



BRAIN, MIND, AND PAIN

PATIENT-CENTRED INNOVATION GRANT

SECOND EDITION 2019-2020

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

BACKGROUND

1.1. What is the BMP Grant?

BMP Grant is an initiative of Pain Alliance Europe and Grünenthal Group to identify, stimulate and encourage patient-centric and scientifically robust innovation in the domain of chronic pain and neurological disorders, to stimulate research and access to innovative treatments, to promote prevention and self-management approaches, to decrease stigma, and to work together to improve quality of life for people living with these disabling conditions.

1.2. The Context of the call for proposals

The further aim of the Grant is to create an environment where patient centricity is the basis for future initiatives, to create a sense of innovation with direct impact on patients' needs, and to create awareness of chronic pain conditions and neurological disorders.

1.3. Financial allocation provided by the BMP Grant

The BMP Grant is allocated to the 3 working streams according to the concrete objectives of the EU Brain, Mind, and Pain Interest Group:

- access to innovative treatments
- prevention and self-management approaches
- reduction of stigma

BMP Grant is striving to attract projects which promote and sustain the chosen theme for each edition through research into improvements in the quality of life of patients with chronic pain and neurological conditions.



The biennial BMP Grant fund totals 90,000 EUR. This amount will be allocated according to the decision of the BMP Grant Steering Committee and granted to the winning proposals, following the decision of the BMP Grant Jury for each edition.

1.4. Indicative timetable

The grant is organised on a biennial basis and the following key dates apply:

Launch of the Call for Proposal	July 2019
Start of the Application Period	July 2019
End of the Application Period	31 December 2019
Evaluation period	01 January – 30 April 2020
Notification of declination or success of submission	May 2020

1.5. Definitions

Applicant – an entity which submits a project proposal

When proposals are submitted by several applicants, one applicant will assume the role of lead-applicant and is called *Coordinator*. The Coordinator will introduce the other applicants as Partners and provide the data required by the application form. The Coordinator is responsible for submitting the proposal and signing the grant agreement.

The lead-applicant and the co-applicants (partners) shall agree upon appropriate internal arrangements, consistent with the provisions of the grant agreement, for the proper implementation of the action. A written proof of such agreement must be provided upon request.

Beneficiary – entity which signs the Grant Agreement with the BMP Grant Authority and are actively involved in the implementation

RULES OF THE CALL FOR PROPOSALS

2.1. Theme

Reflecting the third of the BMP Grant work streams “Reduction of stigma” the second edition’s theme is: **“Stop Stigma! Reduce stigma for brain, mind, and pain patients”**.

2.2. Specific requirements for eligibility

The submitted project must fulfil the following specific requirements:

- To be patient-driven
- To be patient-centred



- To be scientifically robust
- To respect the theme selected for each grant proposal
- To address the objectives of the Grant
- To be innovative
- To focus on European countries and be conducted in Europe

2.3. Who can apply?

Natural persons and /or organisations based and operating in Europe (geographical region) are eligible to apply for the BMP Grant.

2.3.1. Legal identity of the applicants

The BMP Grant applicants must be constituted and functioning within either of the following Legal Identities:

Patient Organisation

Patient Organisation is a national or regional association with a legal identity, which helps patients by providing information about living with their conditions, raising awareness about screening and prevention, and offering a number of supporting tools for improving their living conditions.

Educational Organisations

Independent educational institutions, public and/or state-controlled institutions, and private institutions of higher education.

Non-profit Organisations

Non-profit organisations, other than institutions of higher education.

Natural Persons

Natural Persons may submit applications for a funding opportunity on their own behalf (students, patients, carers, others). However, in order to create the basis for putting into practice the submitted project, it is requested that the respective natural person be associated with a patient organisation and/or other legal entity.

Commercial Organisations - partnership or body corporate that supplies goods or services and carries on all or part of its business in Europe

Partnerships

The BMP Grant encourages partnerships between different categories of applicants described here above (natural persons, non-profits, educational institutions or commercial organisations), believing that a good representation of interests is beneficial to the expected result, which is to improve the life of pain patients.



2.3.2. Number of proposals and grants per applicant

Applications will only be accepted via the application procedure online. Applications received before 1st October 2019 will receive advice from the BMP Grant secretariat in case one or several primary eligibility criteria are not met. A written request should be sent by email to the BMP Grant Secretariat info@bmp-grant.eu if such pre-evaluation is desired. The applications may be edited online within the application period deadlines.

A distinct project may only be submitted once. An applicant may submit up to 2 distinct projects.

2.4. Financial provisions

2.4.1. General remarks

It is required that the budget be transparent and sufficiently elaborated in the application. The periodical reports submitted if the project is selected will include a detailed financial overview.

2.4.2. Cost eligibility

The submitted cost must include only expenditures related to the implementation of the project and should be incurred during the duration of the project. The budget should be reasonable, justified, and comply with the principal of sound financial management.

The elements of cost should be identifiable, verifiable and detailed in the estimated overall budget submitted in the application.

The grant may not cover ineligible costs like:

- Return on capital
- Debt and debt service charges
- Provisions for losses and debts
- Interest owed
- Exchange losses
- Excessive or reckless expenditure
- Contributions in kind: contributions which are not invoiced, such as voluntary work, equipment or premises made available free of charge

2.4.3. Co-funding

Co-funding is accepted, provided the following criteria are met:

- The BMP grant should fuel the project significantly
- The BMP grant has full access to reports and analysis as well as the rights for publication as described in 2.5.3



- The communication takes place according to the terms included in the grant agreement
- The financial data and use of funds are transparent

2.5. How to apply and the procedures to follow

2.5.1. Application support

The application should be submitted online using the BMP Grant application platform. The platform allows applicants/beneficiaries to introduce, edit, save, submit and print grant applications.

Applications may be accessed and edited only within the application period.

The applicant will receive a notification when the application has been submitted.

2.5.2. Application period

The application period starts on 10th July 2019 at 0h00 CET and ends on the 31st December 2017, at 23h59 CET.

2.5.3. Compliance and transparency

Applicants are informed that all submitted applications can be made publicly available to ensure full transparency, for future evaluation, public reporting and promotion of the BMP Grant. By submitting the application, the applicant grants copyright to BMP Grant and its partners to use the submitted material for publication, promotion, and documentation.

Furthermore, the BMP Grant organisation and its partners are entitled to publish the grant applications, the motivation of the jury and the amount and conditions of the awarded grants according to national transparency and compliance regulations.



2.6. Evaluation and Selection

2.6.1. Evaluation criteria

All applications will be evaluated using the following criteria:

The project should:

- meet the theme of this specific call
- improve the patients' quality of life
- be innovative
- be targeted at patients with neurological and/or chronic pain disorders
- involve patient organisations in its development
- involve patient organisations in its implementation
- be transferable to other countries and regions
- establish partnerships between stakeholders
- be sustainable and have an impact on the long-term
- have a defined deadline
- have a well-defined implementation plan

2.6.2. Assessment of criteria

The jury will have the final decision on whether or not and if yes, to what extent, an applicant meets the above evaluation criteria. Additionally, the evaluation will:

- assess if the planned outcome of the project will solve a problem for patients
- welcome applications which have considered involving the patients in the realisation of their project

2.6.3. Scientific evaluation

The scientific evaluation will ensure that the project is scientifically robust. Two scientific evaluators, who will be free to ask advice from experts in specific fields where and if needed, will assist the jury in assessing the scientific character of the submitted project applications.

2.6.4. Process

2.6.4.1. Notification of the Jury's decision

The applicants will be notified via email of the evaluation results at the beginning of May 2020.

2.6.4.2. Content of the decision

The BMP Grant Jury will announce the grant beneficiary(ies) and the allocation of grant funds.



POST FUNDING PROCEDURES

3.1. The Grant Agreement

Should a grant be awarded, a grant agreement setting out the conditions and the maximum level of funding will be concluded with the beneficiary. The agreement will detail specific obligations of the coordinator and the other beneficiaries, if applicable.

Successful applicants/coordinators will receive two original copies of the grant agreement for acceptance and signatures. Both of these copies should be sent back to the BMP Grant authority which will return one of them once it has been signed by both parties.

3.2. Reports and Payment Schedule

First payment	40% of the total amount granted will be paid upon the signature of the grant agreement
Second payment	Based on the Intermediate Project Status Report, 30% of the amount
Final payment	At the project's completion, based on the Final Project Report or publication of the results, 30% of the amount

3.3. Reporting obligations

The payment plan is in accordance with the project's control and reporting milestones. The candidate will be required to submit an Intermediate Project Status Report, 6 to 9 months after the date of the first payment and a Project Evaluation Report 18 months after the date of the first payment.

Should the submitted reports be deemed to be inadequate or of low quality, BMP Grant reserves the right to request additional information suspending the time limit for payment specified in the grant agreement.

The BMP Grant Jury can advise on the payment and reporting schedule based on the schedule below for projects deviating from an 18-month schedule. Deviations need to be ratified by the BMP Grant Steering Committee.

The candidate will present the results of the project under the conditions of the grant agreement established with the BMP Grant authority. The deliverables must contain a video/PPT presentation of the project for which publication rights are given to BMP Grant authority.

The grant winner is responsible for reporting the grant income for tax purposes as required by law.



3.4. Communication plan

The BMP Grant administrative authority wishes to inform its partners of the projects it supports in the field of patient-centred innovation.

The granted project(s) will be advertised via BMP Grant website www.bmp-grant.eu and also in the communication of the BMP Grant authority with its partners, collaborators, and media via email communication, press releases, and other social media channels.

The Project Summary requested within the Application form may be used to publicise the projects within the BMP Grant communication plan and on all communication platforms.

In compliance with the rules of confidentiality and according to the grant agreement, the BMP Grant may propose to the grant winner the organization of joint communications relating to the results of your work.

All the above will be detailed in the grant agreement.

3.5. Publication rules

The winning project will be recognised as a BMP Grant project. Any publication concerning the project will contain the reference to the BMP Grant as defined by the conditions of the grant agreement.