

Press Release

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DynaHEALTH: New European action to promote healthy and active ageing through reducing the risks of obesity and type 2 diabetes, and promoting social functioning and workability.

Led by the Centre for Life Course Epidemiology and Systems Medicine at the University of Oulu in Finland, this four-year project has been awarded funding from the European Commission's research and development programme, "Horizon 2020". Addressing the specific need for "personalised healthcare", the action aims to develop a dynamic life course model characterising the combined pathological effects of glucose metabolism and psychosocial stress which impact on the health and working ability of individuals as they age.

This ambitious action includes 13 partners from across Europe built upon a multidisciplinary team made up of experts from both academia and industry. The DynaHEALTH action will capitalise on a number of existing studies harnessing the health, biological and social resource of 1.5 million Europeans, and addresses a big challenge faced by Europe as the population ages, and the prevalence of obesity and type 2 diabetes increases.

Project coordinator Professor Marjo-Riitta Järvelin said "The economic and societal costs of obesity and type 2 diabetes rise steeply with age and have a huge bearing on healthcare costs. We are therefore delighted that funding has been awarded and are excited at the prospect of developing research and delivering results that will make a positive contribution to society."

DynaHEALTH is a four year action with a total grant of €5.9 million from Horizon 2020. Work started on the 1st May 2015 and a comprehensive website, explaining in detail the project objectives and how to get involved, will be launched in September 2015.

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About DynaHEALTH

Partners:

- University of Oulu and Centre for Life Course Epidemiology and Systems Medicine, Finland (Coordinator)
- Beta Technology Ltd, UK
- The Folkhälsan Research Centre, Finland
- Institute of Preventive Medicine, Bispebjerg and Frederiksberg Hospitals, The Capital Region, Denmark
- Institute of Diabetes Research, Helmholtz Zentrum München, Germany
- Ludwig-Maximilians-University of Munich, Germany
- Imperial College London, UK
- University College London, UK
- University of Granada, Spain
- Laboratorios Ordesa, Spain
- Abbott, Spain
- Erasmus University Medical Centre Rotterdam, the Netherlands
- Academic Medical Centre, Amsterdam, the Netherlands



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 633595.

About Horizon 2020

Europe has a 10 year growth and jobs strategy called **Europe 2020**. It was launched in 2010 to create the conditions for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. Five headline targets have been agreed for the European Union to achieve by the end of 2020, covering employment, research and development, climate/energy, education, and social inclusion and poverty reduction.

Europe has identified new engines to boost growth and jobs; these are addressed by seven '**flagship initiatives**'. Within each initiative both the European Union and national authorities have to coordinate their efforts so they are mutually reinforcing. '**Innovation Union**' is one such flagship initiative. '**Innovation Union**' is the European Union strategy to create an innovation-friendly environment that makes it easier for great ideas to be turned into products and services that will bring our economy growth and jobs.

Horizon 2020 is the financial instrument implementing the Innovation Union and:

- Has a budget of nearly €80 billion for the period 2014-2020 which makes it the biggest European Union Research and Development programme ever.
- Is open to everyone.
- Has three priorities (Industrial Leadership, Excellent Science and Societal Change); each of which has a number of sections with a different focus and each section has a detailed work programme.

<http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/en/what-horizon-2020>