

MedTech Europe's Partners in Research

Frequently Asked Questions (updated November 2025)

? What is a Partner in Research?

A Partner in Research is a membership category at MedTech Europe. This category offers the opportunity for innovative [Small and Medium-sized Enterprises \(SMEs\)](#) and start-ups to participate in all Research and Innovation activities facilitated by MedTech Europe via its Research & Innovation (R&I) Committee which includes 60+ companies and several National Associations and via its Partners in Research Council (PiR Council) which is a platform dedicated specifically to PiRs.

? As a Partner in Research, what benefits do I get?



Opening to early opportunities in IHI (Innovative Health Initiative)

Through your participation in MedTech Europe's Research&Innovation (R&I) Committee, which includes companies and National Associations, you can propose and share your new ideas for future IHI topics as well as being informed of the ideas developed by others well in advance of the topics' publication. This allows you to be part, together with large companies of the early stages of the ideation process, formulation of call topics, and of the identification of industry partners within MedTech Europe and also within the other industry associations ([COICIR](#), [EFPIA](#) (including [Vaccines Europe](#)) and [EuropaBio](#)) in order to build your consortium and develop your project proposal.



Monitoring of some other EU funding programmes

Through the R&I Committee, you will be informed about the other EU funding programmes for research and innovation of relevance to the medical technology sector.



Networking

With other SMEs and start-ups as well as bigger companies active in the medical technology field.

Partners in Research can participate in the R&I Committee and the Partners in Research Council (PiR Council). However, attendance to other Committees and Working Groups at MedTech Europe is not accessible to Partners in Research. Additionally, Partners in Research do not have voting rights at MedTech Europe General Assembly, which are reserved for Corporate Partners and National Associations. For more information, please refer to [MedTech Europe statutes](#).

? As a Partner in Research, am I eligible to apply / participate in IHI projects?

Yes, you can, like any other MedTech Europe member, apply / participate in both single-stage and two-stage IHI calls.

<i>Single-Stage calls</i>	<i>Two-Stage calls</i>
You will be part of a public/private consortium applying through an open competitive call.	<p>If you participate via the pre-identified industry consortium you do not need to apply to the call, which is reserved for consortia of public partners. This means that your seat in the final public / private consortium is guaranteed (provided that the consortium's proposal successfully passes the IHI evaluation process).</p> <p>If you qualify as an SME and intend to join through the public consortium, you will need to apply as part of a consortium composed of public partners. This requires that you have not taken part in discussions on the topic and have not accessed any related documents.</p>

Being a Partner in Research allows you to pitch for your ideas for future IHI topics / project proposals (single-stage and two-stage). by e.g. attending the industry brokerage events where only the members of the five industry associations are invited.

Additionally, being a Partner in Research gives you a direct access and the opportunity to interact with the broader medical technology community (including global companies and SMEs/start-ups). It also gives you access to regular updates on other EU funding programmes of interest to medical technology companies.

? What is the process to become a Partner in Research at MedTech Europe?

Once you have ensured you meet the selection criteria, you are required to complete a 2-page application form. This application must be approved by the Board of MedTech Europe within 10 days after submission.

? As a Partner in Research, am I eligible to receive EU funding?

Yes, you can, like any other MedTech Europe member, receive EU funding but only in single-stage IHI calls.

<i>Single-Stage calls</i>	<i>Two-Stage calls</i>
You can be partially funded by the European Commission (EC) . The exact level of EC funding should be discussed with the consortium partners, but it is typically less than 50%.	<p>If you participate via the pre-identified industry consortium you cannot be funded by the EC because you are identified as an industrial member (Private Member).</p> <p>If you classify as an SME and participate via the public consortium (which requires that you have not taken part in discussions on the topic and have not accessed any related documents), you are eligible to receive funding.</p>

? As a partner in Research, can I join a National Association affiliated to MedTech Europe?

Yes, there are no restrictions on joining a national association affiliated to MedTech Europe. National Associations and MedTech Europe offer complementary services and support. As a European trade association, MedTech Europe provides its Partners in Research with more precise and processed information on Research and Innovation at European level and many EU funding programmes (including IHI).



For more information,
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