



## Multiround Call for Research Projects 2021 – 2024 IV Round

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### TRIAGE EVALUATION GUIDELINES – COMMITTEE MEMBERS

According to Fondazione Telethon's mission, the present call supports research projects focusing on rare diseases of proven genetic origin, of either monogenic or polygenic forms. The call aims at funding basic and pre-clinical research projects focused on rare genetic diseases and conducted by researchers working in Italian public or private non-profit research institutions. This call

Research projects can be submitted into one of the following tracks:

- Track BASIC RESEARCH

focused on the identification of disease mechanism/s and/or disease target/s

- Track PRECLINICAL PROOF OF CONCEPT

focused on the identification and validation of therapeutic candidate/s

#### Non-Eligible diseases

- Cancer
- Multiple sclerosis
- Acquired immunodeficiency
- Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). Note: funding opportunities for ALS are available through AriSLA (<http://www.arisla.org/>), a dedicated Foundation supported by Telethon
- Multifactorial diseases (i.e., studies focused on the identification of genetic risk factors, e.g., single nucleotide polymorphisms or other predisposing variants).

#### APPLICATION'S SECTIONS AND REVIEW PHASES

For the triage evaluation, each reviewer should focus only on the “**Overall description of the research project**” section of the Full Application.

**The triage step** is the first phase of the Telethon review process and is applied to select the top-ranking projects for a full evaluation. In the triage phase, each project is assigned to three members of the Telethon Scientific Committee, who are asked to score it based on scientific quality. Projects are then ranked and up to 120 of the top-ranking projects will undergo Full review.

After the Triage, for the **Full Review** of the top-ranking projects, three Scientific Committee members will evaluate the Full Application with the support of appropriate international external reviewers.

### TRIAGE INSTRUCTIONS

Three Committee members review the “Overall Description of the Research Project” section of each application. Each reviewer is asked to provide a score.

Committee members are requested to complete the “Overall Description of the research project evaluation” available in *TETRA - Telethon Projects Managements system portal* at <https://projects.telethon.it> accessible through personal login and password.

According to the scale reported below, committee members assign a numerical triage score between 1.0 and 4.0 to each project. The score will reflect the recommendation of whether the project deserves full review.

Triage Scoring Scale		
Triage Score	Project Evaluation	Recommendation
4	Outstanding	Definitely review
3	Excellent	Probably review
2	Average	Probably not review
1	Poor	Definitely not review

In the ‘**Comments**’ section (max 1,000 characters) we highly encourage each reviewer to provide a few sentences to highlight any issue regarding the project.

Committee members’ comments might be used to provide the Applicants with a written overall justification of the triage exclusion of their proposal.