

POLAND

This information on national public-health research structures has been gained from country key informants and internet searches for STEPS (Strengthening Engagement in Public Health Research www.steps-ph.eu), a project funded by the European Commission Seventh Framework Research Programme. It builds on the country profiles and reports from Ministries of Health and Ministries of Science that were created previously for SPHERE (<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/public-health/sphere/sphereprofiles.htm>).

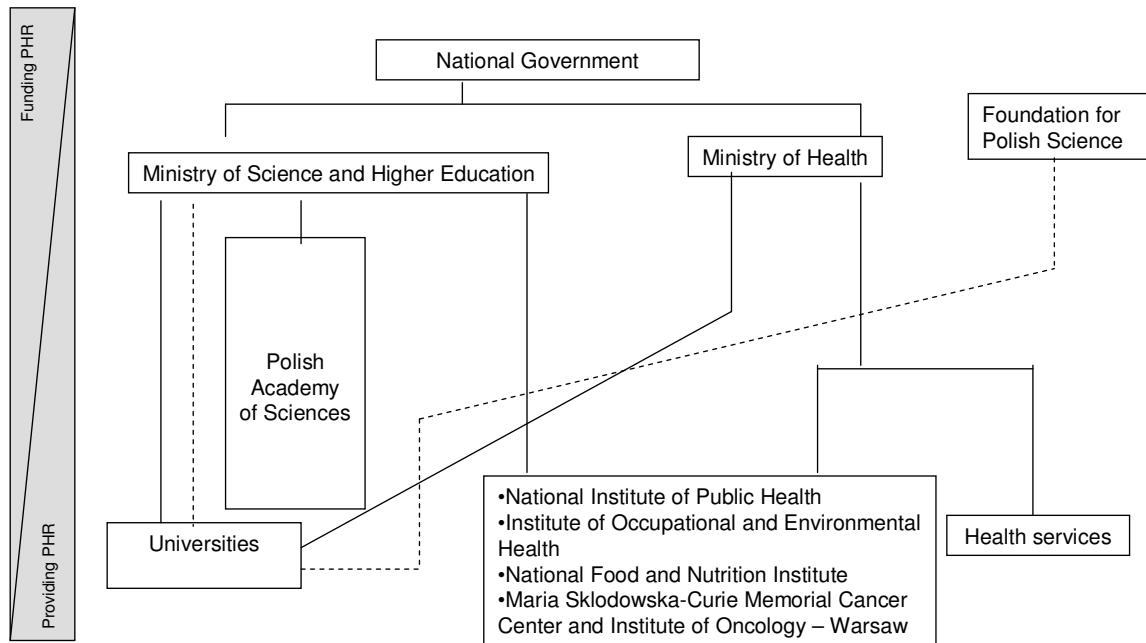


The organogram shows the structure for managing and providing public-health research from the perspective of financial flows.

The main organisations are also briefly described, with their URLs, and other relevant national documents and information on public-health research.

Note: 'Public-health research' includes all health research at population, organisation and system level broadly relevant to health and health-care policy and practice. It excludes clinical and laboratory (biomedical) research.

1. Organogram



PHR: Public Health research;
 —————> funding negotiated between government and agency/organization; includes direct commissioning
 - - - - -> funding competitive process where rules are more or less explicit and known in advance

2. Research Commissioners

2.1 Ministry of Health, <http://www.mz.gov.pl/wwwmzold/index?ml=en>

There is a Department for Research and Higher Education with a budget within Ministry to fund specific research projects (1-2 years), activities implementing previously-demonstrated successful studies, and on-line medical library services. There is a Structural Fund office within the Ministry for healthcare projects.

The Ministry directly funds 17 institutes.

2.2. Ministry of Science

Ministry of Science and Higher Education, <http://www.nauka.gov.pl/home/>

Poland's share of R&D expenditure in GDP dropped from 0.96% in 1991 to 0.56% in 2003. The 2008 goal set by the 2015 Science Strategy is to increase GERD to 1.7%. The Science budget was €1.1bln in 2008. In 2005, the highest share (8.4%) of business R&D was for pharmaceuticals (ERA-Watch 2009).

KBN, the State Committee for Scientific Research (<http://kbn.icm.edu.pl/en/science/kbn.htm>) presents to the government and the parliament guidelines for the country's scientific policy, and also distributes the funds. It is chaired by the Minister of Science. There are 12 KBN units, each controlling their budgets, of which one is Medicine.

2.3. Other ministries

2.4. Regions

2.5. Foundations

2.5.1. The Foundation for Polish Science (<http://www.fnp.org.pl/files/publikacje/FNP08.pdf>) is an independent fund established in 1991 through a levy on state privatisations. It has accumulated around 400m zlotys and spends around 35m each year, especially from European Regional Development Fund. It is fully competitive, with emphasis on support for individual researchers. The Foundation is Poland's greatest non-state budget source of funding for science.

3. Research Performers

3.1. State Institutes

There are about 200 research and development institutes subordinate to the relevant ministries. Head Council of Research and Development Institutes represents and coordinates the R&D Institutes. 17 R&D institutes are funded by the Ministry of Health. There are also 25 Polish Technology Platforms "comprising of key industry entities, enterprises, research institutions and academies", although not for healthcare.

3.1.1. The NIPH-NIH, National Institute of Public Health - National Institute of Hygiene (<http://www.pzh.gov.pl/page/?L=1>)' mission is to protect the health of the population through a series of actions taken in the field of public health, including the work of scientific research and training. This refers to the monitoring of biological, chemical and physical risk factors in food, water and air facilities and to diseases and infections.

3.1.2. The Institute of Occupational and Environmental Health (<http://www.imp.sosnowiec.pl/~english/index.php>) activities cover: research in the field of occupational and environmental medicine and hygiene, expertise and training in the occupational medicine and environmental health impact assessment, diagnosis and treatment of occupational and environmental diseases, as well as public health research and expertise, especially development and implementation of health promotion and prevention of diseases.

3.1.3. The research topics performed under statutory framework by the National Food and Nutrition Institute (<http://www.izz.waw.pl/index.php?lang=en>) include the impact of social, economic and educational factors on nutritional patterns and nutritional status of selected groups of population (modification of standards of nutrition for Polish population; investigation of the changes in food consumption in the Polish population; investigation of nutritional behaviour and knowledge about nutrition).

3.1.4. The Department of Epidemiology and Cancer Prevention from the Maria Skłodowska-Curie Memorial Cancer Center and Institute of Oncology – Warsaw (<http://www.coi.pl/>) conducts research, educational and prevention activities in the field of epidemiology.

3.2. Mixed organizations

3.2.1. The Polish Academy of Science (http://www.english.pan.pl/index.php?option=com_content&view=frontpage&Itemid=1) is a state scientific institution founded in 1952 with the objective to "develop, integrate and promote Polish science". It is a self-elected 'corporation of top scholars', with numerous scientific establishments and a major scientific advisory body through its scientific committees. It has seven broad disciplinary divisions, and 76 research establishments and 4000 researchers in 2005, including archives, libraries, museums, and foreign Polish Academy of Science stations located in Brussels, Rome, Paris, Berlin and Moscow. The 2005 budget of €202m was 85% the State (Ministry of Education and Science), and the rest from a separate national capital fund given to the Academy in 1990. The Institute of Advanced Technology is an agency formally located within the Polish Academy of Sciences funded by the Ministry of Science for collaboration with FP7.

3.3. Universities

There are 18 universities and 95 higher schools of economics. There are 11 medical universities.

3.3.1. The National School of Public Health (Warsaw) has 140 research workers. Funding comes from: Ministry of Health, including research; direct charges for public health services; and Ministry of Science (10%). The school has gained €3m from Structural funds for IT hardware. Undertakes national monitoring and has international activities. Has Department of Health Promotion and Postgraduate Education. Developing links with a private school of business and management.

3.4. Health Services

The Chief Sanitary Inspectorate is a central administration body, subordinate to the Minister of Health. The mission of the Chief Sanitary Inspectorate consists in public health protection with a particular focus on communicable disease control, food and nutrition

safety, environmental hygiene, health promotion and other issues related to public health. Public health services are provided by regional offices under the ministry.

3.5. Independent organizations

4. Research Strategies

4.1. The National Framework Programme for research (2005) had nine strategic research areas (similar to those of FP7), with Health as first line.

Health:

- 1.1. Epidemiology, molecular foundation and risk factors affecting the aging processes.
- 1.2. Epidemiology, pathogenesis, genetics and immunology in tumour diseases.
- 1.3. Molecular biology and biotechnology and their impact on the improvement of the population's health and quality of life.
- 1.4. Environmental conditions and their impact on health threats.
- 1.5. Transplantation and regenerative medicine.
- 1.6. Innovative and generic drugs, materials and equipment supporting medical diagnosis and therapy.

4.2. The National Programme of Scientific Research and Development (2008) similarly included health as a major research area.

5. Programmes and calls

6. European contacts

6.1 National FP7 Contact point (Health area)¹

6.1.1. Joanna Niedzialek (The Institute of Fundamental Technological Research PAS, <http://www.kpk.gov.pl>)

6.1.2. Anna Pytko (The Institute of Fundamental Technological Research PAS)

6.1.3. Ewa Szkiladz (The Institute of Fundamental Technological Research PAS)

6.2. National DGSANCO Contact point²

6.2.1. Krystyna Drogoń, Office for Foreign Aid Programmes in Health Care, k.drogon@bpz.gov.pl

6.2.2. Monika Skiba, European Funds an Aid Programme Bureau, National Institute of Public Health – National Institute of Hygiene, mskiba@pzh.gov.pl

¹ Source: http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/ncp_en.html, assessed in October 2010

² Source: http://ec.europa.eu/health/programme/policy/index_en.htm assessed in October 2010