

The European Research Council

ERC Social Sciences and Humanities `Proof of
Concept` projects related to health

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Translation by Design workshop



European Research Council

Established by the European Commission

ERC in Horizon Europe



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The ERC awards long-term grants to researchers of any nationality and age, from anywhere in the world, who wish to carry out their research projects in a host institution based in Europe.

Scientific excellence is the sole evaluation criterion.

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ERC grant schemes



Starting Grants

starters (2-7 years after PhD) up to € 1.5 Mio
for 5 years



Consolidator Grants

Consolidators (7-12 years after PhD) up to € 2 Mio
for 5 years



Advanced Grants

track-record of significant research achievements
in the last 10 years up to € 2.5 Mio
for 5 years



Synergy Grants

2 – 4 Principal Investigators up to € 10.0 Mio
for 6 years
1 PI can be based outside EU/Associated
Countries



Proof-of-Concept

bridging gap between research - earliest stage of marketable innovation
lump sum €150,000 for ERC grant holders

SSH PoCs in the area of health – some examples

SYN-TOOLKIT: A Diagnostic Testing Package for Childhood Synaesthesia (Julia Simner)

- App-based package to diagnose and support two of the most prevalent forms of childhood synaesthesia (phantom sensory experiences).

INSOMNIA AID: Inventive Neurophysiology Software, Outputting Measures of Nocturnal Instability Automatically in Anxiety, Insomnia & Depression (Eus van Someren)

- Developed sleep quality assessment algorithms that can be used in clinical / consumer electronics.

cRGS: Cognitive Rehabilitation Gaming System: a novel Virtual Reality-based system for the conjunctive training of stroke-derived cognitive impairments (Paul Verschure)

- Developed a system to support the cognitive recovery of people discharged from intensive care units. Resulted in a spin-off company that also received an EIC Transition grant.

CAPITA: Child Abuse Prevention International Training and Access (Lucie Cluver)

- Child abuse prevention parenting programs for low and middle income countries. Used by UNICEF and WHO, translated into 18 languages and reached over 600,000 families in 22 countries.

SSH PoCs in the area of health – some observations

- ERC funding for breakthrough research also leads to societal applications.
- SSH PoCs related to health lead to a range of outputs such as trainings, guidelines, apps, (self-care) diagnostics and devices.
- Not all such outputs lend themselves naturally to commercial (/IPR) business models.
- Public health impacts of `non-commercial` SSH PoC outputs can also be huge, especially if further supported by policies / stakeholders.

Thank You!

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