



14<sup>th</sup> EARMA Annual Conference  
25<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> June 2008  
University of Barcelona

[www.earma.org](http://www.earma.org)

*Shaping the Profession: Exploring the Boundaries of  
European Research Management & Administration*

Pre-Conference Event: 25<sup>th</sup> June 2008

"The Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI): Perspectives from Academia, Industry, and the European Commission"

Briefing

The Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI) is a unique Public-Private Partnership between the pharmaceutical industry, represented by the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA), and the European Communities represented by the European Commission (EC). The objective of the IMI is to support the faster discovery and development of better medicines for patients and to enhance Europe's competitiveness by ensuring that its biopharmaceutical sector remains a dynamic high-technology sector. It is one of the first Joint Technology Platforms launched by the EC, and the total budget is €2 billion (2008 to 2017).

The first call for proposals under the IMI platform is expected to be published in April 2008, and the deadline for expressions of interest will be in July 2008. The deadline for full proposals for the first call will be in October 2008, and a second call will be launched in early 2009.

Research managers are playing an increasingly active role in stimulating and coordinating large-scale strategic institutional collaborations, such as the IMI. Therefore, as part of its 2008 Annual Conference, EARMA would like to invite interested members to attend a pre-conference event entirely devoted to the IMI Joint Technology Platform.

Format

This event would comprise speakers from each of the three main stakeholder groups in the Initiative - academia, industry and the Commission itself. As well as formal presentations, the event will also include a question and answer session, break-out sessions to identify issues in more detail, as well as specific time for networking and pre-arranged meetings between interested parties. The proposed schedule can be found overleaf:

- 10:45 Introduction to IMI
- 11:00 The IMI: the European Commission perspective
- 11:30 The IMI: the pharmaceutical industry perspective
- 12:00 The IMI: the university research perspective
- 12:30 Q&A
- 13:00 Lunch
- 14:00 Workshop / Break-out Sessions
- 15:00 Additional Networking Time / Pre-Arranged Meetings / Coffee Break
- 16:00 Reporting Back from Sessions

We hope that interested parties will attend from all three stakeholder groups. The aim will be to produce a single report from the event, detailing the relevant perspectives of each stakeholder group, identifying the important issues to resolve, and providing recommendations for the roles that research managers can play in enabling these public-private collaborations of this type.

#### Further information

<http://www.earma.org>

EARMA Homepage

<http://www.imi-europe.org>

IMI Homepage

[http://imi.europa.eu/index\\_en.html](http://imi.europa.eu/index_en.html)

EC IMI Website

<http://www.ub.edu/homeub/welcome.html>

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