



## Call for projects 2010

### Cancer bio markers (including functional imaging)

Fourth call for projects from the Fondation-Fournier Majoie pour l'Innovation,  
managed by the King Baudouin Foundation

#### Context

The Fondation Fournier-Majoie pour l'Innovation (FFMI) agreed with the Centre for Philanthropy of the King Baudouin Foundation to launch together its fourth call for projects in order to support, from the initiation stage, **entrepreneurs personally committed to promoting innovative projects aimed at delivering improvements** in the health and welfare of human beings.

#### Subject of the call

Although major progress has been accomplished in anti-cancer therapies in the past years, there is still a large room for improvement. Early diagnosis is a key factor in improving therapeutic efficiency. Discoveries in the field of bio markers represent a major challenge in order to access new diagnostic tools for the purpose of prognostic tests or for following-up or assessing the effectiveness of cancer drugs, especially now when the era of more and more specific anti-cancer drugs has really started.

Some bio markers, specific to certain tumour types, are available, but many of them still have certain shortcomings in terms of reliability, relevance and cost effectiveness. In addition, many other cancers are still in need of such diagnostic tools.

This call covers any project intended to improve cancer prognosis through either a genuine early **diagnostic tool** and/or better **indicators/predictors** of treatment efficiency. **Functional imaging markers** as tools to predict responses/benefits from anticancer therapies are included in this scope.

This focus on cancer biomarkers is shared with more and more official bodies like Cancer Plan and EORTC.

**The application must pertinently address the following criteria on which the evaluation will be based:**

	<b>Weighting factor</b>
<b>Scientific and technical evaluation</b>	
1. Scientific relevance	(3)
2. Medical need	(3)
3. Innovative proposal	(2)
4. Intellectual property existing or foreseeable patents	(2)
5. Planning and budget accuracy	(2)
6. Risk appraisal (success/failure ratio)	(2)
7. Established validation or validation intended process	(1)

After the Jury and experts will have evaluated the application, it will be to the Board of the foundation to evaluate the following items during a well-prepared audition

#### **Entrepreneurship evaluation**

\* Human resources

1. Personal involvement	(3)
2. Team spirit	(3)
3. Leadership appraisal	(2)
4. Appraisal of success/failure ratio	(2)
5. Appraisal of cost/benefit ratio	(2)

\* Project management

1. Entry barrier appraisal (patents or other IP aspects)	(2)
2. Competition appraisal	(2)
3. Quest for funding efficiency	(2)
4. Realism of planning	(1)
5. Realism of budget	(1)
6. Realism of future revenues forecast	(1)
7. Appraisal of business development/value building	(1)

#### **Eligible applicants**

The call is open to researchers or research teams within a university or a research centre, laboratories or (start-up) companies.

The projects must be initiated or developed by teams based in Belgium or international teams having established collaborative programmes with a Belgian-based entity, in this case the Belgian entity will be responsible for submitting the application.

## Grants

FFMI has opted for the principle of refundable grants **only in case of success.**

In case of success, grants will be refunded to the Foundation in several instalments as soon as the project will generate revenues, either through a trade sale, licensing agreement or by the direct marketing of the product or the service.

The grant will be subject to an agreement between FFMI and the recipient that will specify among others the provisions and reimbursement conditions, on a case by case basis. The Grant Agreement may include capital sharing in the existing or new (to be created) Company for all or part of the grant.

The amount of grants allocated to successful applicant(s) will range from €75,000 to €1,000,000 in one or more instalments.

## Follow-up of selected projects

The approved grants will be subject to annual control on their use. The supervision by FFMI will be carried out either through FFMI's representatives sitting on project management steering committees or through regular reviews of the project leader's progress reports with a minimum of two per year.

## Application process

Applications must be submitted in English only using a standard application form available on the website [www.kbs-frb.be](http://www.kbs-frb.be)

Project files must be submitted by e-mail to the King Baudouin Foundation to [gmt@kbs-frb.be](mailto:gmt@kbs-frb.be) by **30 april 2010 at the latest.**

An acknowledgement of receipt will be sent by e-mail to applicants within a few days.

## Selection

An independent scientific jury helped by a panel of independent international experts will assess the files submitted and will draw up recommendations. The FFMI's Board will make the final grant allocation decision

A maximum of 3 grants will be awarded.

FFMI and KBF are committed to keeping information confidential and may sign a secrecy agreement, whenever required. All appointed experts will declare no conflict of interest and may be restricted according to a negative list that candidates are invited to provide.

The selection decision will be published before the end of February 2011.

## Contact

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**King Baudouin Foundation**  
**Working together for a better society**  
**www.kbs-frb.be**

The King Baudouin Foundation supports projects and citizens with a commitment to building a better society. We look for sustainable ways of bringing about justice, democracy and respect for diversity. The King Baudouin Foundation is independent and pluralistic. It was founded in 1976 to mark the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of King Baudouin's reign.

**Fondation Fournier Majoie pour l'Innovation**  
**www.ffmi.eu**

The Founder of FFMI, Bernard Majoie, was formerly head of the FOURNIER Group and chaired its Pharma Division until 2000 when he decided to offer his financial contribution and expertise to a number of biotech companies. On the basis of his experience, he decided to create the FFMI, a Foundation whose aims are to promote, encourage and help researchers willing to commit themselves to entrepreneurship based on innovation in the area of healthcare. In this spirit, the Fondation Fournier Majoie pour l'Innovation was created in 2007.

## Former laureates

- \* Mathieu BOLLEN, KUL (2007)  
“Exploration of the MSMB methylome as a novel molecular biomarker for prostate cancer”
- \* Chitty CHEN & Nico CALLEWAERT, UGent (2007)  
“Glycome biomarker to detect early stage primary liver cancer”
- \* Luc LEYNS, VUB (2008)  
“Development of new diagnostic and prognosis tools for human glioblastoma cancer stem cells”
- \* Christos SOTIRIOU & Michail IGNATIADIS, Institut Jules Bordet (2007)  
“Development of a multiplex real time RT-PCR assay for the detection of circulating tumour cells in early breast cancer”
- \* Jo VANDESOMPELE & Joëlle VERMEULEN, UGent (2008)  
“Improved outcome prediction of children with neuroblastoma using a multigene expression signature”

Laureates names and titles of projects will be officially published on February 12<sup>th</sup> 2010