



Medical-Radionuclides.eu

Call for user projects

Guide for applicants



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Abbreviations, definitions and PRISMAP+ consortium members

Abbreviations and definitions

Good laboratory practice (GLP)	PRISMAP+ follows the OECD Principles of Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) to ensure the generation of high quality and reliable test data related to the safety of industrial chemical substances and preparations. This quality system is concerned with the organisational process and the conditions under which studies are planned, performed, monitored, recorded, archived and reported.
Horizon Europe	The European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme
Non-carrier added (n. c. a.)	No carrier atoms have been added and precautions have been taken to minimise contamination with stable isotopes of the element in question. It does not necessarily mean, however, 100 % isotopic abundance.
Preclinical grade	A purity grade compatible with preclinical studies which corresponds to research grade with suitable pH, activity concentration and other necessary conditions.
Research-grade	Purity grade suitable for research work not involving (pre-)clinical studies
Users	The term Users refers to the group created by the main applicant and the co-applicants. Users are led by the main applicant. <i>User project</i> refers to the project proposed by the users.

PRISMAP+ Consortium members

CERN	European organization for nuclear research
ARRONAX	Groupement Intérêt Public ARRONAX
BIOEMTECH	BioEmission Technology Solutions SA
CHUV	Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Vaudois
EANM (EARL)	EANM Forschungs GmbH
DTU	Danmarks Tekniske Universitet
HZDR	Helmholtz-Zentrum Dresden-Rossendorf EV
IFIN-HH	Institutul National de Cercetare-Dezvoltare Pentru Fizica si Inginerie Nucleara-Horia Hulubei
ILL	Institut Max von Laue - Paul Langevin
INFN	Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare
IST-ID	IST-ID Associacao do Instituto Superior Tecnico para a Investigacao e o Desenvolvimento
KU Leuven	Katholieke Universiteit Leuven
MUI	Medizinische Universität Innsbruck
NCBJ	Narodowe Centrum Badan Jadrowych
NPL	NPL Management Limited
PSI	Paul Scherrer Institut
SCK CEN	Studiecentrum voor Kernenergie / Centre d'Etude de l'Energie Nucleaire
TUM-MED	Klinikum der Technischen Universität München (TUM Klinikum)
UGent	Universiteit Gent
UNIGE	Université de Geneve
UniMan	The University of Manchester
LU	Latvijas Universitate
UiO	Universitetet i Oslo
JRC	JRC - Joint Research Centre - European Commission

Summary

This document is the official guide for applicants targeting the PRISMAP+ call for user projects.

It describes the available PRISMAP+ services and how to apply for them. Conditions for applicants and user projects, evaluation criteria and the selection procedure are given. The user application form is detailed and the expected proposal contents is described.

In preparation of your proposal, we strongly recommend that all applicants get in contact with us via our [help desk](#) to discuss their user project idea before formal submission and get a personal PRISMAP+ mentor assigned for your project application to ease exchanges.

1. What we offer

PRISMAP+ - Furthering the European Medical Radionuclide Programme federates a European consortium of high flux neutron sources, high-power accelerators, isotope separation facilities and leading biomedical and healthcare research institutes in the active translation of emerging radionuclides into medical diagnosis and treatment.

PRISMAP+ offers a single-entry point to researchers who are seeking innovative radioisotopes of high purity grade for medical applications. Our aim is to enable and accelerate early phase research on radiopharmaceuticals, targeted drugs for cancer, theranostics and personalised medicine. Through our [web access platform](#), interested researchers may discover all available radioisotopes and services offered by PRISMAP+, sorted based on the available radionuclides, by geographical location of the facilities, and along the stages for innovative radiopharmaceutical development up to first in-human studies.

We offer access to the following goods, facilities, and services:

- Production and delivery of high-purity grade radioisotopes for medical research
- Access to a selection of medical research laboratories to perform the associated research
- Preclinical research techniques in self-service or fully performed as a service

Access is granted for user projects which are selected on an excellence base. To promote cross-border access, only transnational access is granted.

Delivery of radioisotopes **EXCLUDES** packaging and shipping costs. Travel, subsistence, and local accommodation costs of users carrying out experiments in one of our medical facilities may be partially funded by PRISMAP+ based on daily allowances and country coefficients.

2. Can you apply?

2.1 General conditions

- To foster cross-border exchanges, the European Commission funds transnational activities. Transnational means PRISMAP+ service provisions require that the majority of the users, within a user group (teams of one or more researchers, also called users), must work in a country other than the country(ies) where the installation is located. The European Organization of nuclear research (CERN) and the Joint Research Centre - European Commission (JRC) are international organisations and access is considered transnational from all user groups working in any country, as long as they do not predominantly work for the organisation providing the service. If the majority of the applicants come from country X, and there are series of services provided by different facilities in different countries, only those services taking place in countries other than country X are eligible for funding, but not those taking place in country X. Access for users with a majority of the applicants not working in an EU or Horizon Europe associated country is limited.
- Users need to be affiliated to an academic research institution, to a non-academic research institution, to a hospital conducting clinical research, or to the research department of an SME.
- The research project must relate to the use of radionuclides in medical applications. The purpose of the research project should be to improve the diagnosis or treatment of human disease.
- The requested radionuclides and biomedical application services should be available from at least one of the PRISMAP+ infrastructures. Expression of interest for innovative radionuclides that are not yet available from PRISMAP+ are also welcome to help guide our developments and broaden our offer.
- The access must be free of charge for selected user-groups and must include the logistical, technological and scientific support and the specific training that is usually provided to external researchers using the infrastructure.
- Transnational access can be either in person (hands-on), provided to selected users that visit the installation to make use of it (e.g. animal imaging facility or biomedical services), or remote, through the provision to selected user-groups of remote scientific services (e.g. provision of radionuclide).
- The selected user-groups have to provide their authorisation to receive the radionuclides [[at the activities requested]].
- Users should abide by the normal working practices, and health and safety regulations of the infrastructure while present at the site.
- The radionuclide provider or medical facility shall not be liable for any claim that may arise from the use of the radionuclide or medical facility. The use of radionuclides and presence of users in the facility occurs at their own risk. Neither the personnel of the facility nor the infrastructure itself accepts liability for the damage or loss of any instruments, apparatus and test equipment of the users whether or not such damage or loss was caused directly or indirectly by their negligence. Visiting user-groups will ensure they have appropriate insurance, including personal health, accident cover and personal liability. The facility may conclude an access contract with the user-groups.
- All applicants must comply with the ethics and dissemination rules detailed below.
- Before the onset of the user-group project, a “user agreement” will be signed stipulating the legal framework of the collaboration based on the conditions summarised here, in Section 2 of the present Guide for Applicants.

2.2 Dissemination rules

Only users that are allowed to disseminate the results which they have generated under the project may benefit from the access, unless the users are working for SMEs.

For each user project a publishable project summary and a publishable summary of the results will be released on the PRISMAP+ website. We strongly encourage further publication of results in journals or on conferences.

All PRISMAP+ facilities participating in the user project shall be acknowledged in the publication. Acknowledgement and co-authorship of PRISMAP+ staff members who participated in the experiment shall be considered according to the research field best practices and verified with the PRISMAP+ technical manager before any publication.

Users must comply with Horizon Europe dissemination rules, i.e., acknowledge that their work was financially supported by the European Union's Horizon Europe Research and Innovation Programme, naming PRISMAP+ and including the grant agreement number 101287718, and grant open access to resulting publications and related data. Visual dissemination (e.g., presentations, posters, videos, ...) must furthermore include the European flag and the PRISMAP+ logo.

Dissemination shall take place only once legitimate interests regarding intellectual property have been safeguarded.

2.3 Ethics regulations

For activities carried out by users within the PRISMAP+ WP5-TNA2 biomedical facilities and translational research hubs, ethical issues may apply. In particular, these activities may involve animal studies, AI-based methods or translational clinical research, including early-phase clinical trials.

Before the onset of such activities, users will fulfil all related ethical requirements and sign a PRISMAP+ statement that their research complies with these requirements. Where appropriate, user projects involving clinical translation or early-phase clinical studies will be directed to the PRISMAP+ Clinical Translation Office (CTO), which can provide guidance on the appropriate clinical, regulatory and ethical pathway.

As part of the access procedures, the related ethical requirements will be reviewed, compliance confirmed, and documentation collected by the PRISMAP ethics manager, where necessary in consultation with the PRISMAP+ Ethics / AI & Patient Safety Board.

3. How to apply

Regular calls are open by PRISMAP+ and publicize through our website and emails to the PRISMAP community (join the community and receive all the PRISMAP+ news). Calls may be generic or targeting some specific aspects (proof of concept experiments, specific facilities, SME's, radionuclides ...). Applications are submitted online via the PRISMAP+ [web access platform](#) and are reviewed by the User Selection Panel. The selection process based on excellence. It is a 2-step process with a pre-selection based on submitted files followed by hearings for pre-selected project. The cut-off dates are indicated on our [website](#).

The user application form consists of two parts: Part A is completed through online forms and includes the request for radionuclides and application services as well as administrative information. Part B includes a description of the proposed scientific user project, to be uploaded as a PDF file.

3.1 The online form (Part A)

The online application form consists of the following fields:

- **Selection of requested services**
 - Medical radionuclides
 - Which radionuclide would you like to use?
 - Quality. All available qualities of the selected radionuclide are listed, please tick the one required for your user project.
 - Research grade/Preclinical
 - GLP
 - Activity required at reception and before labelling and number of deliveries
 - Is non-carrier-added quality (high molar activity) required?
 - Are further PRISMAP+ radionuclides required? **(Please answer the same questions)**
 - Details about deliveries required frequency and special transport requirements if any.
 - Biomedical application (Please tick all that apply)
 - None
 - Application in cells and tissues
 - Application in animals
 - Application in humans
 - Other (radiopharmacy, technological development ...)
- **Description of the project**
 - Title of the project
 - Publishable summary (max. 2000 characters including spaces)¹
 - Key words
 - Estimated project duration
 - Desired start date
 - Upload of part B
- **Administrative data**
 - Main applicant (Name, gender,² affiliation, position, phone number, email address)
 - Co-applicants (Name, gender,² affiliation, position, email address) (if any, max 3)
 - Additional contact persons (Name, affiliation, position, email address)
 - For radioactive good matters/transportation
 - For radionuclide handling and reception authorization
 - For ethical and regulatory issues

¹ Only the abstracts of the user projects that are selected for funding are published.

² For statistics purpose only; this information is not communicated to the user selection panel. Option are: "Man, Woman, Other, Prefer not to tell"

3.2 The scientific project (Part B)

3.2.1 Overview

Part B of the proposal should be structured as follows:

- Cover page
- Section 1: Scientific excellence
- Section 2: Project implementation
- Section 3: Expected outcome
- Section 4: Short description of the research team
- Section 5: Co-funding beyond PRISMAP+
- Section 6: References

Sections 1-3 are limited to a **total number of 5 pages in A4 format**.

No specific template is provided for Part B. Please follow the structure outlined above. The proposal shall be written in English Irish. Please use a minimum font size of 11 points, standard character spacing and a minimum of single line spacing. This applies to the body texts. Text elements other than the body text, such as tables, headers, foot/end notes, captions, formula's, may deviate, but must be legible. The page size is A4, and all margins (top, bottom, left, right) should be at least 20 mm (not including any footers or headers).

The proposal part B should be submitted as a single PDF file with a maximum file size of 5 MB.

3.2.2 Cover page

On the cover page, please include the full title, the call identifier, name and email address of the lead participant.

3.2.3 Section 1 – Scientific excellence

Please provide in this section your motivation and the project objectives. What is your added value of applying to PRISMAP+? In how far would you have access to radionuclides or their medical application in your own country?

Describe in how far the project goes beyond the state of the art. Summarise the proposed methodology, including the underlying concepts, models, assumptions.

3.2.4 Section 2 – Project implementation

Please describe the work plan incl. timeline (Gantt chart), description of work to be carried out, deliverables, risk assessment and mitigation measures. Detail and justify the number of radionuclide deliveries required over the project duration.

3.2.5 Section 3 – Expected outcome

Please describe the expected outcomes of your user project. What will be the impact in scientific, economical and societal terms? How and by whom will the results be used? Describe the measures for a plausible path to clinical trial / commercialisation and/or clinical use.

3.2.6 Section 4 – Short description of the research team

Please briefly describe your research team, including possible co-applicants. Describe the relevant background and experience of the team members, available infrastructure, and previous or ongoing related projects.

3.2.7 Section 5 – Co-funding beyond PRISMAP+

Please describe other grants or projects which support and co-fund your proposed PRISMAP+ user project.

3.2.8 Section 6 – References

Provide here references which are relevant as background for your user project or support your previous related activities. Please also provide the links to the open access version of the references.

4. What will be assessed?

Projects will be evaluated based on eligibility (see participation requirements above, in Section 2) and scientific merit through independent peer review by a User Selection Panel.

Feasibility and logistical requirements will be pre-screened based on part A, involving also the PRISMAP+ facilities concerned.

The User Selection Panel consists of six members of the PRISMAP+ consortium who contribute in particular with know-how on the techniques made available by PRISMAP+ and six external international scientific experts in the research fields of relevance to PRISMAP+. The members of the [User Selection Panel](#) are presented on the PRISMAP+ website.

Scientific merit will be measured based on Sections 1-4 of the proposal part B as outlined in Section 3 above. A maximum of five points will be attributed to each Section (1: Insufficient, 2: Poor, 3: Satisfactory, 4: Good, 5: Excellent). All user projects reaching a minimum overall threshold are in principle eligible for PRISMAP+ funding and will be invited to hearings based on which the evaluation of all proposals of a user call will be finalised and proposals will be ranked and selected for funding.

The project selection will also consider if

- the users have not yet benefitted from the services,
- the project has the potential to attract the additional financial support required to fund the remaining project costs beyond PRISMAP+ services,
- the users are working in countries where radionuclide supply and biomedical labs respectively are not readily available.

Evaluation results will be made available within two months after the cut-off date of a call.

The user project needs to be started at the latest 12 months after selection for funding.

References

- **Horizon Europe Ethics self-assessment:** https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/how-to-complete-your-ethics-self-assessment_en.pdf
- **Horizon Europe guidance on communication, dissemination and exploitation:** https://rea.ec.europa.eu/dissemination-and-exploitation_en
- **Horizon Europe guidance on open science and data management:** https://rea.ec.europa.eu/open-science_en