



Diabetes research in FP7

Recommendations for funding of both type 1 and type 2 diabetes

issued on the occasion of the adoption of FP7 in first reading by the European Parliament and the Common Position by the Council

As a unique alliance of NGOs and pharmaceutical companies, EURADIA calls upon the European Parliament and the European Council to continue supporting diabetes research in the Seventh Framework Programme, while considering type 1 and type 2 diabetes as specific diseases.

EURADIA is pleased that diabetes is one of the few diseases specifically recognised in proposals for the Seventh Framework Programme and that type 2 diabetes has been made a priority by the Austrian Presidency of the European Union. The committed support of the European Parliament is greatly appreciated as well as the constant efforts for awareness that IDF-European Region and FEND carried out throughout the Sixth Framework Programme period.

However, the Alliance is concerned that increasingly, nutrition and obesity are mentioned in common programmes with diabetes, which may have a negative impact on the budget dedicated to the disease. Although there is evidence that nutrition, obesity and type 2 diabetes are tightly interlinked and cross-disciplinary projects must be developed, not all people with type 2 diabetes are obese and type 1 diabetes is certainly not linked with obesity. Diabetes in its two major forms are diseases with specific characteristics that demand specific types of research. Support for type 1 diabetes research suffers when diabetes and obesity are pooled since the causes and development of type 1 are different from type 2. Research on obesity or nutrition alone will therefore not solve the problem of the diabetes epidemic.

In the Common Position for the Seventh Framework Programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities (2007 to 2013), "diabetes/obesity" is mentioned as a single disease cluster under "Themes / Health / Activities / Translating research for human health": "*Translational research in major diseases.*"

EURADIA calls forcefully on the European Institutions to allocate funds separately and discreetly to both type 1 and type 2 diabetes, or combined with a common budget that is increased accordingly.