HIHI Open Call 2022

Briefing Document

Health Innovation Hub Ireland is seeking project proposals from **companies** whose innovative products or services are market-ready and have the potential to significantly impact healthcare in Ireland and internationally. Applications are invited to the **HIHI Open Call 2022** for innovations that address **ANY** healthcare need. Applicants must provide information to demonstrate the significance of this healthcare need and how it aligns with healthcare priorities (nationally and/or internationally).

At a national level in Ireland, the Department of Health launched **Sláintecare**[1] in 2017 as a blueprint for the reform and development of health services in Ireland. Sláintecare aims to improve patient and service user experience, to impact clinician experience, to lower costs and to achieve better outcomes. The Scheduled Care Access Plan 2019[2] prioritised the reduction of wait time for hospital operations and out-patient appointments. In 2021, the Sláintecare Reform Programmes[3] prioritised improving safety, timely access to care, promoting population health & wellbeing and addressing health inequalities.

The Department of Health **Statement of Strategy 2021 – 2023**[4] has identified the following as priorities; managing COVID-19 and promoting public health, expanding and integrating care in the community, making access to healthcare fairer and faster, improving oversight and partnership in the sector and becoming an organisation fit for the future.

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[1] https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/slaintecare-implementation-strategy/
[2] https://assets.gov.ie/9381/963a1c88ff71407399a46a46018d0e6c.pdf
[3] https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/6996b-slaintecare-implementation-strategy-and-action-plan-2021-2023/
[4] https://www.gov.ie/en/organisation-information/0fd9c-department-of-health-statement-of-strategy-2021-2023/

The HSE **National Service Plan 2021**[5] states that '*cancer, cardiovascular disease and respiratory disease continue to be the three most common chronic diseases, accounting for three quarters of deaths in Ireland*'. It also highlights that '*many diseases and premature deaths are preventable through focusing on healthy behaviours and preventative care.*' The plan outlines the immediate priorities which includes enhancing primary preventive services and partnerships, reforming services to better support our growing and ageing population, enhancing primary and community care, increasing capacity, reforming scheduled / planned care, mainstreaming appropriate Sláintecare Integration Fund projects, improving access to mental health services and supporting the reform of disability services. The priority for acute hospitals is to increase acute and critical care capacity and reduce waiting times for scheduled inpatient and outpatient care.

The HSE has prioritised **Integrated Care Programmes**[6] for older persons, children, patient flow and for the prevention and management of chronic disease such as; diabetes, asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and cardiovascular disease. These four programmes aim to address the most pressing challenges in the health and social care systems. Improving outcomes and experiences in these areas will benefit the greatest number of patients and healthcare staff. The HSE is establishing Enhanced Community Care (ECC) initatives throughout the country which will include 96 community healthcare networks (CHN) and 32 community specialist teams over the next two to three years.

The Department of Health is leading a population health and wellbeing initiative, **Healthy Ireland**[7] which aims to create an Irish society where everyone can enjoy good physical and mental health. The HSE Health and Wellbeing has identified nine priority health promotion programmes[8] including mental health and positive ageing. Cancer and infectious disease prevention, national screening and immunisation programmes have been identified as priorities.

The HSE **Patient Safety Strategy** 2019 - 2024[9] states that '*national and international evidence however shows us that as many as 1 in 8 patients suffer harm while using healthcare services and up to 70% of this harm could have been prevented.*' The strategy is committed to improving patient safety by anticipating and responding to risks, reducing common causes of harm and measuring patient safety.

The COVID-19 pandemic has presented immense challenges to the governments throughout the world over the last couple of years. In Ireland, the HSE has had to react to the demands on hospitals and healthcare staff, secure the supply of personal protective equipment (PPE), roll out nationwide testing and tracing services and the implementation of a mass vaccine immunisation programme. The pandemic has also

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[5] https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/publications/serviceplans/national-service-plan-2021.pdf
[6] https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/cspd/icp/
[7] https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/healthy-ireland/
[8] https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/healthwellbeing/our-priority-programmes/
[9] https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/nqpsd/patient-safety-strategy-2019-2024.pdf

ENTERPRISE IRELAND
where innovation means business

An Roinn Gnó, Fiontar agus Nuálaíochta
Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation

HSE
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
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An Roinn Sláinte
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

impacted on all other non COVID-19 patients and the delivery of services to them. The need for innovative healthcare products and services is greater now than ever.

What are the Assessment Criteria?

As a guideline, all applications will be assessed against a number of criteria including:

- The validity of the identified healthcare need
- The ability of the product or service to address the identified healthcare need
- The market readiness of the product or service
- The management of the intellectual property (IP) for the product or service
- The size of the potential market for this product or service
- The quality of proposed project plan
- The quality of the company and its team
- The ability of company to provide necessary resources
- The feasibility of delivering the proposed project in an Irish healthcare context.

What HIHI will offer to participating companies?

A pilot project conducted with HIHI will

- facilitate access to the health system for execution of the pilot project
- deliver a final independent HIHI Project Report on completion of a pilot
- provide the company with a "reference site" in Ireland
- provide support of HIHI project management team to manage the execution of the project
- provide access to research expertise from partner institutions
- provide advice on the availability of various funding streams
- link company (when appropriate), to other relevant supports within the Irish healthcare innovation ecosystem.

What MUST companies provide to support the projects?

A company conducting a pilot with HIHI must

- provide dedicated contact personnel and when relevant, the availability of personnel at the project pilot site
- provide dedicated resources to deliver project objectives - equipment, hardware, software, etc.
- provide the company personnel and resources at no cost to the healthcare system for project duration,
- engage proactively with Health Innovation Hub Ireland and healthcare personnel to deliver the project objectives
- acknowledge HIHI support in public presentations, publications and social media presentations.
- have the relevant liability insurance in place

Notes for Applicants:

- HIHI does not have a procurement role and as such, regardless of the outcome of HIHI projects, the HSE is under no obligation to purchase the product/service

- HIHI does not conduct clinical trials - these are referred to our associated Clinical Research Facilities, or other members of the HRB NCTO , where appropriate
- Pilots must be implemented and run at no cost to the Healthcare location
- HIHI does not provide financial support for selected pilots
- HIHI does not charge a fee to manage or support pilots selected in the HIHI Open Call 2022
- If a project is accepted by HIHI, a Project Agreement Document containing HIHI terms and conditions must be completed before the start of the project
- A Final Project Report will be available to applicants on completion of the project.

Submission of Applications
The HIHI Open Call 2022 **Application Form** is available for download on www.hih.ie/engage/open-call. Applications are to be submitted by filling in your details and uploading the completed **Application Form**.

Closing Date: Applications should be submitted via this link by 5pm Friday, March 7th, 2022.

Enquiries
For general enquiries please contact HIHI at info@hihi.ie or your nearest HIHI office:

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Reference Information:

Department of Health, Sláintecare
https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/slaintecare-implementation-strategy/

Department of Health, Scheduled Care Access Plan 2019
https://assets.gov.ie/9381/963a1c88ff71407399a46a46018d0e6c.pdf

Department of Health, Sláintecare Implementation Strategy and Action Plan
2021-2023
https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/6996b-slaintecare-implementation-strategy-and-action-plan-2021-2023/

Department of Health, Statement of Strategy 2021-2023
https://www.gov.ie/en/organisation-information/0fd9c-department-of-health-statement-of-strategy-2021-2023/

HSE National Service Plan 2021
https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/publications/serviceplans/national-service-plan-2021.pdf

HSE Integrated Care Programmes
https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/cspd/icp/

Healthy Ireland
https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/healthy-ireland/

HSE Health and Wellbeing, Priority Programmes
https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/healthwellbeing/our-priority-programmes/

HSE Patient Safety Strategy 2019 – 2024
https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/nqpsd/patient-safety-strategy-2019-2024.pdf