**Charité/BIH – Pilot and R&D Program Call for Proposals**

The *Israel Innovation Authority* (IIA) and the *Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin* (Charité) invite interested Israeli companies to submit applications to pilot and co-develop healthcare-related technology solutions with Charité.

Charité and the IIA are seeking to advance healthcare by helping Israeli companies get the evidence and assistance they need to fine-tune their development and to enter and be successful in the European healthcare market.

Together with researchers at Charité and BIH, Israeli companies will have the opportunity to co-develop their product and thus enter the translational life cycle ultimately leading to improvement in healthcare for the patients.

The goal of this collaboration is to accelerate the availability of medical innovations to the public, introduce Israeli healthcare technology to Europe, and advance the development and deployment of discoveries for the benefit of patients everywhere**.**

The **IIA** provides resources to aid technology advancement for Israeli companies.

The **Charité** provides expertise and excellence in clinical care, clinical studies, and R&D activities. Charité is one of the largest university hospitals in Europe. Physicians and researchers of the highest international standard deliver all of the clinical care, research, and teaching. Charité proudly lays claim to more than half of all German Nobel Prize winners in Physiology or Medicine, including Emil von Behring, Robert Koch, and Paul Ehrlich. Charité is internationally renowned for its excellence in teaching and training. Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin represents a single medical faculty, which serves both Humboldt Universtität zu Berlin and Freie Universität Berlin. Charité extends over four campuses and has close to 100 different Departments and Institutes, which make up a total of 17 different Charité Centers. Having marked its 300th anniversary in 2010, Charité is now one of the largest employers in Berlin, employing 14,576 staff (18,010 including its subsidiaries), and with a total annual turnover of €1.8 billion.

**The health themes of interest to Charite and BIH include** digital or mobile healthcare technology solutions, applications, and innovative medical devices (wearables) for diagnostic and/or therapeutic purpose, especially in the following areas:

* Advanced Cellular and Gene Therapies: New advanced therapies, popular and rare diseases;
* Addressing the Patient Journey: Patient centered research, value based healthcare and novel approaches for prevention and diagnosis;
* Combining MedTech with biological and biotech solutions;

With special focus on:

* Early innovative trials within effective collaborative projects.

**Application Process**

**Phase 1**

**Deadline for Expression of Interest (EOI) form submissions: 14/11/2022**

The Israel Innovation Authority will invite selected Israeli companies to phase 2.

**Phase 2**

By **22/02/2023** the Israel Innovation Authority will invite selected Israeli companies to phase 2.

**Deadline for full submissions: 21/06/2023**

**Supported activities** may include: piloting, testing (of different kinds; including in real-world conditions), validation, trials, performance verification, device iteration, product and interface customization, pre-pilot activities, R&D activities needed for the pilot, optimizing the clinical use of a given technology/product, identifying the parameters of the product/technology and potential use cases, optimizing user interfaces, etc.

**What support do the IIA and Charité offer?**

Successful Israeli companies will receive funding from the IIA and in-kind services from Charité to support project preparations.

There are two types of scientific projects Charité can conduct[[1]](#footnote-1):

* Contract research; where the project goal and the contract terms are set by the client who is the proprietor of the research results and has the overall right to publish/use/exploit the research results and the copyright (full cost recovery by Charité-overhead-fee)
* Effective cooperation (R&D); where IP can be used by the research organization and being spread in accordance with both interests (project costs, negotiation on further terms, reduced Charité-overhead)

Charité will provide in-kind services, expertise, and/or use of facilities. Examples for such in-kind support can include:

* Clinical expertise, know-how, patient and data access
* Matching the startup´s project to the right clinician
* Arrangement of first meetings, introduction to possible PIs
* Support with the contract preparation and all adjustments
* Preparing a cost-overview and support for the study planning with the PI
* Connection to and support by our App Lab if necessary
* Consultation on study design and performance including support for budget calculation for the clinical trial part
* Project management: project planning support and regulatory support (Advice for the regulatory framework of a study with a Charité-PI, not including the ethics proposal submission and other regulatory processes)
* Management of the Health Tech Program´s milestones

The IIA can support R&D performing companies, registered and operating in Israel, with a grant of up to 50% of the approved Pilot Expenses Budget, according to its regulations and procedures. See here (Hebrew): <https://innovationisrael.org.il/international/rnd>

The Charité would provide assistance for the project and make it accessible through an applicable agreement with the selected Israeli companies. In the case of a pilot project, where no IP is shared, up to 10% of the project budget could be used to pay the Charité for its services. In the case of a joint R&D project, where IP is shared, the costs of the Charité could not be funded by the IIA.

When a project eventually results in sales of a product, service, or process, the financial support must be repaid in royalties to the *Israel Innovation Authority* according to its regulations. In general, royalties are paid at rates beginning at 3% of sales, depending on various criteria. Royalties are payable until 100% of the amount of the grant has been repaid with interest as provided in the applicable regulations. If the project does not result in sales, no repayment is required.

An appropriate agreement between successful applicant companies and the Charité will need to be signed as one of the first milestones during the project initiation.

**Process and Timeline**

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**Contacts**

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1. Since the Charité Universitaetsmedizin Berlin is a legal entity under public law and has the legal obligation to not grant indirect State Aid to industrial partners (by not charging certain project costs). See also: European law on state aid (Europäisches Beihilferecht). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)