### NORWEGIAN CANCER SOCIETY

# FIRST AID TO APPLICANTS

LISE BOLLUM

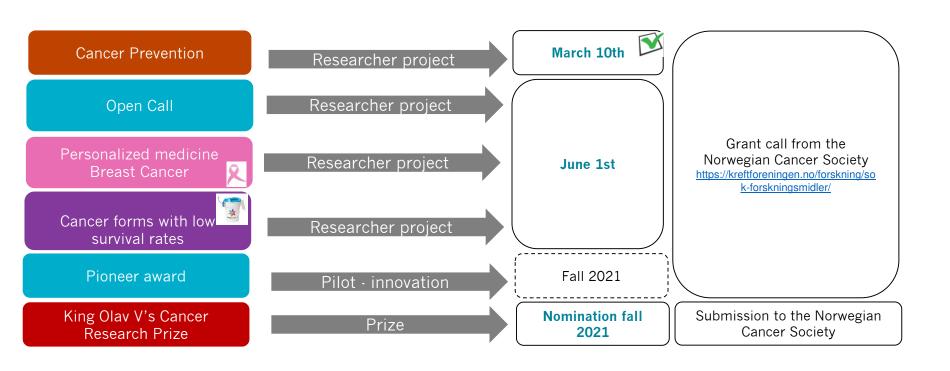
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2021

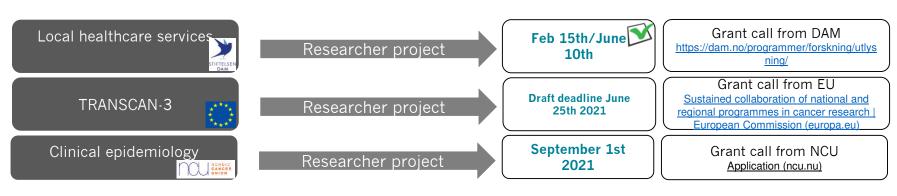
# Norwegian Cancer Society calls 2021

- NCS funds cancer research, about 240 MNOK per year
- Based on donations



# Norwegian Cancer Society calls 2021

#### **Collaborations**



#### Other



# Calls for today's talk

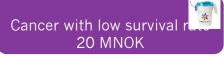
Calls Open Call Krafttak mot kreft • Deadline 1. June Only one application per project manager

Open Call 130 MNOK Personalised breast cancer treatment 26.7 MNOK

#### Open Call 2021

- Open research and Rosa sløyfe (personalised breast cancer treatment)
- 1-8 MNOK
- Overlapping project periods with other Open Call projects not allowed – that is, ongoing Rosa sløyfe projects are OK

#### **Krafttak mot kreft**



- Brain, lung, pancreatic and oesophagus cancers
- 1-5 MNOK
- Ongoing projects OK
- PhD allowed

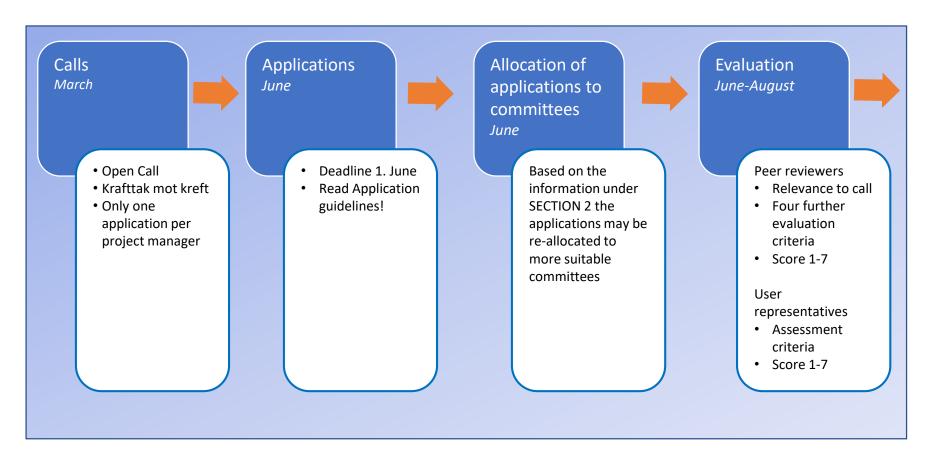
## Call texts

Calls Each project manager may only submit one proposal and must therefore decide which call is better suited to their project.

PhD allowed

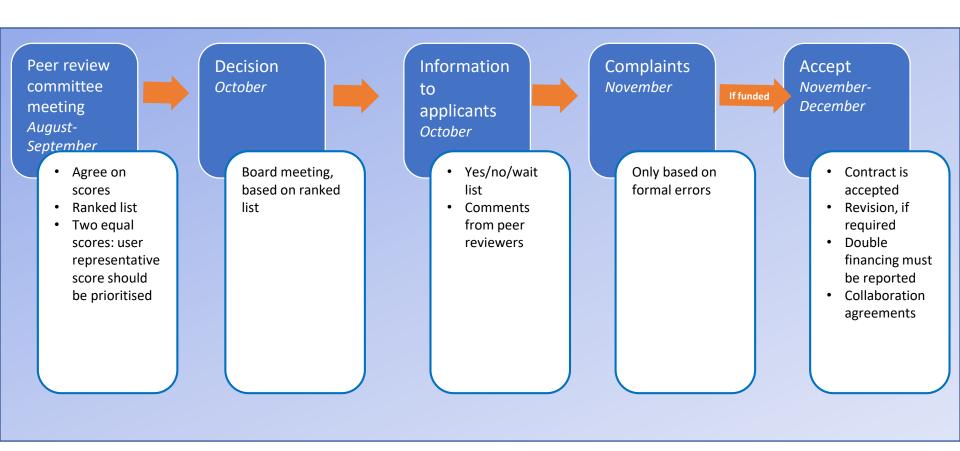
### Open Call/Rosa sløyfe 2021 and Krafttak mot kreft 2021

### The process



### Open Call/Rosa sløyfe 2021 and Krafttak mot kreft 2021

### The process



# Applications – Some changes

#### **Applications**

Read Application guidelines!

- ✓ Indication of peer review committee
  - Administrative allocation of applications to match the volume of applications to the Peer Reviewers' expertise, if required
  - Multiple choice fields to match with peer reviewers
- ✓ Four peer review committees
  - New definitions of committees
  - Sub-categorisation depending on number of applications
  - Improved and clarified evaluation criteria
- ✓ User involvement
  - New assessment criteria and grading definitions
  - To be described in full in the application form

### New committees

Read carefully before selecting and choose the committee most relevant to your proposal!

#### 1. Understanding cancer, treatment targets

Improved understanding of cancer biology, cancer initiation, progression and metastasis. Includes research on the origin and endogenous causes of cancer. Identification and characterization of treatment targets.

#### 2. Diagnosis, screening, prognosis and markers for treatment stratification

Discovery, development and clinical testing of cancer markers, signatures, imaging or other methods/technologies for improved detection and diagnosis, as well as predicting the outcome or chance of recurrence, or to support treatment decision making in personalised medicine.

### 3. Discovery and development of treatments

Discovery and development of new or improved treatments. Includes drug delivery and development of therapies to prevent recurrence. Mechanisms of action of existing therapies. Includes preclinical research on cancer vaccines.

# 4. Clinical intervention and epidemiological studies, health care- and social sciences research

Clinical testing of new or improved interventions in phase I,II and III clinical trials. Epidemiological studies of incidence, morbidity, co-morbidities, long-term effects, trends in use of interventional strategies etc. Epidemiological or social science research on exogenous causes of cancer, e.g. lifestyle factors or social determinants, as well as intervention research on cancer prevention. Patient care needs, survivorship, end of life care and health care services.

### Evaluation criteria

### See Application guidelines



#### **Evaluation**

#### Peer reviewers

- Relevance to call
- Four further evaluation criteria
- Score 1-7

### User representatives

- Assessment criteria
- Score 1-7

Table 2. Evaluation criteria

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Criteria	Definition	
1 Relevance to the call topic	If there are no thematic priorities in the call:  Is the proposed project directly or indirectly relevant to cancer biology, prevention, diagnosis, treatment or management of cancer, and/or relevant to patient care and health services in the area of cancer? Yes/No.  If there are thematic priorities in the call:  Is the proposed project relevant to one or more of the thematic priorities in the call? Yes/no	
2 Scientific quality	Highly original and ambitious, and highly likely to significantly contribute to its field internationally, state-of-the-art use of methods. The project is novel, creative and original. Aside from state-of-the-art, methods chosen for this project should be the suitable among available options, and the rationale for their use should be clearly realized.  The description addresses all relevant and important aspects. Project description thoroughly assesses all relevant criteria, and all relevant ethical issues have been carefully considered.	
3 Qualifications of the Project Manager and Project Group	Group members and participants have a proven track record of the highest quality and <i>together</i> , the team form a constellation of knowledge and methodological expertise which are likely to highly elevate this project.  About evaluation of publications by the project manager and project participants: Recency and relevancy is given key priority over quantity. We also encourage our Reviewers to keep the DORA declaration <sup>3</sup> in mind when assessing publication history. This means that the scientific content of a paper is much more important than publication metrics and that impact factor does not automatically equal merit. These considerations are implemented to abate evaluation bias and inaccuracy. Outside of publication history, other relevant activity that demonstrates the ability to consolidate personnel with the right skills and background should also be taken into consideration.	

4 Feasibility	Preliminary data builds a strong foundation for the project, making it highly feasible. The work distribution between work packages and time frames are logical and realistically outlined.  Furthermore, this also includes how the different tasks are distributed within the project group, and every project participant has a clearly defined and logical role within the project. Budget has no or few shortcomings.    Project description clearly and thoroughly outlines a realistic and optimal interpretation of the expected results. Risks and shortcomings have been addressed thoroughly without any obvious shortcomings. The implementation of the project is clearly outlined and have a highly realistic approach.  User involvement has been clearly and logically described. For projects where user involvement is deemed irrelevant, this has been described in equal clarity and has been soundly justified.
5 Impact	The project will, if successful, generate new and important knowledge about cancer, cancer prevention or cancer treatment, with a high potential impact for cancer patients in the short or long term.  The project has a clearly outlined, proactive and realistic communication strategy.

### Assessment criteria for user involvement

### See Application guidelines

#### **Evaluation**

#### Peer reviewers

- Relevance to call
- Four further evaluation criteria
- Score 1-7

### User representatives

- Assessment criteria
- Score 1-7

#### ASSESSMENT CRITERIA AND SCORES

The User Representatives agree on a score (1-7) based on a combination of the following three main areas:

#### A. Roles and contributions

- A sufficient number of User Representatives have been recruited, or there is a good plan for this
- The role of User Representatives, and how they will contribute in relevant research phases, is clearly described

#### B. Feasibility

- · The plan for User Involvement is realistic
- There is a plan and description of how interaction and communication between User Representatives and researchers are to be handled

#### C. Relevance

The User Representatives will also assess relevance for User Involvement in the project based on the justification of the Applicant. In case the Applicant find User Involvement not relevant, this is justified, and the User Representatives agree, no further assessment will be performed. However, if the justification is poor, or the User Representatives finds User Involvement relevant, the User Representatives will select Yes for relevance, and give a score according to the scale. In this case, the User Representatives must justify in an official comment how the Applicant could have planned for User Involvement and give examples.

# User involvement in research application – Do you need help?

### **NEW!** Kreftforeningens brukergruppe (User group)

### **Purpose**

- Ensure user involvement in the early stage of the research process
- Simplify user involvement by giving researchers access to experienced users.
- Increase relevance of research from "start to finish"

#### **Process**

https://kreftforeningen.no/forskning/brukermedvirkning-i-forskning/

Vil du sikre brukermedvirkning allerede i søknadsfasen?

Vi i Kreftforeningen har opprettet en brukergruppe som kan gi innspill til hvordan brukermedvirkning kan gjennomføres i ditt forskningsprosjekt. Brukergruppen skal ikke være brukere i selve prosjektet, men kan bidra i planleggingsfasen og med

innspill til brukermedvirkning i søknaden.

Se Template for researchers (pdf) for mer informasjon om prosessen. Informasjon om forskningsprosjektet må sendes til gruppen senest en måned før søknadsfristen til den aktuelle utlysningen.