

RULES FOR PARTICIPATION

OPEN CALL FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY STUDIES

1. ABOUT XARTEC SALUT

Xartec Salut (Xarxa de Tecnologies de la Salut) is a project led and managed by CREB UPC that is made up of 47 research groups from Catalonia that belong to 17 different institutions (universities, hospitals and technology centres). It aims to be a catalyst for R&D&I in the field of Health Technologies in Catalonia, promoting the exchange of knowledge and the transfer of technology between research groups, institutions, hospitals and companies.

2. SCOPE OF THE PROGRAM

IP protection has a pivotal role in the technology transfer and commercialization of health technologies. Establishing an adequate IP strategy in early stage assets is one of the key aspects of valorization. Nevertheless research groups often face lack of resources and cannot afford IP support at these early stages of development. That often leads to a reduced potential value of the asset or even puts the whole technology transfer process at risk.

Hence, in order to support Xartec Salut's research groups and encourage them to incorporate IP strategies in early stage assets with commercialization potential we are launching Xartec Salut's **OPEN CALL FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (IP) STUDIES**.

3. ELIGIBLE IP STUDIES

Xartec Salut will provide IP related strategic studies developed by specialized suppliers in the field.

Within this Call we understand "IP strategy" as broadly as possible in order to be able to support all assets in the health tech field whether they are hardware, software, etc., and, needless to say, we are not only meaning to cover patent related strategies, but also other forms of IP such as trade secrets, utility models, designs, copyrights, trademarks, etc..

Some of the studies covered within this Call are:

- IP strategic roadmaps
- Patentability studies
- Freedom to Operate studies
- International IP strategies
- Other IP strategic studies whenever justified

There are **explicitly excluded** costs related to the application & registration process, drafting, translation, maintenance, litigation and opposition.

4. SELECTION PROCESS

The call is structured as an **Open Call**, in which the members of Xartec Salut can submit proposals at any time during the Xartec Salut current framework 2021-2022.

There are 4 cut-off points pre-defined for the selection of the proposals based on the criteria shown under section 7:

- Cut-off point 1: **1/05/21**
- Cut-off point 2: **1/12/21**
- Cut-off point 3: **1/04/22**
- Cut-off point 4: **1/09/22**

The global budget for Xartec Salut's OPEN CALL FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (IP) STUDIES is **90.000€** allocated equally among the different established cut-offs (22.500€/cut-off).

The strategic studies will be allocated to the best assessed projects until the established budget for the cut-off is covered.

Xartec Salut will communicate the projects accepted 2 weeks after each Cut-off point.

Those projects that are not selected in a given cut-off will remain in the backlog with their given score and will be eligible for the next cut-off points. However, it is not possible to apply again with the same asset to the call. Therefore, we encourage you to conduct the application correctly and submit all the information you have as we expect to be a competitive call.

5. APPLICATION PROCESS

Submission of applications will open on **13/04/2021** and will close on **15/08/2022** (both inclusive).

Applications will be conducted through the duly submission of the form provided to xartec.salut.creb@upc.edu. Applications that do not include the required information will not be considered eligible. However, it is not expected that the projects already count with extensive documentation at this point, and limited estimations or draft information may be included in the form.

The application form should contain the following information:

- Strategic IP study required and the impact in the project
- Description of the asset & Innovation
- Stage of the development of the asset
- Ownership of the asset(s)
- Current IP strategy (if any)
- Potential market and competitive advantages

Applications must be submitted in **English**. No applications will be accepted after the deadline. However, Xartec Salut reserves the right to extend the deadline, communicating this change appropriately to the groups' representatives.

6. ELIGIBILITY

Xartec Salut's **OPEN CALL FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (IP) STUDIES** is available for assets owned or co-owned by members of Xartec Salut network

The assets presented must meet the following criteria:

1. The **assets** developed must have their application in the **Health field**.
2. The head of the research group or the principal investigator that is the representative at Xartec Salut **must authorize** the presentation of the asset to this call.
3. There is no limit to the number of assets that can be presented by the research group. However, only one study can be financed per cut/off per research group.

7. EVALUATION CRITERIA

Xartec Salut is looking to support early stage assets in which the influence of developing their IP strategy may be critical to their success. Xartec Salut is also taking into account innovation and potential impact that the projects may have in the market whenever transferred.

Thus, evaluation criteria & weights followed by Xartec Salut in order to assess each of the proposals are set below:

- **50%** Need for developing the Strategic IP study
- **25%** Market potential & competitive advantages of the technology
- **25%** Innovation & novelty

The evaluation process will be conducted with the support of specialists in the field.

8. CONFIDENTIALITY

All the information shared by the research groups in the framework of this call for projects will be treated as confidential information to what is stated at the Agreement signed by the entities pertaining to Xartec salut (“Acord de Xarxa”).