



Heart4Data

Dutch CardioVascular Alliance

Open call for cardiovascular fellowship research projects

We are very pleased to announce the [Heart4Data consortium](#) cardiovascular fellowship call application. This program will be an opportunity to develop research skills in registry-based research in the cardiovascular area. The most outstanding project proposals will be awarded funding to perform their research, including funding to support their own personal research costs.

For this call we have budget available for three award-winning project proposals, the total budget for the call that is available is €75.000. Deadline for submission is **February 14th 2025**, with a latest starting date **September 1st 2025**.

Only proposals for retrospective-observational quality research projects using data from the Netherlands Heart Registration (NHR) will be accepted for this fellowship call. Only quality of care questions can be answered with the registry. We will prioritize project proposals that incorporate joint activities with other [DCVA consortia](#), use data linkage with one of our partners ([CBS](#), [DHD](#) or [PHARMO](#)) or that support the applicant in working at another institute within the Netherlands for a period of maximum 6 months. This fellowship will thereby support exchange of knowledge and strengthen bonds between institutes.

Criteria for submission

- Any cardiovascular researcher affiliated to a Dutch research institute or hospital can apply to the fellowship call, this is not restricted to the Heart4Data consortium members
- PhD students, researchers or clinicians with a thesis defense less than 5 years ago can apply
- The proposal should be novel and not part of already funded work
- Data from one of the [NHR registries](#) should be used within the proposal
- The proposal should have the potential to generate future funding, for example by generating pilot data or initiating/strengthening collaborations
- The research project must be developed in collaboration with physicians/registration committee members. A registration committee member from the primary registration of the application should be involved in the research project. Registration committee members can be found online: <https://nhr.nl/registratie/>

Registration committee and scientific research with NHR registries

In order to apply, the applicant must contact the NHR to seek support from the account manager (info@nhr.nl) and one of the registration committee members (<https://nhr.nl/registratie/>). A feasibility check from the NHR account manager and a letter of intent from the registration committee member is required for the application. Award-winning project proposals will be assessed by the NHR scientific council and need to be approved before starting the project. The project is also subject to approval of the registration committee before starting the project and to make the resources available.



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Budget and start date

Budget should be spent on research time, salary costs and/or data linkage costs. A maximum of €3.500 from the budget may be spent on presentation / publication costs based on declarations of actual costs (including traveling costs, conference fee, publication fee, open-access fee etc.)

In case the costs exceed the amount awarded, applicants must show commitment from their institution to cover the rest of the costs. You are required to fill out a budget sheet when you submit your proposal (see regulations in the submission form). In addition, you must show a guarantee from your head of department of your position for the duration of the project.

The latest start date for the project is 1 September 2025 and the budget should be spent before 31 December 2026.

Proposal template

Please explain your research project on a scientific poster format (format enclosed as attachment). The poster should contain at least: candidate introduction, new research idea and motivation for research, why is this a quality-of-care question, which NHR registries will be used, project plans and statistical analysis plan, relevance/impact, value for the Heart4Data consortium and research vision/how this grant will help your career. Please send your poster together with the submission form to data-infrastructure@dcvalliance.nl. Please provide details on the institute where work will be carried out, overview collaborators, budget, statistical analysis plan and sample size calculation on the submission form (see attached).

Medication linkage project

One of the grants is allocated to a medication data linkage Zorginstituut Nederland project from NHR, and we encourage interested candidates to submit an application for consideration.

By linking the medication data of the Zorginstituut Nederland to the NHR intervention quality registries the quality question is to investigate the adherence to the guidelines in terms of medication retrieval at the pharmacy (as a proxy of use) after an intervention (CABG, PCI, AVR, TAVI, AVR+CABG, PM/ICD, ablation). This project will specifically focus on data linkage within the CBS environment. If you are interested in this project, please contact NHR via info@nhr.nl

Scoring

Each domain is scores by 3 internal and 3 external reviewers as follows:

ITEM	WEIGHT
1. Relevance / future impact of research question	20%
2. Quality of research proposal	30%
3. Vision / career progression	20%
4. Poster presentation	20%
5. Suitability of the supervisory team and institute	10%



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Deadline for proposals is February 14th 2025

All submitted proposals will be checked for the criteria and evaluated by a review committee.

The expected date for awarding the grants is during the NVVC congress **April 10-11 2025**.

Attachments required for submission

- Application form
- Letter of support registration committee
- Research poster
- Letter of employment



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Heart4Data open call cardiovascular fellowship: Submission form

1. General information

Project title	
Planned starting date * No later than 1 September 2025	
Planned duration * End date no later than 31 December 2026	
Main applicant	Name: Department: Institute: Email: Role in the project:
Collaborators	Name: Department: Institute: Email: Role in the project: Name: Department: Institute: Email: Role in the project: Name: Department: Institute: Email: Role in the project: etc.
Registration committee	Ablation/Atrial fibrillation/Cardio surgery/Heart failure/KinCor/CONCOR /PCI/Pacemaker/ICD/THI
Registration committee member	Name: Department: Institute: Email: Role in the project:
Feasibility check	Yes / No Account manager: Comments account manager:



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2. Budget

	Amount	Description
Research time/Salary costs	€	[description how budget will be spent]
Data linkage	€	[description how budget will be spent]
Presentation / publication costs	€	[description how budget will be spent]

3. Scientific importance (max 0.5 page)

Should contain the research question, hypothesis and the scientific relevance.



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4. Statistical analysis plan (max 1 page)

Should contain at least a sample size calculation and how to handle missing data.