

Protocol HollandPTC-Varian consortium-confined call 2018

Three rounds of consortium-confined calls are part of the HollandPTC R&D programme to boost the joint research between LUMC, Erasmus MC and TU Delft in the field of proton therapy. The first round is taking place mid-2018, one round is planned for 2019 and another one in 2020. This protocol describes the conditions, selection procedure and guidelines for the consortium-confined call for 2018.

1. Conditions

Type of funding

Two types of funding are available within this call:

1. Funding for a single research position, with running budget. The maximum amount of funding is €300,000 to be spent over a period of four years.
2. Funding for a joint-proposal. Two PIs within the HollandPTC consortium can apply for the funding of two research positions. The maximum amount of funding is €600,000 to be spent over a period of maximum four years. In this case the proposal has two main applicants.

Please take note of the IP conditions for the HollandPTC-Varian fund, **no IP ownership can be claimed** (as IP is contractually shared by Varian and HollandPTC). A summary of the IP conditions can be obtained on request only.

Projects subsidised by the HollandPTC-Varian consortium-confined call are subject to the Research Collaboration Agreement as to be agreed on between LUMC, Erasmus MC, TU Delft and HollandPTC (effective date 01-01-2018).

Categories/topics

The HollandPTC – Varian consortium-confined call 2018 accepts proposals in the following research fields:

- Clinical studies (including clinical imaging studies) i.e. head and neck, neuro tumours;
- Physics, technology and design;
- Medical Physics (i.e. adaptive and image guided proton therapy, treatment planning);
- Medical image acquisition and processing.

Since not all research facilities within HollandPTC are currently available and we will start with the treatment of patients with head and neck and neuro-oncologic tumours, we limit this first call to the topics listed above. For a more elaborated overview of the topics within the research programme, a document describing the research pillars of the R&D programme can be found on the HollandPTC website. Remaining topics will be invited for the HollandPTC-Varian call of 2019 and/or 2020.

Who can apply?

All PIs (group leaders, assistant- associate-, and full-professors etc.) within the HollandPTC consortium (LUMC, Erasmus MC, TU Delft) working in the field of one of the topics mentioned above¹.

¹ Members of the HollandPTC Programme Board can also apply for this consortium-confined call. They will not be involved in the evaluation of their own proposal.

2. Selection procedure and deadline

Deadline R&D panel checklist and budget sheet (feedback moment)

To enable an estimation of the internal feasibility (practical and financial) of the proposed research, there is a mandatory intermediate deadline to submit your R&D panel checklist and budget sheet no later than **July 23rd 2018**. Short feedback will be given at the beginning of August. Please send the documents to researchoffice@hollandptc.nl (citing: 'R&D Panel checklist and budget sheet v1 – HollandPTC consortium call 2018').

Deadline proposal and final R&D panel checklist

The deadline for submission of the proposal (including the final R&D panel checklist and budget sheet) for the HollandPTC-Varian consortium-confined call 2018 is **August 15th 2018**. Please send your proposal, the final R&D panel checklist (as a WORD file) and final budget sheet (as an EXCEL file) to researchoffice@hollandptc.nl on behalf of Charlotte Nijhoff (citing 'Final proposal - HollandPTC consortium-confined call 2018').

Selection procedure

All submitted proposals will be evaluated first by the HollandPTC R&D Programme Board. Based on the evaluation criteria, the Programme Board will select applications covering about 7-8 research positions from the call of 2018. Subsequently, these proposals will be sent to Varian. Mid-September a joint steering committee meeting will be held to determine which proposals will be funded.

Important dates

15 June 2018	HollandPTC-Varian consortium-confined call 2018 opens
23 July 2018	Deadline submission R&D panel checklist and budget sheet v1
15 August 2018	Proposal, final R&D panel checklist + budget sheet submission deadline
5 September 2018	Programme Board assessment of research proposals
Mid-September 2018	Joint steering Committee meeting – final approval
15 October 2018	Ultimate deadline for announcement of results to researchers

3. Guidelines for proposals

Evaluation criteria

The proposal will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- Eligibility; How does the proposal contribute to a sustainable HollandPTC R&D programme? Does it fit within the framework of the HollandPTC R&D Masterplan?
- Quality, Novelty/Originality, Innovativeness; Does the proposal contribute to the positioning of the HollandPTC R&D consortium at the forefront of the international particle therapy research field?
- Synergy; How does the proposal stimulate collaboration between different research groups within the HollandPTC consortium?
- Feasibility; Is the proposal feasible? (i.e. in view of the HollandPTC patient ramp-up phase and the availability of the HollandPTC research facilities).
- Urgency; How urgent is the research proposal in relation to developments in the field?

Format

The proposal should be written according to the template 'proposal template 2018' which can be found on the HollandPTC website.

4. Contact

For more information please contact: Charlotte Nijhoff, R&D Coordinator HollandPTC via researchoffice@hollandptc.nl.