

# **European Medicines Shortages Research Network - addressing supply problems to patients**

## **COST Action “Medicines Shortages” (CA15105)**

### **Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM)**

#### **Call for STSM Applications**

The COST Action “Medicines Shortages” (CA15105) supports **Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSM)** performed by applicants of COST Member Countries, Near Neighbor Countries (NNC), or International Partner Countries (IPC).

**The collection date for this call is 09-December-2018.**

#### **Who can apply?**

Early Career Researchers (ECR), such as PhD students, post-doctoral or permanent researchers, who are affiliated members of an institution in a COST country. Currently, 26 countries are enrolled with the COST Action “Medicines Shortages”, but other applicants from other countries can apply too. For more information, see <http://www.cost.eu/>

#### **The STSM requirements**

The applicant has to spend the STSM totality in the host institution of a different COST Member Country (or approved NNC, or IPC) from their own.

STSMs need to take place according to the following rules:

- Minimum duration, 5 days;
- Maximum duration, 90 days;
- Fully carried out before 30-April-2019  
(end of the third Grant Period for the Action).

However, exceptions can be made for ECRs wishing to stay for 91-180 days.

For more details about STSM, and specific rules concerning financial support, please refer to the **COST Vademecum**

(see “Relevant documents” at <http://www.cost.eu/participate> )

## The application process

1. The applicants must carefully read the funding rules detailed in the COST Vademecum;
2. STSM applications can be made by clicking at <https://e-services.cost.eu/STSM> ; the applicants must have an e-COST profile with bank account information.
3. The applicants must obtain a letter of invitation from the Host Institution confirming that they can undertake the STSM on the given dates.
4. The applicants must complete, submit, and download the STSM application from the e-COST-system.
5. The applicants must send the submitted STSM application form and the relevant supporting documents to the STSM committee (Darija Kuruc, [darijakuruc21@gmail.com](mailto:darijakuruc21@gmail.com) ; João Miranda, [ilm.estgp08@yahoo.com](mailto:ilm.estgp08@yahoo.com) ) before the STSM deadline expires.
6. In summary, the supporting documents are:
  - a) The submitted STSM application form, including the budget (as point 4, downloadable when the online application is submitted at e-COST);
  - b) A motivation letter, including an overview of the proposed activities; it must contain a work-plan highlighting the proposed contribution to the scientific objectives of the COST Action “Medicines Shortages”;
  - c) A short C.V., including the scientific degrees (with dates), the current position, previous work experience/positions, post-graduate courses, and a list of academic publications – if applicable.
  - d) Letter of invitation, from a senior researcher affiliated to the Host Institution (e.g., Associate Professor, Professor, Head of Department or equivalent);
  - e) A letter of support from the Home Institution.

## The selection criteria

The application will then be assessed by the STSM committee against the perceived contribution that the proposed mission will make against the scientific objectives outlined in the Action's Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). Namely:

- Scientific interest of the STSM in the scope of COST Action "Medicines Shortages";
- Relevance to the Action;
- Cooperation with Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITC) as in [http://www.cost.eu/about\\_cost/strategy/excellence-inclusiveness](http://www.cost.eu/about_cost/strategy/excellence-inclusiveness)

The STSM will be approved by the Core Group (CG) of the COST Action "Medicines Shortages", under proposal of the STSM committee within the Action. Successful applicants will be shortly notified after the collection date.

## Final report

After the STSM is finished, the grantee is required to submit a report to the host institution, and to the STSM Coordinator, no later than 30 days after the end date of the STSM.

For the specific content of the final report, please refer to the **COST Vademecum**.

Please note that the reimbursement will be done after the mission is over, and the final report is submitted by the STSM participant. Failure to submit the scientific report within 30 days will cancel the grant.

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