Towards a European Council for Health Research

Julio E. Celis
Chair, ECCO Policy Committee
Overview

- Europe’s 2020 Strategy: The Innovation Union
- The opportunity: Horizon 2020
- The European Council for Health Research (EuCHR)
The Innovation Union

The Innovation Union is Europe’s strategy for growth.

It promise to bring more jobs, economic growth, and social bienestar.

Moving discoveries quicker to the bedside
The challenge can only be met by increased knowledge through biomedical research and a coherent and strategic European action that engages all key stakeholders in healthcare.

Addressing cross-border collaboration, coordination, the innovation cycle, as well as sustainability will be essential to speed up the translation of discoveries into clinical applications.

Healthcare research is a driving factor for investment and employment. Health is wealth!
The opportunity: Horizon 2020

- Horizon 2020 has 3 main pillars:
  - Excellence in science
  - Industrial leadership
  - Better societies. Societal challenges (Health, demographic change and well-being,...)
Some priorities in the health theme

- Understanding the determinants of health (including environmental and climate related factors), improving health promotion and disease prevention;
- Developing effective screening programmes and improving the assessment of disease susceptibility
- Improving surveillance and preparedness
- Understanding disease
- Developing better preventive vaccines
- Improving diagnosis
- Using in-silico medicine for improving disease management and prediction
- Treating disease
How best cover the full innovation cycle from research to market?

**Basic Science**
- Promising molecules or gene targets
- Candidate protein biomarkers
- Basic epidemiologic finding

**Early Translation**
- Partnerships & collaboration (academia, government, industry)
- Intervention development*
- Phase I/II trials

**Late Translation**
- Phase III trials
- Regulatory approval
- Partnerships
- Production & commercialization
- Phase IV trials – approval for additional uses

**Dissemination**
- To community health providers
- To patients & public

**Adoption**
- Adoption of advance by providers, patients, public
- Payment mechanism(s) in place to enable adoption

**Type 1**
- Translation/early
  - Payment mechanism(s) established to support adoption

**Type 2**
- Translation/late
  - Health services research

*President’s Cancer Panel, 2004-2005 Annual Report, modified*
European Council for Health Research (EuCHR)
Alliance for Biomedical Research in Europe

MEMBERSHIP

[Logos of various biomedical research organizations]
BioMed Alliance

- General Assembly agreed on December 1st 2011 to support the idea of working towards the establishment of a EuCHR.
- The General Assembly also agreed to the formation of a Core Working Group to derive a vision for the EuCHR and to delineate the road map.
EuCHR

A **centralized structure** to build upon excellent resources and institutions already established and derive health research policy.

This initiative, which will have a **structural effect in organizing biomedical research**, should ensure expert scientific input on policy from the outset, provide funding to advance innovation and competitiveness, encourage participation by researchers across borders and **beyond**, and warrant savings for national health systems.
Supporting Statements

- European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries Association (EFPIA)
- Commission High Level Group
- Copenhagen Research Forum

“EFPIA is ready to engage into a stakeholder debate proposed by the BioMed Alliance on how to structure a European Council for Health Research to optimize healthcare research and delivery across Europe”
EuCHR Core Working Group

Ulf Smith (EASD), Karin Sipido (ESC), Laurent Nicod (ERS) and Julio Celis (ECCO)

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<th>Members</th>
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<td>Sir George Alberti</td>
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**Advisors**

Richard Bergström, José Mariano Gago, Harald zur Hausen, Liselotte Højgaard, Stella Kyriakidis and Peter Lange
EuCHR. Were are we?

- Meeting with key members of the EU Parliament (January 24, 2012)
- The Working Group on the EuCHR will meet on February 15 to discuss the vision and to delineate the road map (end of March)
- Discussion of the vision with individual biomedical organizations (wide consultation/needs and priorities) and confront their positions. Produce a document that reflects the common position of the biomed community concerning structure, priorities. etc. (April)
- Forum to discuss the vision with all relevant stakeholders (late May)
- Set the agenda for the next steps (organizational issues, operation and implementation). How a EuCHR can be structured to optimize healthcare delivery across Europe and reap real health and economic benefits

Window of opportunity is very narrow
Inspiration from the European Research Council?
Thank you for your attention!