

Croatia had a general epidemic response plan in place before the COVID-19 pandemic, and activated it after the outbreak was officially declared. Before the first cases of COVID-19 were reported in Croatia, an Expert Group of the Ministry of Health was set up to start preparing the health system for the pandemic. Initially, the Expert Group had the role of coordinating communication with all stakeholders in the country. Within a month, due to the increasing number of infected people and the need for higher-level supervision and coordination, the National Civil Protection Headquarters was established, together with local civil protection headquarters, and became the main coordinating body for the COVID-19 response from February 2020.

The Croatian Institute of Public Health is the main body regulating surveillance, communication and international reporting. (from State of Health in the EU - Croatia - Country Health Profile 2021  
[https://health.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2021-12/2021\\_chp\\_hr\\_english.pdf](https://health.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2021-12/2021_chp_hr_english.pdf))

Concerning antimicrobial resistance (AMR), antibiotic consumption in Croatia has returned to pre-pandemic levels in contrast to continued lower levels in the EU overall. Moreover, levels of antimicrobial resistance are high in Croatia and the share of antimicrobial consumption from the WHO Access category (first- and second-choice antibiotics that should be widely available) only just met the WHO monitoring target of 60 %, indicating scope for stronger antimicrobial stewardship. Croatia's most recent National Programme for the Control of Antibiotic-Resistant Bacteria 2017-21 identifies six areas for action, including improved monitoring of resistance and consumption, promoting responsible use, preventing and controlling the spread of infection, and raising awareness. (from State of Health in the EU - Croatia - Country Health Profile 2023  
[https://health.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-12/2023\\_chp\\_hr\\_english.pdf](https://health.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-12/2023_chp_hr_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?

R&I strategy URL

Country has an open science portal with information on publicly financed scientific research?

R&I portal

Country has R&I webpage on [COVID-19; MPox; Antimicrobial resistance (AMR); Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) threats; Other WHO viral risks; Others]

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

Name	URL	Short Description
Database of projects funded by the Croatian Science Foundation	<a href="https://hrzz.hr/en/funding/project-database/">https://hrzz.hr/en/funding/project-database/</a>	

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

Coordinating structures URL

## R&I Infrastructures, Initiatives and Clinical Trials

*The initiatives are listed in alphabetical order, the list*

*is not exhaustive and should be updated regularly.*

Country has the following research infrastructure for infectious diseases and outbreaks available, or under construction  
[BSL 3; BSL 4; Emergency intervention units; Clinical trial units; High level isolation units; High level isolation transport; Open genome deposits for viruses; Open genome deposits for bacteria; Open genome deposits for AMR; Reference centres of excellence; Other]

Name Infrastructure	Type Infrastructure	URL	Max Capacity	Available for	Open to
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Country supporting the participation to the following ESFRI initiatives relevant for infectious diseases  
[BBMRI; EATRIS; ECRIN; ERINHA, MIRRI; Other]

Website network of clinical trials (e.g. to facilitate the access to clinical trials) the country is involved in

<https://www.ecraid.eu/>

<https://www.combacte.com/>

Croatia is (or has been) part of the following initiatives (as country or via an organisation in Croatia)

CORDIS ID	Acronym	Name	Url
	Aedes Invasive Mosquito (AIM) COST Action		<a href="https://www.aedescost.eu/">https://www.aedescost.eu/</a>
	COMBACTE	COMBATting BACTERial resistance in Europe	<a href="https://www.combacte.com/">https://www.combacte.com/</a>
	DURABLE	Delivering a Unified Research Alliance of Biomedical and public health Laboratories against Epidemics	<a href="https://durableproject.org/">https://durableproject.org/</a>
965313	ECRAID-Base	European Clinical Research Alliance on Infectious Diseases	<a href="https://www.ecraid.eu/projects/ecraid-base/ecraid-base">https://www.ecraid.eu/projects/ecraid-base/ecraid-base</a>
	ESAC-Net	European Surveillance of Antimicrobial Consumption Network	<a href="https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/about-us/partnerships-and-networks/disease-and-laboratory-networks/esac-net">https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/about-us/partnerships-and-networks/disease-and-laboratory-networks/esac-net</a>
	EU-HIP	EU Interoperability with HERA's IT Platform	<a href="https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/projects-details/43332642/101102774/EU4H">https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/projects-details/43332642/101102774/EU4H</a>
	EU-JAV	EU Joint Action on Vaccination	<a href="https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/projects-details/31061266/801495/3HP">https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/projects-details/31061266/801495/3HP</a>
	EU-WISH	Wastewater Integrated Surveillance for Public Health	<a href="https://www.eu-wish.eu/">https://www.eu-wish.eu/</a>
	EVD-LabNet	Emerging Viral Diseases-Expert Laboratory Network	<a href="https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/about-us/partnerships-and-networks/disease-and-laboratory-networks/evd-labnet">https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/about-us/partnerships-and-networks/disease-and-laboratory-networks/evd-labnet</a>
634446	I-MOVE - Influenza	Monitoring Vaccine Effectiveness in Europe	<a href="https://www.imoveflu.org/">https://www.imoveflu.org/</a>
	InFACT	the International Forum for Acute Care Trialists	<a href="https://www.infactglobal.org/">https://www.infactglobal.org/</a>
	JAMRAI	EU Joint Action on Antimicrobial resistance and Health Care Associated Infections	<a href="https://eu-jamrai.eu/">https://eu-jamrai.eu/</a>
	NDC	Pan-European Network for Disease Control	<a href="https://www.who.int/europe/news-room/events/item/2024/04/22/default-calendar/inaugural-meeting-of-the-pan-european-network-for-disease-control">https://www.who.int/europe/news-room/events/item/2024/04/22/default-calendar/inaugural-meeting-of-the-pan-european-network-for-disease-control</a>
101018317	PHIRI	the Population Health Information Research Infrastructure	<a href="https://www.phiri.eu/">https://www.phiri.eu/</a>

	PREPARE	Platform foR European Preparedness Against (Re-)emerging Epidemics	<a href="https://www.prepare-europe.eu/index.html">https://www.prepare-europe.eu/index.html</a>
101168024	RESILIENCE-R-2023	First research action for Medical counter measures performed in the frame of the RESILIENCE FPA consortium	<a href="https://researchportal.rma.ac.be/en/projects/first-research-action-for-medical-counter-measures-performed-in-t">https://researchportal.rma.ac.be/en/projects/first-research-action-for-medical-counter-measures-performed-in-t</a>
101015924	SHARE-COVID19		<a href="https://share-eric.eu/projects-details/share-covid19">https://share-eric.eu/projects-details/share-covid19</a>
	SHARP JA	Joint Action on Strengthened International Health Regulations and Preparedness in the EU	<a href="https://thl.fi/en/web/thl/research-and-development/research-and-projects/joint-action-on-strengthened-international-health-regulations-and-preparedness-in-the-eu-sharp-ja">https://thl.fi/en/web/thl/research-and-development/research-and-projects/joint-action-on-strengthened-international-health-regulations-and-preparedness-in-the-eu-sharp-ja</a>
	UNITED4Surveillance		<a href="https://united4surveillance.eu/">https://united4surveillance.eu/</a>
	ZODIAC	Zoonotic Disease Integrated Action (IAEA)	<a href="https://www.iaea.org/services/zodiac">https://www.iaea.org/services/zodiac</a>

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

*should be updated regularly.*

*The information is not exhaustive and*

### **Basic Research**

url

funding for basic research accessible for industry?

source of funding

### **Applied Research**

url

funding for applied research accessible for industry?

source of funding

### **Translational Research**

url

funding accessible for industry?

source

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

url

funding accessible for industry?

source of funding

phase funded?

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

url

accessible for industry?

source of funding

phase funded ?

### **Innovation Projects**

url

funding for innovation projects accessible for industry?

source

Flexible funding possible in case of emergency?

# 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; mechanisms to identify promising therapies or medical products for pandemic preparedness that are in the pipeline; international scientific collaboration in case of an outbreak]

Name	Description	url
Agency for medicinal products and medical devices of Croatia (HALMED)	HALMED is involved in case of emergency	<a href="https://www.halmed.hr/en/">https://www.halmed.hr/en/</a>
Civil Protection Directorate – National Crisis Headquarters	The civil protection system is organised at a local, regional, and state level and is involved in case of emergency	<a href="https://civilna-zastita.gov.hr/UserDocsImages/CIVILNA%20ZA%C5%A1TITA/PDF_ZA%20WEB/Bro%C5%A1ura%20Civilna%20za%C5%A1tita-ENG%20final.pdf">https://civilna-zastita.gov.hr/UserDocsImages/CIVILNA%20ZA%C5%A1TITA/PDF_ZA%20WEB/Bro%C5%A1ura%20Civilna%20za%C5%A1tita-ENG%20final.pdf</a>
Croatian Agency for SMEs, Innovation and Investments (HAMAG-BICRO)	HAMMOCK BICRO provides support to entrepreneurs through all development stages of their business - from research and development of an idea all the way to commercialisation and placement on the market.	<a href="https://en.hamagbicro.hr/">https://en.hamagbicro.hr/</a>
Croatian Science Foundation	The Foundation funds competitive scientific, developmental and innovation projects	<a href="https://hrzz.hr/en/">https://hrzz.hr/en/</a>
Hrvatski zavod za javno zdravstvo Croatian Institute of Public Health (HZJZ - CIPH)	Through combining scientific research, health policies and practical implementation, CIPH deals with disease prevention, health promotion, and controlling and combating communicable and non communicable diseases.	<a href="https://www.hzjz.hr/en/">https://www.hzjz.hr/en/</a>
Ministry of Health	The Ministry of Health of Croatia is involved for managing public health emergencies.	<a href="https://zdravlje.gov.hr/">https://zdravlje.gov.hr/</a>
Ministry of Science and Education of the Republic of Croatia	The Ministry develops policy to develop the science, technology and innovation system; the research and other institutions	<a href="https://mzo.gov.hr/en">https://mzo.gov.hr/en</a>

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