Research of the present is the progress and health of the future.
A researcher in the NATED project: Diagnosis using nanotechnology for late onset sepsis in low birth weight neonates (Universidad de Alcalá) looking into a microscope
Supporting researchers for the health and progress of society

Research and health

How could the world be transformed if more support were given to scientific research? How many important challenges in biomedical research, in health, in society... could we overcome? We’re leaders, dreamers, scientists, entrepreneurs... And at “la Caixa” Foundation we want to build a better world for us all.

That’s why, at “la Caixa” Foundation’s CaixaResearch, we support scientific research and innovation in health to build a more advanced society for everyone, to build the world you imagine. What follows are some examples of how we promote research, innovation and scientific talent through different programmes and initiatives.

We promote advances in biomedical research and innovation and support researchers and doctors in Spain and Portugal so they can provide solutions for cancer and infectious, cardiovascular and neurological diseases, the most serious and widespread groups of illness in the world.

We support universities, leading research centres and hospitals by setting up collaboration agreements, as well as research groups that can apply for research and innovation grants in our public CaixaResearch calls.

We also promote the training of students and researchers with the greatest potential so they can be trained at the best universities and research centres around the world through our Fellowship Programme.
CaixaResearch

The science that drives progress

Thanks to “la Caixa” Foundation’s CaixaResearch, we’ve established an extensive network of collaborators with the major research centres that carry out high quality scientific research with a great impact on society and potential to transform.

Aims:

- **Accelerate** advances in scientific research in the areas of life and health sciences.
- **Pass on** the results of scientific research and innovation to the whole of society.
- **Foster** the talent of the most relevant researchers in the area of health and biomedicine.

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**CaixaResearch 2021 in figures**

1,096 scientific articles published

€36 M total investment

**Among other areas:**

- €8.7 M in oncology
- €9 M in infectious diseases
- €4.6 M in cardiovascular diseases
- €8.2 M in neurosciences

* \( M = \) million

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Scientists working in the laboratory
The research that helps us to advance

Through the CaixaResearch programme, we support cutting-edge research excellence, and we do so by prioritising health research projects and by focusing on the most widespread diseases in the world with a higher mortality and morbidity rate.

These are the areas of action with the greatest impact on society:

**Biomedicine and health**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Infectious diseases</strong></th>
<th><strong>Oncology</strong></th>
<th><strong>Neuroscience</strong></th>
<th><strong>Cardiovascular disease</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>We support the fight against COVID-19, AIDS, malaria and other infectious diseases that are a major cause of death in low-income countries.</td>
<td>We promote research and innovation projects to combat cancer, the second cause of death in the world, with the aim of finding treatments that offer better therapeutic options.</td>
<td>We foster progress in diagnosing Alzheimer’s and other neurological and neurodegenerative diseases. Over 1 billion people suffer from neurological and mental disorders.</td>
<td>We collaborate with highly prestigious research bodies to produce new and better treatments for heart disease, the number one cause of death in the world.</td>
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For more information, visit: [lacaixafoundation.org](http://lacaixafoundation.org)
We are promoting the creation of the CaixaResearch Institute, a new centre for research into health and life sciences. A centre comprising 19,000 m² next to CosmoCaixa, with space for over 300 researchers. To build a society with more opportunities for everyone, to build a better world.

With the CaixaResearch Institute, "la Caixa" Foundation has confirmed its strong commitment to the progress of science and society. Its aim is to contribute towards solving the major challenges facing health, both in the present and future, such as infectious diseases, global health, oncology and neurodegenerative diseases and neuroscience.

This new institute will focus on health research and innovation excellence, both preclinical and translational, with the aim of improving the well-being of the population and global health, whose importance has been highlighted even further by the global COVID-19 pandemic.

The CaixaResearch Institute will strengthen the intense research work promoted by "la Caixa" Foundation in recent years in the fields of infectious diseases, global health, oncology and neurodegenerative diseases and neuroscience, seeking complementarities and synergies with the four research centres with which it currently has a strategic collaboration agreement: the Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal), IrsiCaixa AIDS Research Institute, Vall d’Hebron Institute of Oncology (VHIO) and Barcelonaβeta Brain Research Center (BBRC).
Strategic support for research centres

At “la Caixa” Foundation we promote research and innovation excellence in health, providing strategic support to centres that lead investigations into the most important infectious diseases such as AIDS, malaria and COVID-19, cancer, Alzheimer’s and other neurodegenerative diseases.

Strategic collaborations with IrsiCaixa, ISGlobal, Vall d’Hebron Institute of Oncology, Barcelonaβeta Brain Research Center, and structural collaborations with CNIC, CNIO, CSIC General Foundation, SHE Foundation.

IrsiCaixa AIDS Research Institute
The IrsiCaixa AIDS Research Institute, set up by “la Caixa” Foundation and the Catalan government, was inaugurated in 1995 to tackle the AIDS pandemic. In 2020 it celebrated 25 years of existence, during which time it has become an international benchmark for infectious diseases, immune system disorders, emerging viruses such as COVID-19 and vaccine development.

Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal)
Created in 2010, the Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal) has consolidated an internationally renowned node of excellence in global health research. Its main areas of research are infectious and non-communicable diseases and their relationship with the environment. The ultimate goal of its projects is to redress health-related inequalities in the different populations of the world.

Vall d’Hebron Institute of Oncology (VHIO)
VHIO’s Research Unit for Molecular Therapy of Cancer (UITM) - CaixaResearch was set up in 2010 with the aim of promoting innovation in new and increasingly personalised therapies against cancer. In the past 10 years, UITM-CaixaResearch has carried out over 1,300 clinical trials for new cancer drugs, benefitting over 7,800 patients.

Barcelonaβeta Brain Research Center (BBRC)
Since 2010, “la Caixa” Foundation has been collaborating with the Barcelonaβeta Brain Research Center (BBRC) to promote the Alfa Study, one of the most important international studies for the prevention and early treatment of Alzheimer’s disease. The Alpha Study is one of the most complex research initiatives with the largest number of participants in the world, totalling 2,700 people with no cognitive impairment, dedicated to the early detection and prevention of Alzheimer’s.
CaixaResearch

Our driving force is research into biomedicine and health

We support excellent research and innovation to tackle major challenges in different areas of health, primarily oncology, infectious, cardiovascular and neurological diseases and medical sciences, but also supporting other basic and cutting-edge biomedical research projects.

The projects are selected via competitive public calls for proposals, chosen by international evaluators.

Since 2018

105

projects selected from 31 institutions in Spain and 9 institutions in Portugal.

*14 projects subsidised by FCT

€74.6 M

granted

*€11.8 M subsidised by FCT

*M = million

Calls for biomedical research

Health research

Call for research projects in biomedicine and health whose mission is to identify and promote the most promising initiatives with the greatest scientific excellence and the biggest potential value and social impact, whether in basic, clinical or translational research.

FCT Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia

Research into new urban challenges

Call promoted by Barcelona City Council and "la Caixa" Foundation as part of the Barcelona Science 2020-2023 Plan to promote research projects that focus on tackling the most pressing urban challenges: ageing and quality of life, mobility and protecting the environment.

Ajuntament de Barcelona
CaixaResearch Debates

This Cycle of Debates aims to raise awareness of the results produced by projects led by researchers and doctors supported by "la Caixa" Foundation’s Research Programme.
CaixaResearch
We promote biomedical innovation

At “la Caixa” Foundation we strive to ensure the results of research and innovation in health have the greatest possible social impact and are translated into solutions capable of contributing to improving people’s health.

In 2015 we created CaixaResearch Validate (formerly CaixaImpulse) together with Caixa Capital Risc. Through this call for proposals, we promote the transfer of the results of biomedical research to society and the market by creating new solutions, treatments, products and spin-offs. We do this by providing financial support to develop translational projects, as well as offering training, mentoring and networking with experts and investors.

Calls for innovation
We promote innovation, the transfer of knowledge and technology to society and the creation of new research-based companies.

1.
CaixaResearch Validate
Call that supports projects in their early stages that need to validate their transfer potential.

2.
CaixaResearch Consolidate
Call that supports projects at a more mature stage of development which are more likely to attract private investment.

3.
CaixaResearch COVID-19
Special call to support clinical proposals that include cutting-edge technology in projects focused on preventing, treating, monitoring and diagnosing COVID-19.

*A single extraordinary call was held in 2020.
€15.9 M to subsidise projects

156 projects by 60 organisations

74 patents generated

29 spin-offs created

4 new spin-offs created in 2021

*M = million
Fellowships

We foster talent and progress

Doctoral and postdoctoral fellowships, aimed at researchers of all nationalities who wish to carry out their research projects at universities or research centres in Spain or Portugal. These fellowships last three years and there are two types: Incoming, to attract talent, and Retaining, to retain the best researchers.

Our commitment to the future is realised by promoting learning and training, because we’re convinced that scientific progress, research, mobility and professional skills are key to the development of people and society as a whole.

Fellowships granted in 2021

<table>
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<tr>
<th>65</th>
<th>45</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>doctoral fellowships</td>
<td>postdoctoral fellowships</td>
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Paula Córdoba ("la Caixa" Foundation fellow at the Barcelona Supercomputing Centre - CNS)
### Research and health

**Research of the present is the progress and health of the future**

#### CaixaResearch

**We support research centres and universities in Spain and Portugal, as well as their researchers and doctors**

**We promote innovative health research projects**

We hold the largest call for health research projects in Spain and Portugal.

**We innovate for the progress of society**

We foster the transfer of knowledge and technology to society and the creation of new research-based companies.

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**Programme started in 1995**

#### Since 2015:

- **156** projects chosen
- **74** patents generated
- **29** spin-offs created

#### In 2021:

- **16** Validate projects
- **9** Consolidate projects

#### Since 2018:

- **105** projects chosen
- **40** institutions in Spain and Portugal (31 Spain and 9 Portugal)

#### In 2021:

- **€74.6 M** granted

#### In 2021:

- **€36 M**
  - invested in:
    - Oncology
    - Neuroscience
    - Infectious diseases
    - Cardiovascular diseases
    - Other health sciences
  - **1,096** scientific articles published
  - **453** researchers hired

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* *M = million*
Fellowships

“la Caixa” Foundation fellowships

We promote research talent at the best national and international research centres and universities.

Fellowships granted in 2021:

- **65** doctoral fellowships
- **45** postdoctoral fellowships

Programme started in 1982
"la Caixa" Foundation
It’s only progress if we all progress