

The Ministry of Health centralises most planning and regulatory activities, while local health units are responsible at the local level for the strategic management of population health, the supervision of National Health Service hospitals, the direct management of public primary care centers and providers, and the implementation of national health policy objectives. Portugal's response to the COVID-19 crisis was concentrated in national institutions. (from State of Health in the EU Portugal Country Health Profile 2021 [https://health.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2021-12/2021\\_chp\\_pt\\_english.pdf](https://health.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2021-12/2021_chp_pt_english.pdf))

In May 2023, Portugal approved its National Health Plan 2021-2030 (NHP), a long-term strategy defining the country's key health policy objectives up to 2030. The NHP is based on a comprehensive analysis of projected population health needs and was developed through extensive stakeholder consultations. Its primary focus is on promoting sustainable health, with key objectives including reducing health inequalities, mitigating behavioral risk factors, and managing major communicable and non-communicable diseases.

Drawing lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic, the NHP explicitly addresses less prevalent health system risks that could pose significant future threats if not tackled, such as the direct and indirect effects of climate change on virus behavior and their vectors. The Directorate-General for Health (DGS) will oversee the implementation of the NHP in collaboration with other health system bodies and services. To ensure its effective implementation over time, the NHP includes a Monitoring and Evaluation Plan as well as a Strategic Communication Plan.

Additionally, Portugal has implemented its Programme for the Prevention and Control of Infections and Antimicrobial Resistance over the past decade. The most recent National Plan to Combat AMR (2019-2023) outlines six objectives and a comprehensive set of actions, including the adoption of a One Health approach, which aims to reduce antibiotic usage through coordination among the human health, animal health, and environmental sectors.

(from State of Health in the EU Portugal Country Health Profile 2023 [https://health.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-12/2023\\_chp\\_pt\\_english.pdf](https://health.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-12/2023_chp_pt_english.pdf))

## **R&I Policies and Strategies**

*The information is not exhaustive and should be updated regularly*

Country has a dedicated strategy for research and innovation related to pandemic threat? **Yes**  
R&I strategy URL

Country has an open science portal with information on publicly financed scientific research? **Yes**  
R&I portal <https://www.fct.pt/>

Country has R&I webpage on Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) threats; Other

Website open science/ open data initiative with respect to pandemic threats, such as COVID-19 open

Name	URL	Short Description
	<a href="http://www.prociv.pt/bk/PROTECAOCIVIL/LEGISLACAONORMATIVOS/Directivas/ANPC_DON-3_NRBQ.pdf">http://www.prociv.pt/bk/PROTECAOCIVIL/LEGISLACAONORMATIVOS/Directivas/ANPC_DON-3_NRBQ.pdf</a> <a href="https://anpaq.mne.gov.pt/pt/quem-somos">https://anpaq.mne.gov.pt/pt/quem-somos</a>	
INSaFlu	<a href="https://insaflu.insa.pt/">https://insaflu.insa.pt/</a>	INSaFLU ("INSide the FLU") is a free bioinformatics web-based (also locally installable) suite that deals with primary sequencing data (Illumina, Ion Torrent and Oxford Nanopore Technologies reads) towards: metagenomics virus detection (from reads to virus detection). routine genomic surveillance (from reads to mutation detection, consensus generation, virus classification, alignments, "genotype-phenotype", screening, phylogenetics, integrative Nextstrain phylogeographical and temporal analysis etc).

Country has coordinating structures to link public health needs and research needs? **Yes**

Coordinating structures URL <https://aicib.pt/>

## **R&I Infrastructures, Initiatives and Clinical Trials** *The initiatives are listed in alphabetical order, are not exhaustive and should be updated regularly*

Country has the following research infrastructure for infectious diseases and outbreaks available, or under construction 27 BSL 3 including ASBL for animal and vectors studies; Emergency intervention units; Open genome deposits for viruses; Open genome deposits for bacteria

Name Infrastructure	Type Infrastructure	URL	Max Capacity	Available for	Open to
Biobanco GHM-IHMT – Biotropical Resources	Biobank	<a href="https://www.ihmt.unl.pt/investigacao/biobanco/">https://www.ihmt.unl.pt/investigacao/biobanco/</a>		Yes	Yes
ERINHA	BSL3 and BSL4	<a href="https://www.erinha.eu/">https://www.erinha.eu/</a>		Yes	Yes
National Infrastructures in Portugal	Medical and Biological sciences	<a href="https://forumgdi.rcaap.pt/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/6oForumGDI_Roteiro2020_DC_Vf.pdf">https://forumgdi.rcaap.pt/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/6oForumGDI_Roteiro2020_DC_Vf.pdf</a>		Yes	Yes

Country supporting the participation to the following ESFRI initiatives relevant for infectious diseases BBMRI; EATRIS; ECRIN; ELIXIR; ERINHA; MIRRI

Website network of clinical trials (e.g. to facilitate the access to clinical trials) the country is involved in  
<https://eu-response.eu/>  
<https://ecrin.org/>  
<https://aicib.pt/investigadores-profissionais-de-saude/investigacao-clinica/ensaios-clinicos/>  
<https://vaccelerate.eu/>  
<https://portugalclinicaltrials.com/>  
<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/global-research-on-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov/solidarity-clinical-trial-for-covid-19-treatments>  
<http://www.ptcrin.pt/>  
<https://www.edctp.org/>  
<https://www.combacte.com/>

## **Budget mobilisation mechanisms and funding sources**

*The information is not exhaustive and should be updated regularly.*

### **Basic Research**

url <https://www.fct.pt/>  
 funding for basic research accessible for industry? Yes  
 source of funding Public (research) agencies; Private industries/ philanthropic

### **Applied Research**

url <https://www.fct.pt/>  
 funding for applied research accessible for industry? Yes  
 source of funding Public (research) agencies; Private industries/ philanthropic

### **Translational Research**

url <https://www.fct.pt/>  
 funding accessible for industry? Yes  
 source of funding Public (research) agencies; Private industries/ philanthropic

### **Clinical Research (in general)**

url <https://www.fct.pt/>  
 funding accessible for industry? Yes  
 source of funding Public (research) agencies; Private industries/ philanthropic  
 phase funded? Phase 1; Phase 2; Phase 3; Phase 4

### **Clinical Research (in pandemic phase)**

url <https://www.fct.pt/>  
 accessible for industry? Yes

source of funding      Public (research) agencies; Private industries/ philanthropic  
phase funded ?    Phase 1; Phase 2; Phase 3; Phase 4

### Innovation Projects

url      <https://www.ani.pt/>

funding for innovation projects accessible for industry relevant for infectious diseases?    Yes

source of funding      Public (research) agencies; Private industries/ philanthropic

Flexible funding in case of emergencies is possible <https://www.acss.min-saude.pt/category/prestadores/sns-financeiro/>

## **R&I actors, authorities and activated processes that are activated in case of a health threat**

*The actors are listed in alphabetical order, the list is not exhaustive and should be updated regularly*

R&I actors, authorities and

ministries involved in case of an outbreak; mobilisation processes of research forces; (existing) national or regional structures that advise governments on R&I during emergencies; administrative procedures to diminish the administrative burden for researchers and funding administrations; assessment of research outputs produced during a crisis; incentives ensuring qualitative scientific dissemination during a crisis; international scientific collaboration in case of an outbreak

Name	Description	url
ACSS - Administração Central do Sistema de Saúde	The Central Administration of the Health System, I.P. (ACSS) is a Public Institute, created in 2007, integrated in the indirect administration of the State, with administrative and financial autonomy, which executes the guidelines of the Ministry of Health and is under its supervision and guardianship. The ACSS has jurisdiction over the entire mainland.	<a href="https://www.acss.min-saude.pt/">https://www.acss.min-saude.pt/</a>
AICIB - Agência de Investigação Clínica e Inovação Biomédica	AICIB aims to be a national and European reference as an entity capable of creating the essential conditions to stimulate clinical research and biomedical innovation in Portugal. AICIB's mission is to promote, coordinate and support activities in the areas of clinical and translational research and biomedical innovation, contributing to the optimization of Portugal's clinical, scientific and technological potential.	<a href="https://aicib.pt/">https://aicib.pt/</a>
ANEPC - Autoridade Nacional de Emergência e Proteção Civil	ANEPC is the national authority in matters of emergency and civil protection, being a central service, directly administered by the State, endowed with administrative and financial autonomy and its own assets. ANEPC's mission is to plan, coordinate and execute emergency and civil protection policies, namely in the prevention and response to serious accidents and catastrophes, protection and rescue of populations, coordination of civil protection agents, under the legally established terms, and ensuring the planning and and coordination of national needs in the area of civil emergency planning, with a view to dealing with crisis or war situations. Its mission is also to promote the application, supervision and inspection of compliance with laws, regulations, standards and technical requirements applicable within the scope of its attributions. As a national authority, it articulates and coordinates the activities of entities that develop, under the terms of the law, competencies in matters of emergency and civil protection and protection and assistance.	<a href="http://www.prociv.pt/pt">http://www.prociv.pt/pt</a>
DGS - Directorate-General for Health	The Directorate-General for Health or DGS is the health authority of the Portuguese government, which functions as a service of the Ministry of Health, but is endowed with administrative autonomy. Its function is to regulate, guide and coordinate health promotion and disease prevention activities, in addition to defining the technical conditions for adequate provision of health care.	<a href="https://www.dgs.pt/">https://www.dgs.pt/</a>
FCT - Foundation for Science & Technology	The Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT) is the national public agency for the support of research in science, technology and innovation in all areas of knowledge. It is a public institute of special regime under the tutelage and superintendence of the Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education.	<a href="https://www.fct.pt/">https://www.fct.pt/</a>

## Health Ministry

The Minister of Health formulates, directs, executes and evaluates the national health policy and, in particular, that of the National Health Service, ensuring the sustainable application and use of resources.

<https://www.portugal.gov.pt/en/gc22/ministries/health>

## INFARMED - Autoridade Nacional do Medicamentos e Produtos de Saúde

National Authority for Medicines and Health Products, I.P., referred to in short as Infarmed, is a public institute with a special regime, under the terms of the law, integrated in the indirect administration of the State, endowed with administrative and financial autonomy and its own assets.

<https://www.infarmed.pt/>

## INSA

The National Institute of Health Doctor Ricardo Jorge (Instituto Ricardo Jorge) is a public body, under the supervision of the Ministry of Health, endowed with scientific, technical, administrative, financial autonomy and its own assets. Founded in 1899, the Institute Ricardo Jorge develops a triple mission as a State Research laboratory, Reference Laboratory and Surveillance and Observatory.

<https://www.insa.min-saude.pt/>

## Regional Fund for Science and Technology

The Regional Science and Technology Fund (FRCT) is a public body supervised by the Vice-Presidency of the Regional Government of the Azores, with legal personality and endowed with administrative and financial autonomy. The Regional Science and Technology Fund's mission is to promote, develop and internationalize the Research and Innovation Ecosystem of the Azores,

<http://frct.azores.gov.pt/en/>

## Regional Secretariat of Education, Science and Technology of the Autonomous Region of Madeira

ARDITI, the Regional Agency for the Development of Research, Technology and Innovation supports science and research in Madeira through different funding instruments, aimed at scientists, researchers, research teams and R&D centres

<https://www.madeira.gov.pt/sre/>

## SPMS - Serviços Partilhados do Ministério da Saúde

Shared Services of the Ministry of Health (SPMS) aims to provide specific shared services in the health sector to establishments and services of the National Health Service, regardless of their legal nature, as well as to bodies and services of the Ministry of Health and any other entities, when they carry out specific activities in the health sector.

<https://www.spms.min-saude.pt/>

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BE READY is responding to the call: HORIZON-HLTH-2021-DISEASE-04-06 "Building a European partnership for pandemic preparedness" under grant agreement 101057795. Starting date: 01.06.2022. | End Date 31.05.2025

BE READY PLUS is responding to the call: HORIZON-HLTH-2024-DISEASE-17 "Pandemic preparedness and response: Maintaining and enhancing the preparatory work for a co-funded European partnership for pandemic" under grant agreement 101195079. Starting date: 01.01.2025. | End Date 31.12.2025

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This country profile is based on input received via [https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/BEREADY\\_Questionnaire\\_Observatory](https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/BEREADY_Questionnaire_Observatory) and desktop research and does not contain any private information