



## 2. Research Commissioners

### 2.1 Ministry of Health

The Ministry of Health ([www.government.bg](http://www.government.bg)) funds public health research through National Programs, National Plans, and thematic calls.

The main sources of health system financing (including public health research) are compulsory health insurance, state and municipality budgets, voluntary health insurance, household expenditure allocated to the system as co-payments, and external resources allocated from donor organizations and national and international nongovernmental organizations (NGOs).

### 2.2. Ministry of Science

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Science funds public health research through National Programs, National Plans, and thematic calls. Within Ministry of Education, Youth and Science there is the national Council for Scientific Research. The fund "Scientific Research" funds projects, selected on the basis on their scientific quality.

### 2.3. Other ministries

The Ministry of Environment and Waters manages the Executive Environment Agency

### 2.4. Regions

### 2.5. Foundations

## 3. Research Performers

### 3.1. State Institutes

3.1.1. The National Center of Public Health Protection (NCPHP), <http://www.ncphp.government.bg> is a government-funded research organization, under the administrative authority of Bulgarian Ministry of Health. The NCPHP carries out research in the fields of public health including: environmental health; occupational health; foods and nutrition; mental health; child and schoolchildren's health; behavior of the health organization; behavior change communications; health promotion; disease prevention; analysis of health care systems and models and health policy development and implementation.

3.1.2. The National Center of Health Informatics (NCHI), <http://www.nchi.government.bg> is a government-funded research organization, under the administrative authority of Bulgarian Ministry of Health. The NCHI provides informational support of healthcare management, creates and supports information bases on health-demographic status of the population, resources and activities of the healthcare system, prepares medico-statistical information and specialized analyses on the problems of healthcare system, produces, disseminates and introduces information technologies, products and systems.

3.1.3. The National Center of Infectious and Parasitic Diseases (NCIPD), <http://www.ncipd.org> is a government-funded research organization, under the administrative authority of Bulgarian Ministry of Health. The NCIPD develop scientific basis for fighting infectious diseases. It performs scientific-research activities in the field of

etiopathogenesis, immune reactivity, laboratory diagnostics, treatment and immunoprophylaxis of bacterial and viral infection.

3.1.4. The National Centre for Radiobiology and Radiation Protection (NCRRP, <http://ncrrp.org>) is a government-funded research organization, under the administrative authority of Bulgarian Ministry of Health. Its main goal is the protection of Bulgarian population from the harmful influence of the ionizing radiation. NCRRP ensures the official control of the parameters of working and living environment, assessment and reduction of public exposure to the ionizing sources, dosimetry control of personal external and internal exposure, risk assessments for the population as well as for particular groups.

3.1.5. The Executive Environment Agency (<http://nfp-bg.eionet.eu.int/ncesd/eng/index.html>), under the Ministry of Environment and Water to carries out management, coordination and information functions as regards the control and environmental protection in Bulgaria. It designs and manages the National System for Environmental Monitoring and Information on the state of environmental components and factors on the complete territory of the country.

### 3.2. Mixed organizations

3.2.1. The Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (BAS, <http://www.bas.bg/cgi-bin/e-cms/vis/vis.pl?s=001&p=0200>) is a national autonomous organization for scientific research which comprises research institutes and other independent units. The Bulgarian Academy of Sciences conducts research and bears the responsibility of training researchers and professionals, independently or jointly with higher educational establishments. The Bulgarian Academy of Sciences has a budget of its own. The revenues of the budget of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences are composed of a State budget allocation approved by an Act of the National Assembly. The research fields include: Information and Communication Sciences and Technologies; Energy Resources and Energy Efficiency; Nanosciences, New Materials and Technologies; Biomedicine and Quality of Life; Biodiversity, Bioresources and Ecology; Climate Changes, Risks and Natural Resources; Astronomy, Space Research and Technologies; Cultural-Historical Heritage and National Identity; Man and Society; Specialized and Supporting Units.

### 3.3. Universities

There are 37 public and 17 private universities. The Faculties of Public Health, within Medical Universities in Sofia, Plovdiv, Varna, Pleven have a dual role of education and research into public health, social welfare and management. They are autonomous institutions, coordinated jointly by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education and Science.

### 3.4. Health Services

### 3.5. Independent organizations

## 4. Research Strategies

4.1. The National Strategy for Scientific Research, 2005 – 2013, proposes modernising science careers and increasing competitive public funding for R&D.

## 5. Programmes and calls

Structural funds - Operational Programme for Human Resource Development:

- Project “Stop and Examine” (National Campaign on early diagnosis of oncological diseases);
- Project “Accreditation of Medical Institutions and Lifelong Education of Medical Personnel”
- Project “Informed and Health”
- Project “PULSS – Practical Introduction in Treatment of Emergency Situations”

(Source:

<http://www.mh.government.bg/Articles.aspx?lang=bg-BG&pageid=468&home=true>, assessed in August 2010)

## 6. European contacts

### 6.1. National FP7 Contact point (Health area)<sup>1</sup>

6.1.1. Iren Belcheva, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

6.1.2. Radoslav Girchev, Medical University, Sofia

6.1.3. Albena Jordanova, Medical University

6.1.4. Diana Ivanova, Varna University of Medicine "Prof.Dr.Paraskev Stoyanov"

### 6.2. National DGSANCO Contact point<sup>2</sup>

6.2.1. Katya Ivkova Gecheva, Ministry of Health, [kgecheva@mh.government.bg](mailto:kgecheva@mh.government.bg)

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<sup>1</sup> Source: [http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ncp\\_en.html](http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ncp_en.html), assessed in August 2010

<sup>2</sup> Source: [http://ec.europa.eu/health/programme/policy/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/health/programme/policy/index_en.htm) assessed August 2010