

CALL FOR PROJECTS 2026

– N°3 –

MULTICENTRE RANDOMISED CLINICAL TRIALS IN CARDIOLOGY

The Belgian Heart Fund was created in collaboration with the Belgian Society of Cardiology and with the support from the Fund for Cardiac Surgery to support research in cardiology in Belgian institutions.

The Belgian Heart Fund is managed by the King Baudouin Foundation with the help of a scientific jury and a Fund Steering Committee. The Fund is launching a call for multicentre randomised clinical trials in cardiology.

Subject of the call

The call concerns non-commercial projects for **multicentre randomised clinical research in the field of cardiovascular research**. The research must be centred on the patients and aimed to explore the benefit of interventions (medical or non-medical) in patients with cardiovascular disease. The research should have a **multicentre study** design with randomisation between intervention and control. The research has to be carried out in two, or more Belgian institutions.

Eligible applicants

Project

The project falls within the scope of the call and meets all scientific requirements. It has not previously received any grant or award from the Belgian Heart Fund.

It must be conducted predominantly in two or more Belgian institutions.

For projects involving international collaboration, the initiative and coordination must be led by the team based in Belgium.

Organizations

The Foundation will only fund not-for-profit medical research organizations.

Main applicant

The call is open to researchers who have been employed for more than two years by a not-for-profit medical research organization in Belgium. The main applicant must be a [Member of the Belgian Society of Cardiology](#) and act as the project's principal investigator.

If the main applicant has previously received a BHF award, the new project will only be considered if all required activity reports due before the call deadline have been submitted to the fund secretary.

Selection criteria

Scientific quality of the project

Quality of the research

- Design, including a timeline, statistics, sample calculation, feasibility, potential etc.
- Innovative approaches
- Relevance/added-value of the research to existing knowledge/clinical practices
- The project addresses clearly identified medical or allied health issues related to cardiovascular diseases

Potential impact

- of the research for patients, their family and/or professionals
- of the results on diagnosis/treatment/quality of care/quality of life

Track record

- Track record and career potential of the main applicant
- Potential of the research team and the collaborating teams (scientific environment, competence, experience...)
- Added-value of the multicentre collaboration

Budget

- Feasibility of the research and the adequacy of the budget

Grant

- An amount of max. € 100,000 is available to support 1 high level project, covering a period of max. 3 years. The grant will be paid in 2 instalments; 1 instalment (2/3) following the receipt of a memorandum of agreement between the collaborating centres and a 2nd instalment (1/3) following the approval of an interim activity report.
- If any overhead should be taken, this cannot exceed 17% and should be included in the budget.
- The support can be used for all costs related to the project.

Procedure

If you are interested, please submit **an online application** via the website of the [King Baudouin Foundation](#). Applications should be submitted **in English by 08/09/2026** at midnight at the latest. Candidates will receive an acknowledgement of receipt.

Selection

Applications will be submitted to an independent scientific jury. The jury will assess the projects and will draw up recommendations for the General Steering Committee of the Fund which will make the final decision. The decision will be published in January 2027. The grant will be officially awarded at the annual congress of the Belgian Society of Cardiology planned in January.

Contact

For technical assistance during the application process:

- Contact centre – Tel +32-(0)2 500 45 55 – info@kbs-frb.be

For information regarding the call:

- KBF: Laetitia Aerts – Tel +32-(0)2-549 02 33 – aerts.l@kbs-frb.be
- BSC: Anne Dewaegenaere – anne.dewaegenaere@bscardio.be

*** Interested in support for research projects in other domains of cardiology? Have also a look at the other ongoing calls:**

N° 1. Basic research in cardiology, launched by the Belgian Heart Fund, the Fund Walckiers-Van Dessel and the Fund Fernand Léonard.

N° 2. Clinical research in cardiology, launched by the Belgian Heart Fund and the Fund Fernand Léonard.

Information on all these ongoing calls is available on the websites of the King Baudouin Foundation and of the Belgian Society of Cardiology.

Please note that one same project can only be introduced once, parallel introduction of the same project in different calls is not allowed. On the other hand, a candidate or team can submit different projects for different calls.

With thanks to the Belgian Society of Cardiology and its Major Sponsors, including the Fund for Cardiac Surgery and the BHF donors, for their valued support.

King Baudouin Foundation

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The King Baudouin Foundation's mission is to contribute to a better society in Belgium, in Europe and elsewhere in the world

It is an actor for change and innovation, serving the public interest and increasing social cohesion. It seeks to maximize its impact by improving skills in organizations and for individuals. It also stimulates effective philanthropy by individuals and corporations.

The King Baudouin Foundation was set up in 1976, on the 25th anniversary of King Baudouin's reign.

With thanks to the National Lottery and its players, and also to our many donors for their ongoing commitment.

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