

EN

E-000819/2026

Answer given by Ms Zaharieva
on behalf of the European Commission
(29.5.2026)

The Commission recognises the importance of tackling high-burden under-researched medical conditions like Myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS) and depending on the outcome of the negotiations on the next Multi Annual Financial Framework is considering the possibility of including in future work programmes of Horizon Europe (2028-2034) topics like the call topic: ‘Tackling high burden for patients and under-researched medical conditions’¹ from the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2025.

Regarding the current Health Cluster part of the Horizon Europe Work Programme 2026-2027, where topics are generally broad, there is an open call topic that is likely of interest for the ME/CFS research community: ‘Advancing research on the prevention, diagnosis, and management of post-infection long-term conditions’².

The Commission is committed to fund high-quality proposals in all medical fields within the limitation of budget allocations and based on strategic choices made together with Member States and associated countries. Noteworthy, the observed increase in oversubscription across all call topics can in part be attributed to the rise in the use of artificial intelligence in proposal writing.

¹ <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-HLTH-2025-01-DISEASE-07>.

² <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01-DISEASE-03>.