

Funding call 2024

**Interdisciplinary approaches in oncogenic processes
and therapeutic perspectives:**

**Contributions of mathematics and computer science
to oncology**

The Cancer ITMO (Multi-Organisation Thematic Institute) of the French Alliance for Life Sciences and Health (AVIESAN) implements the research component of this funding call

Inserm implements the operational component of this funding call.

Online Submission: <https://www.eva3.inserm.fr>

Deadline: **21st December 2023, 5pm**

Contact: cancerinserm.mic@inserm.fr

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1. CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The past decade has highlighted the extraordinary complexity of cancerous pathologies and the need to use multi- and transdisciplinary approaches in understanding it. Recent technological revolutions have gradually put mathematics and computer science at the center of large-scale studies, which have become crucial for oncological research. The optimized processing of this metadata has allowed for a quantum leap in addressing the huge challenge of oncogenesis research as well as the personalized medicine of cancer patients.

Indeed, the characterization of tumors, and their environment, is increasingly fine and medical examinations are increasingly sophisticated. Constant technological progress is leading to more and more instrumental research and clinical management, thus confronting researchers and clinicians with a growing and huge amount of heterogeneous information and data to exploit, integrate and evaluate. **In order to decode this mass of information, analyze it and give it a meaning, it is necessary to resort to modeling, simulation and data mining insofar as the size and diversity of the data collected are no longer integral at the individual level.**

The challenges are many and ambitious, to achieve the reliable and objective interpretation of information, standardization of data processing, resistance to variability of sources (protocol variants, human errors ...), exploitation of all the data, the taking into account of the poorly represented data, the integration of the heterogeneous data, etc., in order to describe the complex biological phenomena, to integrate the medical and biomedical data, to identify new biological hypotheses and therapeutic leads, to discriminate combinations of potentially effective treatments.

In this context, the Multi-Organism Institute (ITMO) Aviesan Cancer (National Alliance for Life Sciences and Health) wishes to continue supporting interdisciplinary research approaches in the field of cancer.

In this call, new concepts, models or methods in mathematics and digital sciences are to be developed or validated under experimental conditions to generate scientific advances in oncology (understanding the biological mechanisms of carcinogenesis, assisting in the diagnosis and predictive analysis of prognosis, optimization of management and therapeutic follow-up, etc.). As part of the 2021-2030 Ten-Year Strategy for Cancer Control, projects must aim to have a concrete impact on cancer care in the short to medium term (< 8 years).

Primarily targeted areas: Mathematics, Theoretical physics, Statistics, Informatics

Targeted profile of projects and coordinators:

- Coordinators must demonstrate strong skills in mathematics, theoretical physics, statistics or informatics.
- Projects must involve the **development and/or validation of innovative methodology with cancer data (biological or clinical data)**. It is neither a question of applying an already proven methodology in oncology to obtain results, nor of validating a standard methodology.
- The data used for the project may be pre-existing, real or synthetic (atlas, open databases, collaboration with a biological or biomedical research laboratory, etc.). Additional data can be produced (see paragraph below).
- The budget requested must be adapted to the size of the project. The funds allocated are of the same order of magnitude as those for calls for projects from national funding agencies. It may not be less than €25,000 (excluding management fees) per participating team. **The funding of Ph.D students (excluding biology/health) is possible within the framework of this call.** (cf. article 3.1).

The Cancer ITMO (Multi-Organism Thematic Institute) of the French Alliance for Life Sciences and Health (AVIESAN) implements the research component of this funding call. Inserm implements the operational component of this funding call.

2. SCOPE OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

This call for proposals covers all fields of mathematical and computer science research applied in the field of cancer: **comprehension, diagnosis and therapeutic management**. The objective is to finance projects involving the development and/or validation under real conditions of methodologies used to analyze or model data from Cancerology. **It is not about applying a methodology already proven in oncology to obtain results.**

Eligibility condition:

- **Interdisciplinary project between mathematics and/or informatics and health biology in cancer research**
- **Rely on real or synthetic biological or clinical data in oncology** (atlas, open data base, Medico-administrative databases, health data repositories, data obtained in collaboration with a biological or biomedical research) **preferably existing data**. It is possible to generate complementary data but this has to be clearly explained. **Synthetic data may be used but the project must validate the model under experimental conditions with real biological/clinical data.**

The following research topics fields are eligible:

The aim will be to develop the following mathematical and computational approaches to explore the living world, specifically oncology, alone or in combination:

- Modeling (development and validation)
- Simulation and predictive approached
- Algorithms and computational methods
- Integration, visualization, representation, search and analysis of large heterogeneous data
- Treatment/Analysis/Segmentation of multi-modal data, multi-scale and of high content
- Development of learning methods
- Network analysis (including causal analysis ...)

To the study of the following fields:

- Oncogenic processes (natural history of cancers, tumor ontology, clonal evolution, tumor growth, metastatic development, ...)
- Relationship of the tumor with the microenvironment
- Role of the immune system in tumor development
- Response and resistance to treatment, relapse
- Diagnostic aids, prognosis, therapeutic follow-up
- Drug design, optimization / combination of treatments

NB: As part of this call, the generation of tools, models, algorithms and data in accordance with the FAIR principle (accessible, interoperable and reusable data) is encouraged.

The following projects are out of scope

- Epidemiology
- Data analysis using standard methods
- Using AI-like approaches for instrument optimization
- Purely methodological developments without confronting real biological or clinical data
- Development of concepts or mathematical or computer methods not related to oncological issues
- Technological development
- Data acquisition projects only
- Statistical analysis of clinical trials and therapeutic trials
- Descriptive studies
- Projects eligible in the call for projects "*Interdisciplinary Approaches to Oncogenic Processes and Therapeutic Perspectives: Contributions of Physics, Chemistry and Engineering Sciences to oncology - PCSI*", **refer to the text of the call for projects.**

3. CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY AND PROJECT EVALUATION

For each project submitted, a Scientific Coordinator of the project is identified. In addition to his/her scientific and technical role, the Coordinator is responsible for setting up the modalities for collaboration between participating teams, **producing the required documents (reports and overview)**, holding meetings, project progress and results communication. He / she ensures the deposit of the application file on behalf of the partners.

The participating teams also designate their recipient Managing Body (which may differ from the organization to which the Coordinator belongs). The managing body is contractually responsible for the implementation of the project and the proper execution of the aid granted, the transmission of all the scientific and financial reports provided for in the agreement.

3.1 Eligibility Criteria

To be considered eligible and qualify for submission to the Evaluation Committee, proposals must meet the following conditions:

- The project must meet the objectives of this call for proposals and fit into one of the fields identified in Section 2.
- The project must have a duration of **12 to 48 months**.
- The consortium executing the project must be composed of a minimum of **2 teams and a maximum of 4 teams, with the presence of one team from the health/biology discipline.**

- The coordinator must demonstrate a strong competence in the field of mathematics, theoretical physics, statistics or computer science, **appreciated on his/her initial university training and/or the field of his/her research over the last 10 years** (type of publications and level of involvement).
- The coordinator can submit **only one project** regardless of his/her status as a project coordinator or a partner.
- **The biology/health teams can only be partners of one project in this call.**
- The same project **cannot be submitted to the calls PCSI or MCMP 2024 of ITMO Cancer Aviesan**
- The Project Coordinator must be a permanent staff of a French structure: researcher or a research engineer (IR) with an HDR, from a French structure: public research body, higher education institution, public health establishment, research foundation recognized as being of public utility, or French comprehensive cancer centers (FCCC). He/She **must be involved at least 30% of his/her time in the project.**
- Only academic Partners based in France operating within a structure under the auspices of a French organization (public research institution, higher education institution, public health institution, research foundation recognized as being of public utility or French comprehensive cancer centers) will be funded
- If part of the funding allocated is used to finance a doctoral student, the student must be registered with one of the doctoral schools accredited by the French Ministry of higher education, research and innovation, principally for the following disciplines: **“Mathematics and their interactions” or “Science and information technology and communication” or “Physics”**. This will determine the final approval of the accounts.
- The Managing Body of the Project Coordinator must be a public research organization, a public higher education institution, a public health institution or a recognized public utility research foundation or French comprehensive cancer centers (FCCC) but cannot be an association. See paragraph 5.4 for details,
- The application file must be duly completed and include the required documents in accordance with the submission procedures in paragraph 6.1.
- The project must not be funded by INCa, DGOS or ANR¹ via another call for projects.

3.2 Evaluation Criteria

After verification of the eligibility criteria, the applications are submitted to a written evaluation by international experts, and by at least one reviewer of the evaluation committee whose members cannot be involved in the projects.

Projects that do not meet the eligibility criteria will not be evaluated.

After publication of the list of selected projects, the composition of the evaluation committee is published on the EVA3 website of Inserm. The feedbacks of the committee and experts are sent to the Project Coordinator. The Evaluation Committee appreciates the scientific quality, the synergy of the partnership,

¹ Consequently, when the same Project is selected via different calls, organized by Inserm for the ITMO Cancer of AVIESAN, INCa, DGOS or ANR the Project Coordinator will be invited to withdraw from one or more of the fundings received obtained. Similarity is established when the Projects in question describe identical main objectives, and involve mainly identical teams.

the technical and financial feasibility, and the potential impact of the results. The Committee will be particularly sensitive to the good integration of the different disciplines.

The criteria for evaluation are:

Scientific qualities:

- Scientific excellence with regard to the state of art,
- Project relevance and originality,
- Positioning of the project in the national and international context,
- Clarity of the objectives.

Coordinator and participating teams:

- Skills of the Coordinator in his/her discipline,
- Complementarity and/or multi-disciplinarity of the various teams associated with the project,
- Organisation of collaboration between ***participating teams*** (governance), planning review document production, holding follow up meetings and formatting results,
- The quality of integration of the different disciplines in the project.

Methodology and feasibility:

- Methodological relevance,
- Clarity in the description of mathematical and/ or informatic aspects,
- Project environment (human resources, host structure),
- Credibility of the project timing and the budget requested.

Innovation and development:

- Innovativeness (strategy, concept, technology, etc.),
- Perspectives in terms of later developments, scientific and technical impacts.

Budget requested

- Budget will be determined based on the project. The adequacy of the proposed budget indicated by the applicant with the scope of the proposed project will be evaluated by the selection committee and the revised consequently.

4. CALENDAR OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Date of publication of the call for proposals	October beginning 2023
Opening of project submission site	07/11/2023
Deadline for submitting application files online	21/12/2023, 5pm
Tentative meeting date for the evaluation committee	End of April, 2024
Tentative date for publishing the results	Mid May, 2024

5. ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

5.1 Preliminary article - Definitions:

Granting Act: Funding agreement or letter by which Inserm notifies the Managing Body of its rights and obligations with respect to conduct of the selected Project. The Granting Act takes the form of a notification letter if the body managing the grant is Inserm. These two instruments are hereafter referred to with the generic term "Granting Act".

Project Coordinator: The person (a statutory researcher or a research engineer (IR) with an HDR) responsible for the scientific conduct of the Project as designated in the Granting Act.

Research Foundation: Legal entity governed by private law, **recognized as being of public utility**, the objective is mainly aimed at research activities and **at least 50% of its main activity is devoted to research**.

Managing Body: Research body managing the grant to conduct the Research Project as submitted in the Application File. The Managing Body is contractually responsible for implementing the Contract and compiling all the scientific and financial reports stipulated in the Granting Act.

Research Body: Legal entity such as public research organizations (EPST, EPIC, etc.), higher education institutions (universities, schools), research foundations recognized as being of public utility, health establishments, FCCCs.

Partner: A research team contributing to conduct of the Research Project.

Project: Research project presented in the Coordinator's application file and selected during the Call for Projects for funding within the framework of the Ten-Year cancer control Strategy (2021-2030).

Regulations: These financial rules with their appendices.

5.2 Scope

These Regulations apply to Managing Bodies that Inserm has allocated a grant to conduct a Research Project, selected in a tender for projects launched by ITMO Cancer of Aviesan and managed by Inserm.

5.3 Contents

Funding is granted by Inserm after the Project has been selected on the basis of the Application File submitted by the Coordinator according to the criteria for eligibility and evaluation of the text of the corresponding tender for projects.

The Application File **must** include:

- A completed scientific file (template available on EVA3),
- Project budget and its annual distribution. The Project's budget broken down in the financial appendices (template available on EVA3). The financial annexe should be uploaded as an Excel document **AND** as a **signed and stamped PDF** version,
- The CVs of the Project Coordinator and Partners (compiled in a single file), **respecting the template provided on the EVA3 website**,
- Recent Organizational Charts of Coordinator and Partner Units, indicating the Research teams involved in the project,
- The Administrative form to be filled online on the EVA3 website,
- The Bank Identity Statement of each Managing body,
- Response to committee feedback in the case of a resubmitted project.
- Authorisations for data usage, if applicable



All incomplete projects will be considered administratively ineligible.

5.4 Managing Bodies

Each participating team designates its Managing Body, recipient of funding (which may be different from that to which the Coordinator belongs). The Managing Body is contractually responsible for the implementation of the Project and the proper execution of the aid granted, the transmission of all the scientific and financial reports mentioned in the Granting Act.

Teams belong to the following French bodies:

- Public-sector research institutions (EPST, EPIC, etc.),
- Institutions of higher learning (universities, etc.),
- Research foundations recognized as being of public utility, ,
- Public-sector health care establishments,
- French Comprehensive Cancer Centers (FCCC).

Public research teams affiliated with a **public-sector body or entity** must have their grant managed by their associated public body or one of the mixed administrators of their structure.

The participation of industrial partners and/or foreign teams is possible as long as they provide their own funding in the Project.

If the Project involves different teams associated with different bodies benefiting from part of the funds granted, each Managing Body will sign a separate agreement with Inserm.

5.5 Coordinator

If there are multiple teams involved², a Project Coordinator must be appointed. Each partner team appoints a scientific leader.

In addition to his/her scientific and technical role, the Coordinator is responsible for organising the collaboration between participating teams and meetings as well as monitoring progress and communicating results. **The project Coordinator is responsible for compiling the required reports and their transmission to Inserm within the allocated time limit.**

The Coordinator ensures the submission of the application file on behalf of the research project partners.

In the event of a change of Coordinator during the Project, he/she must immediately notify Inserm of the planned modification.

The Coordinator must:

- Be a statutory scientist or a research engineer (IR) with an HDR from a French structure: public-sector research body, a public institution of higher learning or a public health care institution, research foundation recognized as being of public utility or FCCC,
- Devote at least 30% of his/her time to the Project.

5.6 Project Duration

The Managing Body and the Coordinator undertake that the Project will be completed within the time frame stipulated in the Granting Act notwithstanding possible modifications.

The request for extension must be sent in writing by the Coordinator on behalf of all the teams. It must be justified and formulated a maximum of 6 months before the end of the Project.

The duration of the Project determines the eligibility period for expenses, which must be incurred and paid during the duration of the mentioned Project.

The Project must begin in the same year as that of the publication of results, before **October 1st 2024.**

5.7 Granting Act

5.7.1 Form of the Act

The Act takes the form of:

- Either a grant agreement signed by the Managing Body and Inserm,
- Or a notification letter sent to the beneficiaries if the Managing Body is Inserm.

5.7.2 Obligatory Information that must be mentioned in the Granting Act

The Granting Act is compiled by Inserm on the basis of information in the Application File and the text of the corresponding Tender for Projects.

It must include the following information:

- Title of the Project,

² Refer to eligibility criteria

- Duration of the Project,
- Duration of the Granting Act,
- Partners involved in the Project and the Coordinator,
- A copy of the bank identity details (RIB) of the managing body, in case of non-Inserm,
- The total sum granted and how it is to be paid,
- The obligation to send Inserm the reports mentioned in Article 5.9 of the Rules. How and when these are to be sent are stipulated in the Granting Act,
- Appendices to the Granting Act:
 - Appendix 1: summary of the Project as stipulated in the Application File,
 - Appendix 2: budget of the Project,
 - Appendix 3: model of the final financial justification.

5.7.3 Documents constituting the Granting Act

The documents that make up the Granting Act have the following order of precedence, especially in the event of conflicting provisions:

- The Granting Act and its appendices,
- The current regulations.

5.7.4 Special provisions

Inserm and the Managing Body may include in the Granting Act special obligations and/or exemptions from the Rules that are justified either by specificities of the funded Project or by an agreement between Inserm and one or more of its partners.

5.7.5 Notification of the Granting Act

The Granting Act is notified by a letter from Inserm

5.7.6 Modification of the Granting Act

Inserm will compile and sign an additional clause for any modification of the provisions of the Granting Act.

However, extensions of the duration of the Project, granted on an exceptional basis based on the **scientific justification** from the Coordinator and a financial proof, are notified via a simple letter to the managing bodies taking care of the grant.

Any prolongation cannot exceed 12 months. A written request must be sent at least 6 months prior to the end of the project to cancerinserm.mic@inserm.fr. It must include a scientific justification explaining the reasons for such an extension and must be signed by the Project Coordinator.

5.8 Grant Allocated

5.8.1 Co-financing by other public funders

If Inserm is aware, during the execution of the project, that it benefits from another funding from INCa, DGOS or ANR, irrespective of the operator of the cited funding and who has not previously been validated by the ITMO Cancer of Aviesan, it reserves the right to request the reimbursement of all or part of the grant.

In addition, it is likely to trigger an audit of the project, the costs of which may be borne by the beneficiary if the conditions mentioned above are not fulfilled.

5.8.2 Calculation of the total sum

When the total sum granted is identical to that asked for in the Application File, it includes the budgetary appendix compiled by the Coordinator when the application is submitted.

If the total sum granted by Inserm differs from that asked for in the Application File, Inserm sends the Coordinator an E-mail with the global total of the grant that it is intending to attribute to conduct the Project.

In this case, a new financial appendix is compiled, dated and signed by the Managing Body. Then the Coordinator must conduct the Research Project in line with the instructions of Inserm.

In the event of refusal to compile a new financial appendix or failure to reply within one (1) month counting from the date of the mail sent by Inserm, the grant will not be attributed.

The grant attributed cannot be less than 25,000 € per **per participating team**, excluding management fees, and for its entire duration. At least two (2) teams must be eligible for consortium funding.

5.8.3 Value Added Tax

In the absence of counterpart to Inserm's financial support and applying the provisions of fiscal instruction BOI-TVA-CHAMP-10-10-60-40 20120912 from the Public Finances Directorate, the grant attributed by Inserm is not subject to VAT.

5.8.4 Payment of the subsidy

5.8.4.1 Schedule

For Managing Bodies other than Inserm, 80% of the grant is paid on signing of the Granting Act and 30 days from the starting date of the Project. Payment of the balance of 20% will be made after validation of the final reports mentioned in paragraph **5.9 in proportion to the justified expenses**.

When the Managing Body is Inserm, credits corresponding to the grant are opened in **annual blocks**

5.8.4.2 Suspension of the paiement

If the project has not been started by the planned date of production of the first scientific report (§5.9.1), Inserm will notify the Managing Body of the breach in a registered letter with acknowledgement of reception. This letter will require the Managing Body to overcome the difficulties encountered within two (2) months of reception of this letter.

If the deficient Managing Body has failed to remedy the problem by this deadline, cancellation is announced.

5.8.5 Grant utilisation

The Managing Body must use the grant paid by Inserm exclusively to conduct the Project stipulated in the Granting Act.

At the end of the Project, any unspent money is to be refunded to Inserm within (30) days from the day of Inserm' request.

5.8.6 Eligible expenditure

All expenditure must be directly related to the Project, strictly necessary to its conduct and duly justified.

Only expenses mandated for the duration of the Project are eligible.

5.8.6.1 Equipement and Informatic

The expenditure on equipment's is, excluding office automation and furniture expenditure, eligible expenses.

Computers needed to operate experimental instruments or calculations are not considered office automation. For these equipment, a scientific justification will be required. In addition, the computer equipment of staff recruited on fixed term contracts on the project is possible, if the purchase is indicated in the initial financial annex and within the limit of one computer per person recruited on the project for the duration of the project.

In the context of this Call for Proposals, expenditure on equipment is only funded up to a maximum of 50,000 € (without management fees) per partner team.

5.8.6.2 Staff Cost

Only non-permanent staff costs are eligible.

For private law institutions, permanent staff costs are eligible when these personnel are assigned to the Project within the strict framework of its implementation, and subject to a certificate signed by the Director of Human Resources of the managing body certifying that the CDI is assigned to the Project and indicating the pro rata of time spent on the Project.

The financing of doctoral contracts shall be authorised in accordance with the eligibility criteria defined in Article 3.1

Staff costs allocated to administrative functions and vacation costs are not eligible.

The budget earmarked for the recruitment of staff cannot exceed 80% of the assistance requested, excluding management costs, per team and cannot exceed the limit of **12 persons / month per year and per team**, (eg for a 36-month project, the number of men / month is capped at 36).

As a reminder: internship gratuity expenses are to be included under operation cost and not under personnel cost.

5.8.6.3 Operating Cost

Services :

The Coordinator may sub-contract part of the Inserm-funded work required for the Project to third-party service providers. However, these services must only bear on execution of a limited part of the Project, and when applicable, must comply with public-sector ordering regulations.

Consortium agreement:

The cost of compiling a consortium agreement is eligible if the conditions stipulated in Article **5.14** of these rules are fulfilled.

The other operating costs that are eligible are:

- Consumables,
- Expenses incurred for the travel of scientists (mission) as part of and for the purposes of carrying out the research project,
- Intellectual property expenses for patents and licenses resulting from execution of the Project,

- The costs related to the publication of the results as well as any additional costs applied for the publication of the articles in open access,
- Internship bonus
- Expenses justified by an in-house billing procedure.

5.8.6.4 Management Costs

A fraction of general administrative costs generated by the Project may appear in the funded expenses. This administrative cost fraction is limited to 8% of the Project's budget total cost of eligible expenses (this percentage of management fees may change by amendment to these financial regulations) and does not need financial justification. Management fees are calculated on the aid requested and not on the overall cost of the project.

5.8.6.5 VAT

For Managing bodies who are not subject to VAT or only partly subjected, the unrecoverable part of VAT paid out on eligible expenses constitutes an eligible expense. However, an up-to-date certificate from the Public Finances General Directorate (DGFIP) should be provided in order to justify the non-recoverable part of VAT remaining payable by the Managing Body.

5.8.7 Fungibility

The grant paid by Inserm is fungible under the operating costs. Budget can only be transferred for staff costs with the agreement of Inserm that is subjected to a scientific argument sent to cancer.daf@inserm.fr.

5.8.8 Other provisions

If the amount of the grant paid by Inserm does not cover all expenses incurred in executing the Project, the Managing Body undertakes to complement the funding to ensure the Project's proper execution, either from its own resources or by means of one or more co-financing agreements.

In this event, the Managing Body will tell Inserm about any co-financing agreed to subsequent to notification of the Granting Act together with the name of the co-financer and the sum of the co-financing, including funding obtained from INCa or DGOS (cf. § 5.8.1).

In case the funding is from other funding call of INCa, DGOS or ANR, Inserm, after consulting ITMO Cancer of Aviesan, will study this request and may revise the amount initially allocated accordingly.

5.9 Scientific and financial reports

5.9.1 Interim and final scientific reports

The Coordinator is to issue reports as stipulated in the Granting Act.

Their transmission follows the following schedule:

- An Interim Report at six (6) months after the beginning of the Project
- A Mid-Term Report half way through the Project for Projects lasting more than two years;
- A Final Report **within four (4) months** of completion of the Project.

Failure to produce interim or final scientific reports will entail reimbursement of all sums paid by Inserm.

Scientific review of interim or final reports may lead Inserm to ask for complementary information and financial support may be suspended or terminated in the event of failure to adhere to the Project or use of the funds for some other project.

5.9.2 Final financial reports

Financial reports are compiled as stipulated in the Granting Act and the Rules. These present the expenses allowed throughout the duration of the Project.

Managing Bodies will issue a Final financial Report **within four (4) months** of completion of the Project.

The financial report is signed by the person authorized to certify the expenditure within the Managing Body.

5.9.3. Others

Costs related to the certification of expenditure by an external auditor are eligible expenses.

The final scientific report, as well as the final financial proof, jointly referred to as the "Final Reports", guarantee the smooth running of the Project and compliance with the commitments of the Managing Body.

Consequently, failure to produce these documents referred to in these Articles **5.9.1** and **5.9.2** within the time limits may result in the reimbursement of the sum paid by Inserm.

They are to be sent at the same time to Inserm by the grant's Managing Body.

5.10 Other undertakings on the part of the Coordinator and the Managing Body

The Coordinator is obliged to tell Inserm about any substantial change to the Research Project vis-a-vis the contents of the Application File/Granting Act as well as about any difficulties encountered with conduct of the Project.

The Coordinator also undertakes to actively participate in operations to monitor the Project organised by ITMO Cancer of Aviesan (dissemination workshops, colloquia, etc.).

The Managing Body will inform Inserm of any change of address or bank details.

5.11 Organiser - assigned accountant

The organiser of grants and credit transfers is Inserm's Président Directeur Général or by proxy its Director of Finance.

The assigned accountant for payments is Inserm's Head Accountant (*Agent Comptable Principal*).

5.12 Technical and financial supervision

At any point during the Project, Inserm reserves the right to organise site visits in concert with the Managing Body and the Project Coordinator.

Use of the grant paid under the aegis of the Granting Act may, throughout the Project and for five (5) years after its termination, be controlled or audited by Inserm or by an agent appointed by Inserm, by means of a document review or an on-site inspection.

The Managing Body will be expected to be able to justify allocation of funded staff members to the Project as well as all expenditure on the grant.

The Managing Body must be ready to provide all administrative, accounting and legal documents as well as receipts related to use of the grant.

Attention is drawn to the fact that, since this grant corresponds to public money, the funds may be audited by various state supervisory bodies.

5.13 Publications – communication

5.13.1 Publications

All publications resulting from the Research Project must mention this financial support in the following terms:

"With financial support from ITMO Cancer of Aviesan within the framework of the 2021-2030 Cancer Control Strategy, on funds administered by Inserm"

Any publications are to be sent to Inserm (cancerinserm.mic@inserm.fr) and ITMO Cancer of Aviesan (secretariat.itmo-cancer@aviesan.fr) in a timely fashion (within five (5) days of publication).

5.13.2 Dissemination of the abstract

The Coordinator will authorise the dissemination of the abstracts (in both English and French) contained in the Application File. Before dissemination, the texts will be sent by E-mail to the Coordinator for validation of their contents. In the absence of any response within 45 days, the texts will be considered validated.

5.13.3 Impact analysis

The Coordinator undertakes to compile, upon request, —for subsequent posting on the ITMO Cancer Web site—an impact analysis summarising what the funded Project contributes to the fight against cancer.

5.14 Intellectual property & consortium agreement

As funder and issuer of tenders for projects and grants, Inserm does not acquire any intellectual property rights. All intellectual property rights related to work on the Project and its results accrue to the Managing Body. If there is more than one Managing Body, they will have to agree among themselves about the allocation of intellectual property rights.

Compiling a consortium agreement is highly advisable if:

- The overall total of the grant amounts to more than €250,000,
- More than three partners are involved in the Project.

It is obligatory if a private-sector Managing Body becomes a partner in the Project.

5.15 Confidentiality

Inserm undertakes to preserve the confidentiality of all information acquired in the course of execution of the project notably that contained in the Activity Report, hereafter referred to as the "Information". Inserm is not allowed to disclose anything at all in any form to any third party (apart from the ITMO Cancer of Aviesan and the Steering Committee for the 2021-2030 Ten-Year Cancer Control Strategy) without written permission from the Coordinator.

Nevertheless, Inserm will not be bound to secrecy for a specific point of information if it can prove that:

- The information is in the public domain without there having been infraction of the Granting Act or these Rules,
- The information was already known to Inserm on the date of signing of the Granting Act,
- The information becomes freely available from some other source which has the right to it.

5.16 Protection of personal data

Information of a personal nature collected in the Application File will be processed by computer to compile documents and help with the administrative and financial monitoring of Research Projects. In compliance with the Information Technology & Privacy Law of 6 January 1978 as amended in 2018, persons on whom data are collected have rights of access to, rectification of and deletion of information about themselves. These rights can be exercised by application to Inserm, Legal Affairs Department, 101 rue de Tolbiac - 75013 PARIS.

5.17 Settlement of disputes

For any conflict between Inserm and the Managing Body relating to interpretation or execution of the Granting Act, both parties undertake to bring their dispute to conciliators appointed by each of them (unless they can agree on a single conciliator) before recourse to any court.

The conciliator(s) will do all they can to settle the difficulties and bring the parties to amiable resolution within sixty (60) days of the date of their appointment.

In the absence of amicable resolution, the administrative judge will be convened to rule on the dispute related to application of the Granting Act.

5.18 Date of implementation of these Rules

These Regulations come into force on the date of their publication. It applies to grants paid by Inserm for Projects selected in this Call for Projects programmed by ITMO Cancer Aviesan within the framework of Ten-Year cancer control Strategy (2021-2030).

6. SUBMISSION PROCEDURE

The submission of your application file includes **2 mandatory steps**:

1- Registration on the EVA3 website of Inserm

2- Submission of the application form online



Paper version is not necessary.

6.1 Application file

The application must include all elements that are required and needed for the scientific, technical and financial evaluation of the project. Applicants are recommended to produce a scientific and technical description of the project proposal in English. If the scientific and technical description is written in French,

an English translation may be requested within a deadline compatible with the evaluation process milestones.

The Application File **must** include:

- A completed scientific file (template available on EVA3),
- Project budget and its annual distribution. The Project's budget broken down in the financial appendices (template available on EVA3). The financial annexe should be uploaded as an Excel document **AND** as a **signed and stamped PDF** version,
- The CVs of the Project Coordinator and Partners (compiled in a single file), **respecting the template provided on the EVA3 website**,
- Recent Organizational Charts of Coordinator and Partner Units, indicating the Research teams involved in the project,
- The Administrative form to be filled online on the EVA3 website,
- The Bank Identity Statement of each Managing body,
- Response to committee feedback in the case of a resubmitted project.
- Authorisations for data usage, if applicable



All incomplete projects will be considered administratively ineligible.

6.2 Electronic submission procedure

Site Web: <https://www.eva3.inserm.fr>.

This submission procedure from the EVA3 website of Inserm will include:

- Creation of an account on EVA3/ Identification of the Coordinator (surname, first name and e-mail), allowing the reception of a login and password giving access to a secure personal space on EVA3,
- The administrative section, online documents to be filled in your personal space,
- Submission of the required documents by uploading (§ 6.1).

Submission deadline: 21/12/2023, 5pm

Applicants are strongly advised not to wait until the proposal deadline to submit their project proposal.

7. PUBLICATION OF THE RESULTS

The list of projects financed will be published on the EVA3 website of Inserm and that the ITMO Cancer of Aviesan. The published results may be subjected to two lists: a principal list, with projects that are financed and a complementary list with projects that are not selected for funding at the first instance but whose funding will depend on any additional budgetary contributions from remaining funds of programs from the same year.

For the funded projects, the abstract (in French) will be published later, and each Coordinator will be contacted in order to confirm the content or provide a publishable version. Results will be communicated in writing to the Coordinators of selected projects.

8. CONTACTS

For further information, please contact:

- For scientific and technical aspects: cancerinserm.mic@inserm.fr
- For administrative and financial aspects : cancer.daf@inserm.fr
- For problems relative to the electronic submission : eva@inserm.fr

Do not hesitate to consult the Candidate guide available on our EVA3 application.