



**University  
of Basel**

Department of  
Clinical Research



**University Hospital  
Basel**

# **PPI in the IICT call & Clinical Research Center (CRC) support**

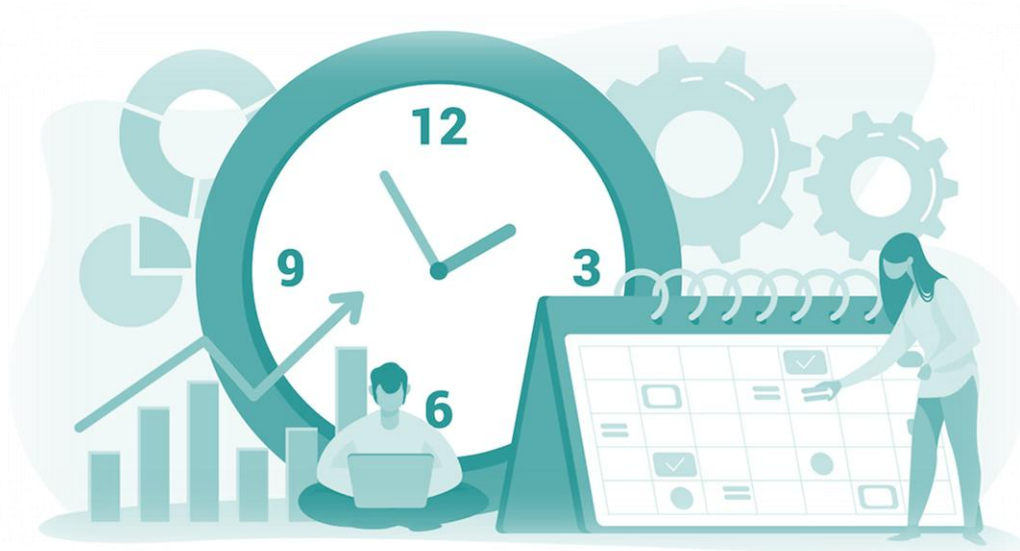
Sandra Kohlmaier, Senior Scientific Officer Training & Education, Project Lead PPI,  
Department of Clinical Research (DKF) Basel

Online course: SNSF IICT 2026 call: How to successfully address PPI requirements  
03.03.2026



# Agenda.

- 1 IICT call & PPI: Process and timelines
- 2 IICT call & PPI: Requirements
- 3 IICT call & PPI: CRC support
- 4 Q&A



Picture from [freepik](#)

**Do you already have experience with the SNSF IICT call?**



# IICT call & PPI: Process and timelines.

from mid-April  
via **mySNF** account  
until 26.05.2026, 17:00  
Swiss local time

## Call for proposals – Investigator initiated clinical trials 2026



### Submission deadline

Letters of intent and PPI preparatory grant:

26.05.2026

Full proposals: 03.11.2026

### Contact

Projects Life Sciences

Caroline Krüger

Email: [iict@snf.ch](mailto:iict@snf.ch)

Share 



- Clinical trials on unmet medical & social needs
- **Important for patients**
- Outside the industry focus
- Randomised controlled trials (RCTs) only ([ClinO](#), [ClinO-MD](#))

Please check: [IICT call checklist](#)

[SNF IICT call](#)

# IICT call & PPI: Process and timelines.

## **PPI TO BE ADDRESSED** in

- [Letter of Intent](#) (Lol) (optional: **PPI-preperatory grant**)
- [Proposal](#)
- Potentially in evaluation-report rebuttal letter (1st time in 2024 call, March 25)



# IICT call & PPI: Process and timelines. When and How PPI?

- For **each** & during the **entire** clinical research project
- Right from the beginning/at the planning phase - **the earlier the better** = greatest benefit



- PPI activities individual & dependent on research project

# IICT call & PPI: Process and timelines.



## PPI PREPARATORY GRANT

Involvement of PPI representatives/contributors\* in **development of application & planning of PPI activities** during the entire research project

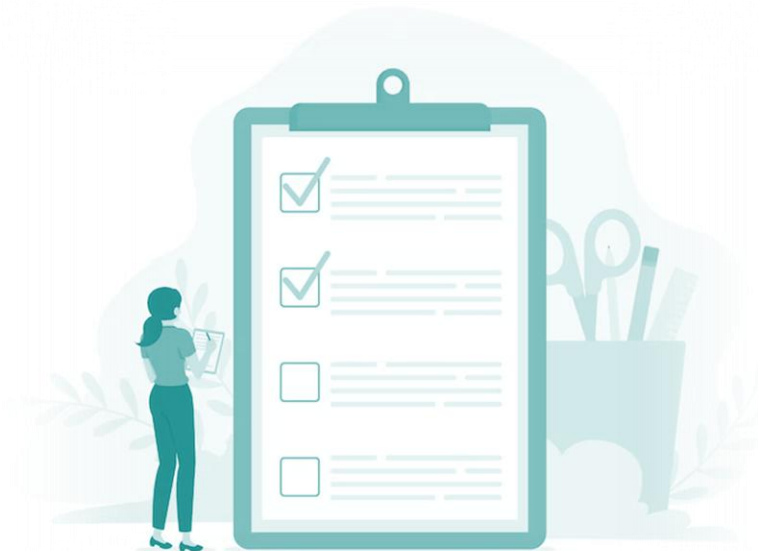
- Up to **5 000 CHF** for
  - compensation of the PPI representatives (time, travel costs, accommodation, meals)
  - Costs for organisation of meetings for PPI activities (no study team salaries)
- **To dos:**
  - PPI activities in planning phase with budget specification in "**Patient Engagement Plan**" in Lol can be used for Prep. grant
  - Submission as Lol on **26 May** (separate, new number in mySNF)
  - Agreements with PPI contributors (SCTO template [EN](#), [DE](#), [FR](#), [IT](#)) / SNSF [template "Letter of commitment" for patient representatives](#)
  - Final financial report to be submitted (end of the funding period) and approved by SNSF

\* patients, caregivers, relatives, patient organisation, public

[SNF IICT call](#)

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# IICT call & PPI: Requirements.

**26. May**

Letter of Intent (LoI) &  
PPI Preparatory grant

**01. Nov**

Proposal

# IICT call & PPI: Requirements.

## LoI / PPI Preparatory grant

### 3. Patient engagement plan

Please use the following template to explain the patient engagement planned until the proposal submission. Note: this plan forms the basis for the budget that can be requested as a preparatory grant at the same time as the LOI (but in a separate submission on mySNF).

<b>Activity</b>	<b>What is the role of the PPI contributor(s)?</b>	<b>What is the objective of the activity?</b>	<b>Budget</b>  (travel/accommodation, meals)
<i>PPI activity(ies) in the <b>planning phase</b> (each separately, PPI contributors, method)</i>	<i>Concrete <b>role/task and expectations</b> of PPI contributor(s)</i>	<i><b>Benefit/added-value</b> of PPI activity(ies)</i>	<i>Amount of money for PPI activities <b>before</b> proposal submission (up to 5 000 CHF <b>preparatory grant</b>)</i>
<i>Total Sum</i>			<i>Total Cost</i>

**SCTO-PPI compensation policy!**

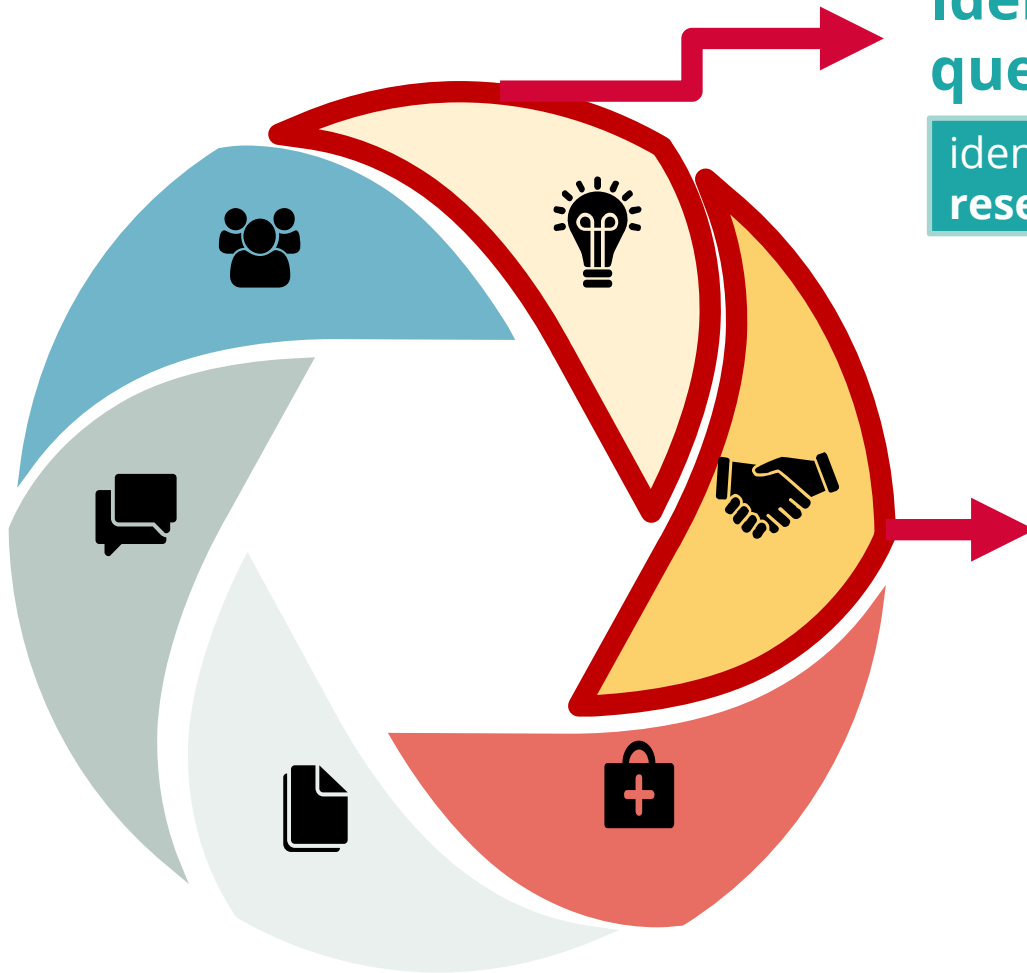
# SNSF IICT call & PPI: Preparatory grant – LoI

## Example “Study Endpoints”.

Activity	What is the role of the PPI contributor(s)?	What is the objective of the activity?	Budget <b>BEISPIEL</b> -Compensation (hourly/half-day/day) -Reimbursement (travel/accommodation/meals)
<p><b>BEFORE</b> the proposal submission:</p> <p><b>Focus group</b> (1 individual patient, 1 caregiver and 1 patient expert) to <b>identify and prioritise patient relevant endpoints</b> of the study e.g. <b>PROMs</b></p>	<p><b>Role PPI contributors:</b></p> <p>-Prepare for and provide advice in focus group meeting identifying relevant &amp; important endpoints/ PROMs from the patient’s perspective</p>	<p>Ensures study endpoints(s) are -relevant for patients (e.g. QoL/PROMs)</p>	<p><b>Compensation:</b> 3 hours = 1 half-day preparation and meeting 3xCHF 90/h Subtotal Compensation: <b>CHF 810</b></p> <p><b>Reimbursement:</b> SFR 155 PPI/visit: <b>Travel costs PPI/visit-</b> • 120 CHF SBB ticket <b>Meal Costs PPI/visit:</b> • 35 CHF (1 Meal Centro, Coffee/Gipfeli) All PPIs (x3): <b>CHF 465</b></p> <p><b>Total: CHF 1275</b></p>

# PPI for LoI / Preparatory grant.

## Examples PPI activities



### Identification of research questions (1)

identify (patient-) relevant research question

More examples:  
“PPI in practice talk”

### Study design and funding application (2)

identify/prioritise patient relevant study endpoints, patient specific intercurrent events\*

improve the recruitment strategy and visit-planning

support planning PPI activities throughout the research project

\*Identification of patient specific events that may affect the effectiveness of the treatment/interpretation of study results (intercurrent events, ICH-GCP E9)  
Adapted from [SCTO Fact Sheet PPI](#) and «PPI in the nutshell, 12. April 2022, SCTO: <https://www.scto.ch/en/event-calendar/ppi-in-a-nutshell-online-course/past-courses.html>

# IICT call & PPI: Requirements.

**26. May**

Letter of Intent (LoI) &  
PPI Preparatory grant

**01. Nov**

Proposal

# IICT call & PPI: Requirements.

## Proposal - 2 parts

Proposal

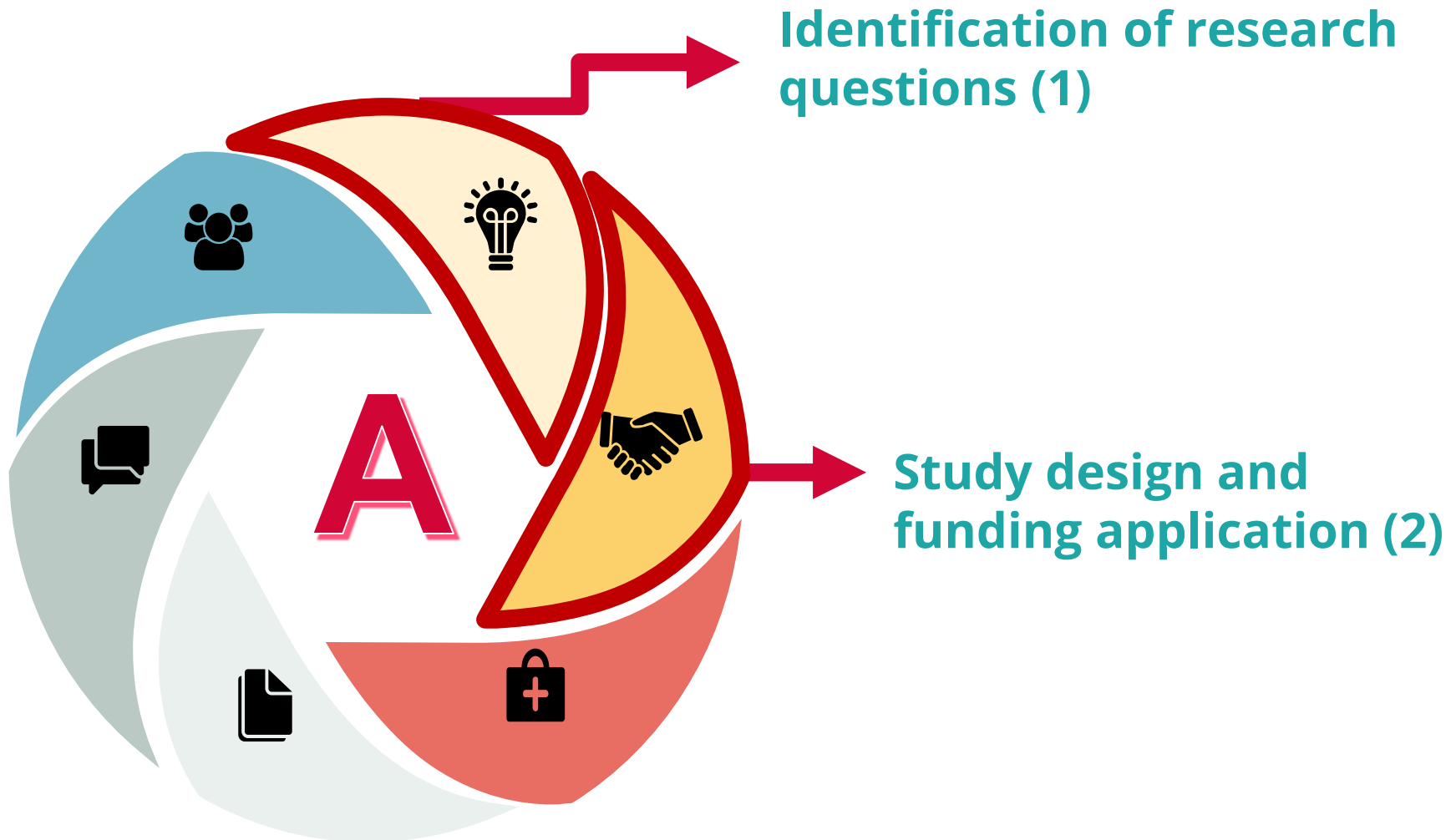
**A**

Activities **BEFORE** the proposal submission

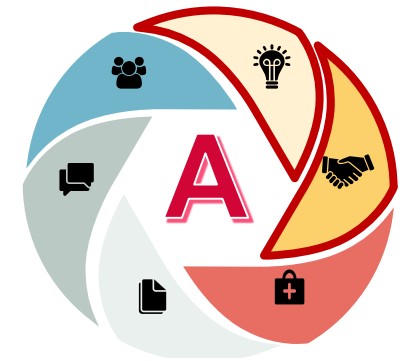
**B**

Activities planned **DURING** and **AFTER** the trial conduct

# PPI for Proposal – part A. Activities BEFORE proposal submission



# PPI for Proposal - part A.

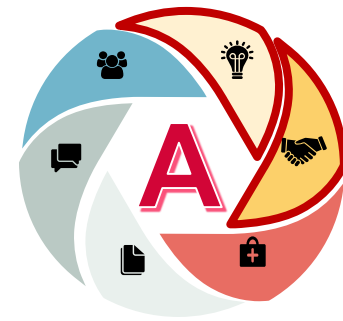


A) Activities that have already taken place **BEFORE** the proposal submission:

Activity	What was the role of the PPI contributor(s)?	What was the objective?	How did it influence the study submitted? Please describe the benefit of the involvement.
<p><i>See your Lol</i></p> <p><i>If applicable: describe additional activities not included in your Lol</i></p>	<p><i>See your Lol</i></p>	<p><i>See your Lol</i></p>	<p><i>Effect of PPI-activity in preparation phase on trial planning &amp; design</i></p>

# SNF IICT call & PPI: Proposal Example.

## Part A.

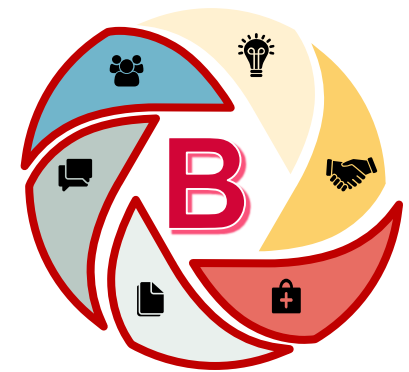


### A

Activities that have already taken place **BEFORE** the proposal submission:

Activity	What was the role of the PPI contributor(s)?	What was the objective?	How did it influence the study submitted? Please describe the benefit of the involvement.
<p><b>Focus group meeting</b> (5 PPI contributors)</p> <p>2 individual patient 1 caregiver 1 PO representative 1 patient expert</p>	<p>Prepare for and provide advice in focus group meeting on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- primary endpoints (patient relevant &amp; important endpoints/ PROMs from the patient's perspective)</li> <li>- Recruitment plan</li> <li>- Visit plan</li> <li>- Study duration and burden for patients</li> <li>- PPI involvement during the study</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ensures study endpoints(s) are relevant for patients (e.g. QoL/PROMs)</li> <li>- Ensure recruitment plan, visit plan, study duration are feasible and patient friendly</li> <li>- Ensure suitable and patient relevant PPI activities for the whole study</li> </ul>	<p><b>Influence:</b> adjustment and change of study endpoints, study design.</p> <p><b>Benefit:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-new QoL primary endpoint identified and endpoints changed</li> <li>-study-endpoints: patient relevant endpoints have been identified and prioritized</li> <li>-reduced burden for study population (e.g. change of visit plan....)</li> <li>-strategy for relevant, meaningful PPI activities during and after the study</li> </ul>

# PPI for Proposal – part B.



B) Activities planned **DURING** and **AFTER** the trial conduct:

Phase	Activity	What is the role of the PPI contributor(s)?	What is the objective?
Management and study process			
Data analysis	<i>PPI activity(ies) <b>during</b> and <b>after</b> your study</i>	<i>As done for Lol</i>	<i>As done for Lol</i>
Dissemination and implementation			
Evaluation			

**Budget PPI Proposal:** at funding on [mySNF](#) under cost category “Patient and Public Involvement”

[SCTO-PPI compensation policy!](#)

# PPI for Proposal – part B.

## Examples PPI activities

### Evaluation (6)

evaluate PPI activities & "lessons learned", ideas for future studies

### Dissemination and implementation (5)

improve **understandability** and **communication** of lay summary of study results

### Data analysis (4)

evaluate **risk-benefit aspect** of patients in **safety** monitoring e.g. DSMB

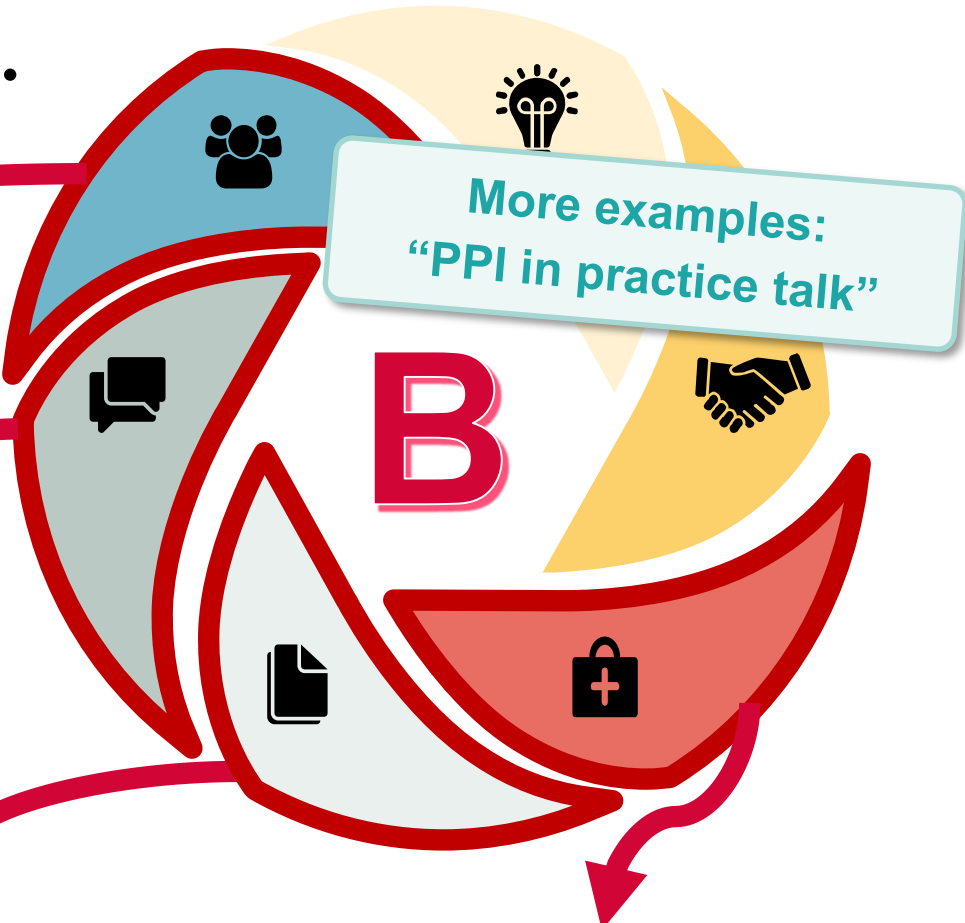
### Management and study process (3)

increase **patient-friendly visit plan/study design**

improve **understandability** **Informed Consent** and Lay Summary

patient perspective as **member of Advisory Board** e.g. Amendments

Adapted from [SCTO Fact Sheet PPI](#)  
DSMB = Data Safety Monitoring Board



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Picture from [freepik](#)

# IICT call: CRC support SNSF recommendation.

## HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

- Use of CRC support
- Contact your local CRC as early as possible (now)
- Letter of support (LoS, involvement of the CRC) to be submitted with the Lol & full proposal



# IICT call & PPI: CRC support SCTO CRC Network.



- **7 CRC network members:** [DCR Bern](#), [CRC Geneva](#), [CRC Lausanne](#), [CTU-EOC Lugano](#), [CTU HOCH St.Gallen](#), [CTC Zürich](#), [DKF Basel](#)

# IICT call & PPI: CRC support

## Example: DKF Basel.



DKF



### PPI Support DKF

#### ➤ Consulting

- All PPI Qs (e.g. which PPI-activities, with whom, how, overcoming challenges)

#### ➤ Support

- Preparation PPI-activities (incl. review PPI documents e.g. Lol/Proposal PPI-plan/rebuttal letter & cost estimation)
- Implementation of PPI-activities (e.g. search PPI-representatives, moderation)

#### ➤ Network/active exchange

- E.g. USB Patient Advisory Board, SCTO PPI Working Group – open to suggestions!

### PPI Information DKF (website)

### PPI Education DKF

- P&R: online course & Workshop „Together for research that takes us further” – **28. April**
- Patients: online course “Patient involvement in medical research” in D/F/I
- Patients: [EUPATHI CH patient expert training](#) (D) – registration for 2026 course open
  - 2 courses 23/24 at DKF with around 40 patient experts



Picture from [freepik](#)

# IICT call & PPI: CRC support

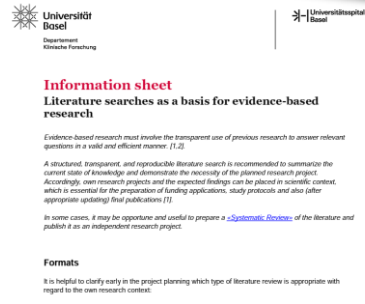
## Example: DKF Basel.

Please come as early as possible!  
 e.g. [DKF Basel contact form](#)



### Development of research question

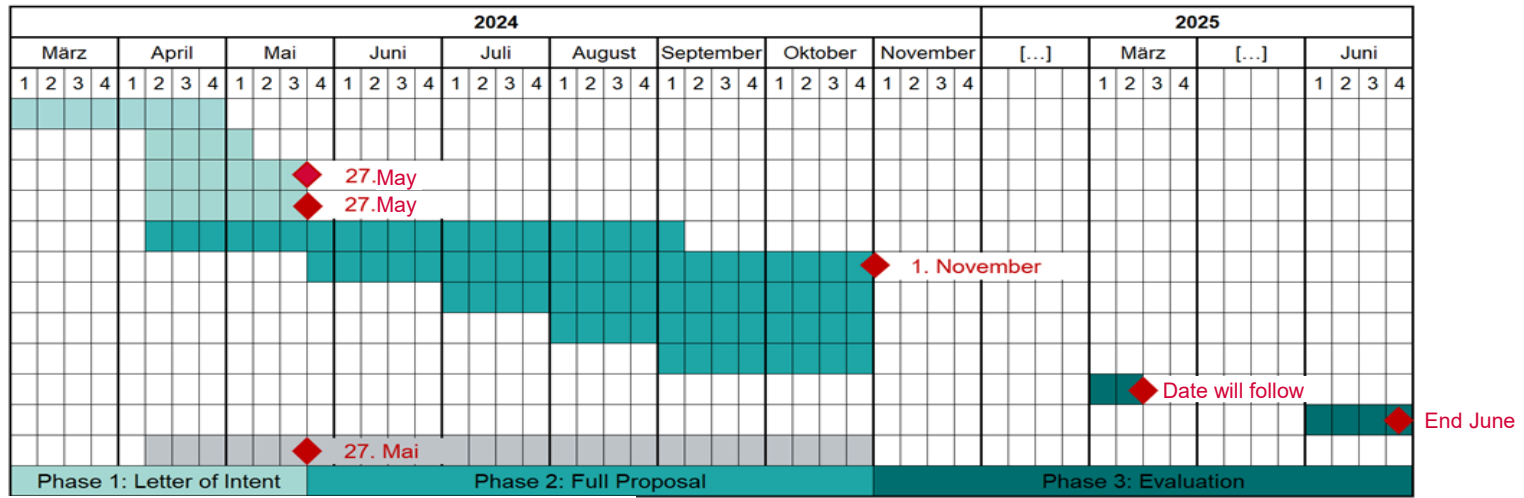
➤ Information sheet: [literature search](#)



### Milestones for submission

➤ Keep overview: [DKF Key Points Plan](#) (DE)

1. Suitability of project
2. Registration mySNF
3. Letter of Intend (Lol)
4. PPI Prep. Grant
5. Sample size
6. PPI activities (planning)
7. Budget estimation
8. Data Management Plan
9. Full Proposal
10. Rebuttal Letter
11. Approval/Refusal



To use in combination with [SNSF-IICT-Call Checklist](#)

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Picture from [freepik](#)

# Q&A.



**Do you think PPI activities are helpful for your clinical research project?**



**Would you integrate PPI into your research project if it were not required for the SNSF IICT call?**





University  
of Basel

Department of  
Clinical Research



University Hospital  
Basel

# Thank you.

SNSF IICT call & beyond:

**PPI = THE „new normal“**



Bild von Freepik

Comments/questions: [sandra.kohlmaier@usb.ch](mailto:sandra.kohlmaier@usb.ch)