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The “Carlos III” Health Institute (Instituto de Salud Carlos III/ISCIII) is the main public research body in Spain in the field of health science.

OUR ACTIVITIES

The ISCIII is focused on three areas:

- **Biomedical Research:**
  Promotion and development of quality and highly competitive research, both through our role as a funding agency of the research carried out in hospitals, universities and research centres, and through research carried out by our own centres and researchers.

- **Scientific-Technical Services:**
  Provision of reference support services to the National Health System (NHS) and society as a whole.

- **Training:**
  Design and development of training programmes in public health and in scientific and health-care administration and management, primarily oriented to health professionals.

All this is implemented via three instruments:

- Health Research Strategy (HRS)
- ISCIII’s centres
- Programme of associated centres and research networks
HEALTH RESEARCH STRATEGY (HRS)

The HRS aims at strengthening the international competitiveness of research, development and innovation (RD&I) conducted in hospitals, universities and research centres. It has a number of funding schemes for the implementation of research projects and for the training and recruitment of research, technical and management staff in biomedicine. Additionally, the HRS runs specific programmes to support innovation and participation in international research programmes.

ISCIII’S CENTRES

We have a number of centres carrying out research and innovation activities, service provision and training in health sciences, and particularly in the following areas:

• Basic and applied research in biomedicine and health sciences (infectious diseases, tropical and emerging diseases, rare diseases, chronicity, health care, determination of environmental factors that affect health, application of information technologies in health, epidemiology and public health).
• Management of the National Network of Epidemiological Surveillance (RENAVE), the Network of Biological Alert Labs (RELAB) and the National Air Quality Reference Lab.
• Training in the field of public health and health management and RD&I.
• Scientific publications and documentation.
• Reporting on health technologies and health services.
• Promotion of the incorporation of the Spanish research resources to European and international programmes.

ASSOCIATED CENTRES AND RESEARCH NETWORKS

In recent years we have implemented a programme aimed at creating joint centres and research networks with a dual purpose: to develop cutting-edge research on some prevalent diseases; and to reinforce the collaboration between the best research groups and centres in our country.

Foundations:
• “Carlos III” National Cancer Research Centre (Centro Nacional de Investigaciones Oncológicas Carlos III/CNIO).
• “Carlos III” National Cardiovascular Research Centre (Centro Nacional de Investigaciones Cardiovasculares Carlos III/CNIC).
• CIEN Neurological Disease Research Centre (Centro de Investigación en Enfermedades Neurológicas/CIEN).

Consorzia:
• Biomedical Research Network Centre (CIBER).
• Biomedical Research Network Centre of Neurodegenerative Disorders (CIBERNED).

Networks:
• Health Research Institutes (IS).
• Thematic Networks for Cooperative Research in Health (RETICS).
• Research supporting platforms: Biobanks, Health and Medical Technology Innovation (ITEMAS), Spanish Clinical Research Network and Biomolecular and Bioinformatics Resources.