest are to be avoided in appointing reviewers. The scientific reviewers assess the innovative potential of the grant proposal, its relevance according to the relevance criteria and its scientific quality along the quality criteria. The patient reviewers assess the relevance and quality from the patient's perspective.

2. Selection for discussion

After the reviews are collected, a number of proposals is selected for plenary discussion in the WR meeting. The selection is based on the quantification of the five-point scale review tables in the WR reviews and the patient reviews.

For each proposal, four scores are used for selection.

- Averages over the WR-reviews:
 - WR-review score for innovation
 - WR-review score for relevance
 - WR-review score for quality
- Patient-review final score

Only proposals with sufficient quality (WR-review score ≥ 3) can be selected.

Proposals are then selected using the following rules:

- The proposals with WR-review innovation score ≥ 3 are ranked on this score. The first 12 proposals of the ranking are selected.
- Also, all proposals with patient-review score ≥ 4 are selected.

3. Scoring proposals

A representative of the patient panel will be present at the WR meeting in order to put forward the patient views. After discussing the grant proposal, the participating board members will cast their votes in the form of

three scores (1 to 10) for innovation, relevance and quality each in anonymous form. WR members involved in a grant proposal under discussion are excluded from discussion and ranking of the proposal.

Individual scores of the board members are used to calculate a mean innovation, relevance and quality score for each grant proposal. The final score of a grant proposal equals the average of the innovation, relevance and quality scores. The final scores of all applications will be ranked in descending order. The PC takes the grant award decisions within the framework of the following rules.

- Grant proposals with a final score ≥ 7 are eligible for funding.
- If the total budget is insufficient for funding all applications with a final score ≥ 7 the final ranking order will be decisive.
- Grant proposals with a final score < 6 or a quality score < 6 or a relevance score < 6 or an innovation score < 6 are not eligible for funding.
- If the total budget is larger than necessary for funding all applications with a final score ≥ 7 , grant proposals with a final score ≥ 6 and < 7 will be eligible for funding.
- Grant award decisions are either positive or negative.

The DKF will inform applicants on the decision on their grant proposals within 6 weeks after the WR meeting.

Reporting

The project leader of a grant reports in compliance with the DKF General Requirements and the letter of awarding.

Information

More information can be found on our [website](#). For questions about this call please contact our Secretary Healthcare and Innovation, research@nierstichting.nl or +31(0)35 697 8015.