



Foundation against Cancer

# Organ saving treatment and improvement of quality of life Grants 2022

## General regulation

In 2022, on an exceptional basis, the Foundation against Cancer (FAC) makes a total budget of 5 million euros available to finance practice changing clinical or translational research projects in Belgium on organ saving treatments and the improvement of quality of life.

### 1. Applicants

Each application must be submitted by a lead applicant active in clinical cancer research in Belgian university or hospital facilities with no direct commercial purpose AND with **minimum 1 and maximum 2 co-applicants** from a Belgian university or hospital facilities from another network than the lead applicant.

A lead applicant may submit only one application. Several applications may come from the same university.

An investigator may be lead applicant for one application and co-applicant for maximum two other applications.

### 2. Research project

The research project should study or propose a combination of treatments or technical improvements that allows patients with a specific cancer to preserve the organ and / or other organs (less mutilation) and its / their function. The objective is to maintain equal or increase survival rates with a higher quality of life.

The project should have practice changing implications on the management of patients with cancer. Its object and approach should be original.

### 3. Eligible costs and duration of the grant

The requested budget may not exceed 200 000 € (VAT inclusive) per year and per lead or co-applicant, for a total duration of minimum 2 years and maximum 3 years (i.e. max 1,8 million euros per project). The funds granted by the FAC can be used to cover the execution costs of the project as detailed in the Application Form. This may include remuneration of the scientific and technical coworkers as well as working and equipment costs as stated and detailed in the request for funds, linked to the execution of the project (laboratory supplies and products; acquisition, installation and maintenance of scientific and technical devices and instruments, etc.).

This grant does not cover **overhead**<sup>1</sup> costs.

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<sup>1</sup> **Overhead:** i.e. general administration costs, in particular costs specific to the research laboratory such as heating, water, electricity, catering for internal meeting, licenses for general software, etc.



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#### 4. Selection of the applications

Selection will be made by an independent panel consisting of members of the Translational & Clinical Scientific Committee of the FAC and specially appointed international experts.

The following criteria will be among those taken into account:

- Prior scientific achievements of the lead applicant and co-applicant(s) and strengths of their teams;
- Expected achievements;
- Originality of the project, scientific quality of the proposed work and pertinence for clinical cancer research.

Selection of the projects made by the independent jury will be proposed for approval by the FAC's board of directors and cannot be challenged.

#### 5. Administration

Application Form must be completed in English via the online Grant Management Platform and submitted by the lead applicant no later than **May 31, 2022 at 1:00 PM**.

An agreement between the FAC, the lead applicant, the co-applicant(s) and the beneficiary universities or hospitals will be established and signed by all parties.

The first payments will be done following the signature of the agreement by all parties if all the conditions are met. The next payments will be scheduled annually.

Halfway through the agreement, continuation of the annual payments will be decided according to the evaluation by the Scientific Committee of an intermediate activity report. At the end of the agreement, a final activity report as well as a final financial report will be requested.