OVERVIEW OF THE SPANISH RESPONSE TO PUBLIC HEALTH THREATS

Spain has a decentralised public administration, which have their own health and science competencies, comprising 17 autonomous communities, and two autonomous cities (Ceuta and Melilla located in the north of Africa). Through the Interterritorial Council of the National Health System (CISNS), the Ministry of Health (MISAN) is currently responsible for regulating the bases, coordination and general cohesion of healthcare in Spain. To ensure that common health care services are applied throughout the country, to guarantee the coherence of the actions of the different Public Administrations in health matters, and to avoid contradictions and dysfunctions, so that the population has the same rights regardless of where they live. It is also responsible for foreign health, international health relations and agreements, legislation and evaluation of chemical substances, and pharmaceutical policy. An overview of health in Spain can be found in the «State of Health in the EU – Spain Country Health Profile 2025*» (OECD 2025).

The Health Alerts and Emergencies Coordination Centre (CCAES) coordinates the response to health alerts at the national level within the framework of the National Early Warning and Rapid Response System (SIAPR). It integrates information from the National Epidemiological Surveillance Network (RENAVE), managed by the National Centre of Epidemiology (CNE), and information from the Biological Alert Laboratory Network (RE-LAB) coordinated by the Instituto de Salud Carlos III (ISCIII). The CCAES integrates, records, evaluates information, and conducts risk analysis to facilitate coordinated decision-making by those responsible for responding, both nationally and internationally. In this framework, the Hospital Network for the Care of High-Risk Infectious Diseases ('Red UATAN' in Spanish) plays a key role in providing High-Level Isolation and Treatment Units.

The national Public Health Strategy (ESP 2022) has a cross-cutting and integrative approach, based on the work relating to health determinants, health in all policies, the 'One Health' approach, Sustainable Development Goals 2030, and governance for health. It constitutes a coordination framework for Spain in the public health sphere, promoting evidence-based actions and a population-based approach with special attention to population in situation of vulnerability. This framework set up priority actions related to issues of global public health concern, such as antimicrobial resistance (AMR). The Spanish Global Health Strategy (EESG 2025-2030) establishes a solid framework to strengthen public health and reflects a decisive commitment to multilateralism, cooperation and coordination between stakeholders at both national and international levels. It highlights that Spain defends a global health governance that is resilient and democratic, and based on principles of effectiveness, ownership, and shared responsibility. The Strategy emphasises that «*Global health, understood as a universal public good, requires a capacity to forge partnerships, bold policies, and a firm commitment to human rights; and set out a path to make health a tool for justice, equity and progress*». It focuses on 1) Prevention and preparedness for pandemics and health emergencies. 2) International cooperation, promoting alliances with multilateral organisations. 3) Sustainable development, integrating health into environmental and social policies. 4) Innovation and digitalisation, investing in new technologies for epidemiological surveillance and care. 5) Equity and access, guaranteeing health care for vulnerable groups.

STRATEGIC GOVERNANCE OF SPANISH SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION SYSTEM

The Spanish Science, Technology and Innovation System (SECTI) is made up of all public and private coordination, funding and implementation agents and their relationships, structures, measures and actions for the promotion, development and support of Research, Development, and Innovation (R&D&I) policy in Spain (Law 14/2011). The Spanish Strategy for Scientific, Technical and Innovation Research (EECTI) is a key governance instrument in the Spanish Science, Technology and Innovation System, provides a multi-year framework for promoting and setting shared objectives for all public administrations. It develops the planning of public policies in R&D&I as a result of the monitoring and evaluation of these policies. The EECTI is implemented through the State Plans for Scientific, Technical and Innovation Research (PEICTI). The EECTI with the State Plans that implement it (PEICTI), form the *State Smart Specialisation Strategy,* which provides the framework for integrating regional S3 (Spanish S3 2021-2027*). Spain's Partnership Agreement is a strategic document that outlines the main lines of action and investment priorities in R&D&I for each period of different European funds (AAE 2021-2027).

The Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities (MICIU) is the State Administration Department responsible for implementing the government's policy on scientific and technical research, technological development and innovation in all sectors. This includes managing of international relations in this area and Spanish representation in programmes, forums and organisations within the European Union and other relevant international organisations. It carries out its functions through dependent funding agencies and public bodies with specific remits. The State Research Agency (AEI), the Centre for Technological

Development and Innovation (CDTI), and the Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology, F.S.P. (FECYT). The Public Research Bodies (PRBs) were created for the direct implementation of scientific and technical research, technological service provision, and other complementary activities. The National Scientific Research Council (CSIC), which is structured into three main areas such as Society, Life, and Matter, is the main implementing agent in the Spanish Science, Technology and Innovation System (SECTI) (Annual Report 2024). The Instituto de Salud Carlos III contributes to structure biomedical and health research within the scope of the Spanish National Health System through its own reference centres, national schools, and affiliated entities such as foundations, networks, consortia, and scientific-technical services platforms (Annual Report 2024). The ISCIII reports to the Ministry of Health (MISAN) for the activities it carries out in the areas of health, planning and healthcare, but also coordinates with the Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities (MICIU) for other applied research activities when they are transferred to the National Health System.

Spanish universities (both public and private) play a central role in the R&D&I ecosystem, as they concentrate most of the basic and applied research, generate the majority of the country's scientific output, and act as the main provider of research talent. In addition, they function as key elements for the development of territories, being part of the so-called quadruple helix within the regional research and innovation ecosystem. Consequently, they make a decisive contribution to territorial cohesion and the development of Smart Specialisation Strategies in R&D&I (RIS3), enhancing the connection of the public administrations, companies, technology centres (academia), and social actors.

National and regional coordination on R&D&I. The 'R&D&I Policy Network' is a multi-level strategic coordination instrument to support research, development and innovation between the Autonomous Communities and the General State Administration (AGE). Its main objective is to coordinate the different agents of the Spanish R&D&I system with a view to optimise the design, implementation and development of public support frameworks for R&D&I, thereby facilitating the mobilisation of resources and access to funding from European funds, particularly the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF). The network is co-chaired by the Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities (Directorate-General for Research Planning) and the Ministry of Finance (Directorate-General for European Funds). Its structure incorporates key stakeholders with representation at the European, national and regional levels (IDI Network).

Strategic Action in Health (AES). The AES is part of the State Plans for Scientific, Technical and Innovation Research (PEICTI), an instrument designed to develop and finance the actions of the General State Administration in the field of Health R&D&I, to enable the achievement of the objectives and priorities included in the Spanish Strategy for Scientific, Technical and Innovation Research (EECTI). After the approval by the Council of Ministers, it is managed by the Instituto de Salud Carlos III.

Innovation in public support for corporate R&D. Enabling technologies, including the convergence of chemistry and biology, DNA sequencing and synthesis in R&D&I, pose a potential threat due to their possible dual-use applications. Through the Technology and Innovation Strategy for Defence (ETID) and the 'Spanish Industrial and Technological Plan for Security and Defence' (Plan Industrial 2025), the Centre for Technological Development and Innovation (CDTI) promotes its line «Strategic Autonomy in Security and Defence» to accelerate the technological maturation of critical solutions in the areas of critical infrastructure protection, and CBRN risk management. Furthermore, CDTI is intensifying its cooperation with the State Research Agency, the Instituto de Salud Carlos III, and the Spanish National Research Council in the area of technology and knowledge transfer initiatives promoted by the Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities (CDTI Plan 2024).

SPANISH GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE HEALTH CRISIS CAUSED BY COVID-19

On 14 March, the Council of Ministers declared the State of Alarm through a Royal Decree (RDL 463/2020) for the management of the health emergency situation caused by COVID-19. This measure aimed to protect the health and safety of citizens, to contain the spread of the disease and strengthen the National Health System. The «EARLY RESPONSE PLAN IN A COVID-19 PANDEMIC CONTROL SCENARIO» articulated the set of measures that were deployed since the beginning, and those deemed necessary to deal with the future possible scenarios. Even during the State of Alarm, coordination was maintained between the central government and the regions (MISAN 2020).

Instituto de Salud Carlos III performance during COVID-19

The ISCIII was committed to strengthening its research work, services provision and financial support for the NHS's scientific activities. It financed clinical trials, as the main funding agency for applied research in health sciences, while the Spanish Agency for Medicines and Health Products (AEMPS) continuously monitored the evolution of the results relating to the use of medicines for the treatment of COVID-19. ISCIII remained at the forefront by enhancing a comprehensive Open Science approach, providing training and consultancy to ministries, autonomous communities, and other organisations involved in pandemic management, and collecting, analysing, and publishing indicators and data for monitoring the pandemic over time (ISCIII and COVID-19).

– **National Centre of Microbiology (CNM).** The CNM launched several initiatives and made all its tools available in order to try to contain the epidemic. From the start of COVID-19, the CNM offered a service to analyse samples and confirm cases, until many other centres and organisations were able to perform these tasks themselves. Thus, all SARS-CoV-2

samples were tested at the CNM, so all confirmations of suspected cases were handled there. Since the end of 2019, the CNM had been working on developing a diagnostic PCR test, which was fully operational by February 2020. The big challenge was to scale up this diagnostic capacity in just a few days to meet the huge demand. To achieve this, the CNM reorganised its 13 laboratories into a single combined laboratory, enabling joint working to support the NHS. In addition, the CNM performed the sequencing SARS-CoV-2, established a validation programme for commercial PCR tests to detect SARS-CoV-2 in clinical samples, coordinated reliability studies of antigen detection tests, generated devices to produce reliability studies on serological tests, and provided advice to other research centres and universities. It is worth noting that the CNM established a specific PCR test (RT-q PCR) that allowed it to rule out or confirm suspected cases more quickly, thus increasing the diagnostic capacity of the system at a time when hospitals were overwhelmed.

- National Centre of Epidemiology (CNE). The CNE with the ISCIII Information and Communication Technologies Unit, adapted the Spanish Surveillance System (SiViEs) platform, overcoming technological limitations regarding data upload. Proper decision-making and the introduction of measures to contain the virus required large, up-to-date databases to allow surveillance networks to monitor cases and the evolution of the pandemic more diligently on a daily basis. In addition, work began on the progressive adaptation of Influenza Surveillance Systems into integrated Respiratory Surveillance Systems, for monitoring not only SARS-CoV-2, but also for influenza, RSV, and other respiratory viruses. This adaptation led to the implementation of a joint surveillance system, known as Acute Respiratory Infection Surveillance (SiVIRA). The CNE made publicly available information about the evolution of cases, hospitalisations, deaths, transmissibility, geographical spread, demographic and epidemiological characteristics (COVID-19 in Spain). From the moment the vaccination process began, monitoring reports on the effectiveness of the vaccination in Spain were updated and made public. It is worth noting that, key information on daily mortality was provided by the 'Monitoring of Estimated Daily Mortality (MoMo)' tool. It was able to detect deviations of excess daily all-cause mortality from the figures that would be expected given the historical series. MoMo made it possible to estimate the impact of COVID-19 in Spain, when universal monitoring did not reflect the true scope of the pandemic.

Economic policy response

On 12 March 2020, on an exceptional basis, budgetary resources were allocated from the Contingency Fund to cover expenses arising from healthcare needs in the Autonomous Communities. This was done to protect the well-being of families and provide liquidity support to affected companies, particularly those in the tourism sector and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). More than €18.000 million were mobilised for specific actions (RDL 7/2020). Following the declaration of the State of Alarm, the evolution of COVID-19 led to the adoption of extraordinary containment measures, introducing a substantial economic and social package aimed to prevent a prolonged economic impact beyond the health crisis. According to the Bank of Spain, the central government provided €2.8 billion to the regional governments and assigned an extra €1.000 million to the Ministry of Health. Moreover, €30 million was earmarked for funding research into the Sars-CoV-2, and €600 million was assigned to regional and local governments to ensure that healthcare services reach the most vulnerable (RDL 8/2020). The government also approved the creation of a special non-repayable fund – the COVID-19 Fund – through which the State paid to the regional governments €16 billion, €9 billion of which was earmarked for healthcare expenditure (RD 22/2020). Additionally, on 21 April, a zero VAT rate was set for purchases of healthcare equipment for public sector entities, clinics, hospitals or private charitable entities (RD15/2020). The term of these measures was initially linked to the duration of the State of Alarm. It was subsequently extended, first to the end of June and then to the end of September (Banco de España 2019). The budgetary, liquidity and solvency support was provided for a sum of more than 20% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2020. Five points of this were in the form of direct budgetary support (temporary employment furlough, suspension of activity for the self-employed schemes, etc.), and the rest was provided through measures to support the liquidity and solvency for financial instruments managed by the Official Credit Institute (ICO), extension of tax period, etc. (Ministerio de Hacienda 2020)

THE SPANISH RECOVERY, TRANSFORMATION AND RESILIENCE PLAN

The Emergency Plan was rolled out in March 2020, followed by the Reactivation Plan in June to accompany the de-escalation processes in the second half of the year (RDL 36/2020). The European Council approved on 21 July 2020 the creation of the NextGenerationEU programme, the largest economic stimulus instrument ever funded by the European Union, in response to the unprecedented crisis caused by the coronavirus (EUCO 10/20). Following the adaptation of national policies, on 30 April 2021, the Spanish government presented its «Spanish Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan» structured in ten lever policies (including the sixth lever policy 'Pact for science and innovation and reinforcement of the National Health System'), which are divided into 30 components. The Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities is responsible for Component 17 «Institutional Reform and Capacity Building of the National Science, Technology and Innovation System» with an allocation of more than €3.4 billion from the Recovery and Resilience Mechanism (PRTR). The Public Health Strategy 2022 (ESP 2022) sets out the strategic guidelines for strengthening public health action in Spain as a whole.

National Security System

Defined under [Law 36/2015](#), it aimed at protecting the freedom, rights and welfare of citizens; ensuring the defence of Spain and its constitutional principles and values; and contributing together with our partners and allies to international security. The Spanish legislation includes other components, known as 'areas of special interest', such as, *health, energy, economy, transport, supply or cybersecurity*, which must also be considered. The National Security Strategy 2021 ([NSS 2021](#)) identifies the impact of the COVID-19 as the main factor affecting global security. It highlights that risks and threats are not static, they are conceived dynamically depending on their probability and impact, where their interrelation may have a domino effect. The National Counter-Terrorism Strategy 2023 ([Orden PJC/406/2024](#)) recognised the need to involve society as a whole, as a key stakeholder. Both strategies emphasise the following topics:

- **Epidemics and pandemics:** Difficulties in decision-making and tensions surrounding the manufacture and distribution of medical supplies, pharmaceuticals, and vaccines to combat the disease could intensify existing geopolitical friction and, in certain cases, hinder international cooperation.

- **Critical infrastructure approach:** Subject to physical and digital threats that could lead to an interruption or denial of services, with a potential loss of strategic decision-making capacity. These infrastructures include those responsible for health, energy, food, transport, and water supply. Disruption or destruction of these infrastructures would have a serious impact on essential services.

- **Disinformation campaigns:** It must be distinguished from other factors such as fake news or misinformation. Indeed, disinformation campaigns do not necessarily contain fake news; what they seek is to distort reality through manipulated content. Disinformation strategies aimed at polarizing society and undermining trust in institutions.

- **Proliferation of weapons of mass destruction:** The biological threat—understood as the deliberate use of pathogens, toxins or harmful genetic elements or genetically modified organisms by States, individuals, criminal networks, or terrorist organizations—constitutes a real threat with potentially catastrophic consequences.

State Public Health Agency

The Public Health Surveillance Strategy was agreed upon by the Plenary of the Interterritorial Council of the National Health System on 15 June 2022. Proposed by the Ministry of Health and based on the National Security Strategy, it aims to monitor, identify, and evaluate the health status of the population, as well as recognise the problems, threats, or risks that may arise in Public Health matters, paying special attention to health inequalities. The Strategy promotes multidisciplinary teams that work with a holistic and transdisciplinary vision of health through the One Health approach. The State Public Health Agency (AESAP) was established in July 2025 by [Law 7/2025](#) to assume the development and implementation of the Ministry of Health's technical functions in public health surveillance, previously carried out by the Centre for Coordination of Health Alerts and Emergencies (CCAES), and in particular to coordinate and evaluate the State Public Health Surveillance Network. This included undertaking the necessary reforms to incorporate the surveillance of non-communicable diseases, injuries, and other health conditions, as well as their social determinants, and health inequities.

State Plan for Preparedness and Response to Serious Health Threats

In September 2025, the Ministry of Health has opened the draft of the «*Royal Decree of the State Plan for Preparedness and Response to Serious Health Threats*» to public consultation. The text establishes a common coordination framework, where the Instituto de Salud Carlos III is part, to ensure an effective response to serious Public Health threats, including risks of biological, chemical, environmental, radiological, nuclear, or unknown origin. It incorporates the legal concept of a Public Health Emergency of National Concern (PHEIC), which enables the adoption of extraordinary measures in the face of serious health risks. This initiative marks the first step towards establishing a stable regulatory framework to strengthen Spain's capacity for anticipation, coordination, and action in the event of major health emergencies ([RD Draft](#)).

R&I Policies and Strategies

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

[Law 14/2011 of 1 June, on Science, Technology and Innovation](#)
[State Plan for Scientific and Technical Research and Innovation (PEICTI)](#)
[Spanish Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy (EECTI)](#)

Country has an open science portal with information on publicly financed scientific research?   Yes
R&I portal

[https://repisalud.isciii.es/home](#)
[https://www.csic.es/en/open-science](#)
[https://recolecta.fecyt.es/en](#)
[Oficina del Dato - Secretaría de Estado de Digitalización e IA](#)
[https://datos.gob.es/en/catalogo/conjuntos-datos](#)
[https://www.ciencia.gob.es/en/Estrategias-y-Planes/Estrategias/ENCA.html](#)

Country has a webpage specifically dedicated to R&I on: COVID-19; Monkeypox; Other WHO viral risks; Antimicrobial resistance (AMR); Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) threats

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

Name	URL	Short Description
COVID-19	– [Enfermedad por SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19)](#) – [https://cnecovid.isciii.es/](#)	– Official information from the Ministry. – Panel from the National Centre of Epidemiology (CNE).
Monkeypox	– [Alerta Monkeypox en España y a nivel mundial](#) – [Vacunación Monkeypox](#)	– Official information from the Ministry. – Monkeypox Vaccination
Other WHO Viral Risks	– [Alertas de Salud Pública de actualidad](#) – [Epidemiology of communicable diseases](#)	– Current Public Health alerts. – National Centre of Epidemiology (CNE).
Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)	– [https://www.resistenciaantibioticos.es/es](#) – [https://cnm.isciii.es/en/redlabra](#)	– National Plan against Antibiotic Resistance (PRAN). – Network of Laboratories for the Surveillance of AMR.
CBRN threats (Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear	– [Líneas de I+D+i en el área NRBQe para defensa.](#) – [https://www.isciii.es/en/servicios/re-lab](#) – [Measurement_and_Evaluation_of_Ionizing_Radiations](#) – [Early detection of CBRN threats in real time (NEST)](#) – [https://www.csn.es/en/i-d](#)	– Technology and Innovation Strategy for Defence (ETID). – Network of Biological Alert Laboratories (RE-LAB). – Centre for Energy, Environmental and Technological Research (CIEMAT). – CSIC's Institute of Microelectronics of Barcelona. – Spanish Nuclear Safety Council (CSN).

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

Coordinating structures URL   [https://www.ciencia.gob.es/en/Organismos-y-Centros/OPI/ISCIII.html](#)
[https://www.isciii.es/en/centros](#)

R&I Infrastructures

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; Reference centres of excellence; Innovation projects.

Name Infrastructure	Type Infrastructure	URL	Available at	Open to other
High Biosecurity Laboratory - National Centre of Microbiology (CNM)	BSL4 (under construction)	[ISCIII_-_Construction_of_a_biosafety_level_four_(NBS-4)](#)	Academia	No
High Biosecurity Laboratory - National Centre of Microbiology (CNM)	BSL3	[https://cnm.isciii.es/en/unidades-apoyo](#)	Academia	Yes
Biological Alert Laboratory Network (RE-LAB)	Emergency intervention units	[https://www.isciii.es/en/servicios/re-lab](#)	Academia	No
Hospital Network for the Care of high-risk Infectious Diseases ('Red UATAN' in Spanish)	High-Level Isolation and Treatment Unit	[2025.06_Red_de_Hospitales_UATAN](#)	Academia	No
ISCIII Biobanks and Biomodels Platform (PISCIIIBB)	Research Platform	[https://www.isciiibiobanksbiomodels.es/en/](#)	Academia	Yes
National Laboratory Network for SARS-CoV-2 Genomic Sequencing (RELECOV)	Open genome deposits for viruses	[https://relecov.isciii.es/](#)	Academia	Yes
Network of Laboratories for the Surveillance of Resistant Microorganisms (RedLabRA)	Open genome deposits for AMR	[https://cnm.isciii.es/en/redlabra](#)	Academia	Yes
Spanish Clinical Research Network (SCReN)	Clinical trial units	[https://scren.eu/index_EN.html](#)	Academia	Yes
Infrastructure for Precision Medicine associated with Science and Technology (IMPaCT)	Innovation projects	[https://impact.isciii.es/en/](#)	Academia	Yes
Centre for Biomedical Research Network (CIBER)	Research Network	[https://www.ciberisciii.es/en](#)	Academia	Yes
IMPaCT Cohort	Population-based multicentre infrastructure	[https://cohorte-impact.es/en](#)	Academia	Yes
Network of High Biosafety Level Laboratories (RLASB)	High level isolation units	[https://www.rlasb.es/?lang=en](#)	Academia	Yes
– Animal Health Research Centre (INIA-CISA)	– BSL3/BSL4	– [High Biosafety Level Laboratories/INIA-CISA](#)	Academia	Yes
– Animal Health Research Centre (IRTA-CReSA)	– BSL3	– [High Biosafety Level Laboratories/IRTA-CReSA](#)	Academia	Yes
Unique Science and Technology Infrastructures (ICTS)	Reference centres of excellence	[https://www.ciencia.gob.es/en/Organismos-y-Centros/ICTS/MapaICTS.html](#)	Academia	Yes

Country supporting the participation to the following ESFRI initiatives relevant for infectious diseases

BBMRI; EATRIS; ECRIN; 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://www.ecraid.eu/
https://vaccelerate.eu/
WHO COVID-19 Solidarity Therapeutics Trial

Budget mobilisation mechanisms and funding sources
Basic Research
url

Public Research Bodies (PRBs):	https://www.ciencia.gob.es/en/Organismos-y-Centros/OPI.html
Network of centres owned by or linked to the ISCIII:	https://www.isciii.es/en/centros

funding for basic research accessible for industry?   Yes
source of funding   Public (research) agencies

Applied Research
url

National Center for Epidemiology (CNE):	https://cne.isciii.es/en/
National Centre for Microbiology (CNM):	https://cnm.isciii.es/en/inicio
Centro de Investigación Biomédica en Red (CIBER):	https://www.ciberisciii.es/en/thematic-areas/thematic-areas
State Research Agency (AEI):	https://www.aei.gob.es/en/thematic-areas/thematic-areas

funding for applied research accessible for industry?   No
source of funding   Public (research) agencies

Translational Research
url

Platform for the Promotion and Innovation of Industrial Capabilities of the National Health System (ITEMAS):	https://itemas.org/#
Precision Medicine Infrastructure linked to Science and Technology (IMPaCT):	https://impact.isciii.es/en/

funding accessible for industry?   Yes
source of funding   Public (research) agencies

Clinical Research in general & in pandemic phase
url

Spanish Clinical Research Network (SCReN):	https://scren.eu/index_EN.html

funding accessible for industry?   No
source of funding   Public (research) agencies
phase funded?   Phases I-II-III-IV

Innovation Projects
url

Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities:	https://www.ciencia.gob.es/en/Innovar.html
Centre for Technological Development and Innovation (CDTI):	https://www.cdti.es/en/about-us
Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology (FECYT):	https://www.fecyt.es/

funding for innovation projects accessible for industry? Yes
source of funding   Public (research) agencies

Flexible funding in case of emergency possible

The main measures adopted were set out in four Royal Decree-Laws (RDL 7/2020, RDL 8/2020, RDL 11/2020, RD15/2020), approved between 12 March and 21 April, 2020.

R&I actors, authorities and activated processes that are activated in case of a health threat (not exhaustive)

Name	Description	URL
Ministry of Health	The Ministry of Health is responsible for proposing and executing the Government's policy on health, planning and health care, as well as exercising the powers of the General State Administration to ensure citizens' right to health protection. The General Health Law 14/1986 establishes the set of health services provided by the State Administration and the Autonomous Communities for the proper fulfilment of the right to health protection. Furthermore, the law establishes universal coverage as one of the basic characteristics of the Spanish system, stipulating that public healthcare will be extended to the entire population. Currently, the National Health System is characterized by its extensive decentralization, and the Autonomous Communities have the health competence as provided by our legal system.	https://www.sanidad.gob.es/en/home.htm
Spanish Agency of Medicines and Medical Devices (AEMPS)	The AEMPS, as a public agency attached to the Ministry of Health, is responsible for guaranteeing, from a public service perspective, the quality, safety, efficacy and correct information of medicines and medical devices, through their life cycle, in the interest of the protection and promotion of people's health, animal health and the environment. Among the activities it develops are: 1) Evaluation, authorization, quality control and continuous monitoring of the efficacy and safety of human and veterinary medicines. 2) Control and surveillance of medical devices, cosmetics, personal care products and biocides. 3) Inspection, authorization and/or registration of pharmaceutical laboratories of medicines, manufacturers, importers and distributors of their active ingredients, as well as of companies and facilities of medical devices, cosmetics, personal care products and biocides. 4) Information about medicines, medical devices, cosmetics, personal care products and biocides. 5) Combating illegal and falsified medicines, medical devices, cosmetics, personal care products and biocides. 6) Management of drug supply and procurement problems. 6) Authorization of clinical trials and research with medicines and medical devices. 7) Regulatory and scientific-technical support for research and innovation. 8) Coordination of the National Plan against Antibiotic Resistance (PRAN). 9) Foreign and intra-community trade of medicines and their raw materials, medical devices, cosmetics, personal care products and biocides.	https://www.aemps.gob.es/?lang=en
National Early Warning and Rapid Response System (SIAPR).	The SIAPR is a network of Autonomous Liaison Centres (CEA), coordinated by the CCAES. It enables the permanent and rapid communication of risk situations to the health population, with the aim of improving the prevention and preparedness for health threats, as well as coordinating of response activities when there is national or international involvement. It integrates information from the National Epidemiological Surveillance Network (RENAVE), managed by the National Centre of Epidemiology (CNE), and information from the national reference laboratories of the National Centre of Microbiology (CNM) (SIAPR's creation).	https://www.sanidad.gob.es/en/areas/alertasEmergenciasSanitarias/siapr/home.htm
Coordination Centre for Health Alerts and Emergencies (CCAES).	CCAES is a centre under the General Directorate of Public Health of the Ministry of Health. Its function is to coordinate the management of information and support in response to situations of national health alerts or emergencies that threaten the health of the population. The CCAES acts as the National Focal Point of the system and also has the responsibility for coordination at the international level (it serves as the National Focal Point for WHO). Establishes coordination mechanisms between all networks of interest with a multi-sectoral approach: NETWORK OF NETWORKS. Defines common criteria for detecting and reporting NSPIN/ESPIII (Standardised Reporting Criteria). Performs the first public health risk assessment at local level to propose response measures appropriate to the level of risk. Coordinates the response between the health sector and other systems (Civil Protection and the Department of Homeland Security).	https://www.sanidad.gob.es/en/areas/alertasEmergenciasSanitarias/ccaes/actividades.htm
High-Level Isolation and Treatment Unit Network ('Red UATAN' in Spanish)	The Hospital Network for the Care of high-risk Infectious Diseases in Spain, was established as part of the response implemented to the Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) due to Ebola virus diseases in West Africa in 2014. The aim is to provide the best possible supportive and etiological treatment, if available, to hospitalised patients, guaranteeing maximum protection measures for healthcare workers and minimising the risk of transmission beyond the units. Since 2024, these units the Network have been known as High-Level Isolation and Treatment Units (HLTs).	Alertas Emergencias Sanitarias_2025.05.16_Red_de_Hospitales_UATAN.pdf
State Public Health Agency (AESAP)	The Agency will be responsible for monitoring, identifying, and evaluating the health status of the population, as well as recognising problems, threats, or risks that may arise in the area of public health, paying special attention to health inequalities.	https://www.boe.es/buscar/act.php?id=BOE-A-2025-15652
Instituto de Salud Carlos III (ISCIII)	ISCIII is a public research organisation of national and international reference in biomedical research and public health that develops its activities through its own reference centres and national schools, affiliated entities such as foundations, networks, consortia, and scientific-technical services platforms (ISCIII Strategic Plan 2021-2025). Its focus on the following areas: 1) Biomedical and Health research. 2) Science funding. 3) Provision of scientific-technical services and consultancy. 4) Academic education. The primary mission is the provision of reference scientific services aimed at the National Health System (NHS) and the promotion and implementation of research in Health Sciences in all matters pertaining to health and disease processes, health monitoring, and, particularly, contagious diseases including epidemiological monitoring, diagnostic and control, the study of outbreaks, epidemics or other infectious, environmental and health emergencies, or non-widespread diseases. Annual Report 2024 - complete	https://www.isciii.es/en/inicio

Public health surveillance in Spain	The Royal Decree 2210/1995 aims to create a legal framework for coordinating and exchanging epidemiological information across the country, particularly in response to communicable diseases and other health concerns of national and international interest. It established the National Epidemiological Surveillance Network (RENAVE), an essential system for detecting and controlling diseases in Spain. It is managed by the National Centre of Epidemiology (CNE) of the ISCIII. It aims to generate information and new evidence for public health decision-making and contributes to disease and risk control in collaboration with other ISCIII centres, the Ministry of Health, the autonomous communities, and the rest of the general government administration with health responsibilities. The Public Health Strategy, has led to an 'increase in response capacities to health crises' and the development of a new information system for the Public Health Surveillance Network. To expand the surveillance to all aspects of public health interest, it was integrated the monitoring of the population's health status in terms of well-being, morbidity, and mortality, as well as the risks, determinants, inequities, and factors that influence it, including the territorial and demographic realities of the Autonomous Communities and the cities of Ceuta and Melilla. The Ministry of Health enacted Royal Decree 568/2024, establishing the State Public Health Surveillance Network.	https://cne.isciii.es/en/services/department-of-communicable-diseases/renave-protocols
	The CNE conducts research in the following areas: 1) Respiratory Diseases. 2) Water- and Foodborne Diseases: epidemiological surveillance, prevention, and control. 3) Aging, neurodegeneration, and mental health. 4) Epidemiology of Cardiovascular and Metabolic Diseases. 5) Cancer and Environmental Epidemiology. 6) Bioinformatics and Data Management. 7) Cohort Unit of the AIDS Research Network (CoRIS). 8) Vaccine-Preventable Diseases. 9) HIV infection, sexually transmitted infections, and parenteral infections. 10) Healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) and antimicrobial resistance. 11) Spatial Analysis and Environmental Impact of Communicable Diseases. 12) Zoonoses, tuberculosis, emerging diseases, and vector-borne diseases.	https://cne.isciii.es/en/investigation
Microbiological Surveillance	The National Centre of Microbiology (CNM) of the ISCIII, provides scientific-technical support to the General State Administration, the Autonomous Communities and the National Health System (NHS). This specific mission in the field of infectious diseases is based on six main pillars: 1) Diagnostic and Reference Services. 2) Control and Prevention. 3) Research Programmes for both basic and application-oriented related to the prevention, diagnosis and treatment. 4) Reference and surveillance based on the phenotypic and molecular characterization of microorganisms. 5) Advice and training. 6) Quality Management.	https://cnm.isciii.es/en/laboratorios
	Of note is the existence of a biosafety level 3 (BSL3) laboratories and a BSL4 is currently under construction. The CNM has thirteen specialised laboratories available: Hepatitis and Papilloma; Immunopreventable bacterial infections; Water- and food-borne bacterial infections; Immunopreventable viral infections; Immunology; Mycology; Parasitology; Special pathogens; Antibiotic resistance and IRAS; Retrovirus; Serology and Arbovirus; Bacterial Taxonomy and Tuberculosis; Respiratory Viruses.	
	The CNM has been designated a European Union Reference Laboratory (EURL) and accredited as a National Reference Laboratory by the World Health Organization (WHO).	https://cnm.isciii.es/en/eurl-ivd
National Network of Genomic Sequencing Laboratories for Coronavirus and Other Viruses (RELECOV)	RELECOV is coordinated by the Reference and Research Laboratory for Respiratory Viruses and made up of 48 laboratories from 17 Autonomous Communities and the Autonomous Cities Ceuta and Melilla. It carries out genomic surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 variants, providing key information for understanding the virus.	https://relecov.isciii.es/
Network of Laboratories for the Surveillance of Resistant Microorganisms (RedLabRA)	RedLabRA is a network of microbiology laboratories that was established within the National Plan against Antibiotic Resistance (PRAN). Its main objective is to achieve a complete and high-quality microbiological diagnosis, integrating genomic sequencing, in all cases of infection/colonization by antibiotic-resistant microorganisms that are under surveillance in the National Health System.	https://cnm.isciii.es/en/redlabra
Biological Alert Laboratory Network (RE-LAB)	Scientific-technical infrastructure of 12 reference laboratories specialising in microbiology to provide operational support to the National Security System in the face of risks and threats from biological agents. RE-LAB is active in the field of biosecurity, particularly in the detection and identification of biological agents in the areas of human health, environmental health, food safety, animal health and plant health.	https://www.isciii.es/en/servicios/re-lab
Spanish Clinical Research Network (SCReN)	SCReN is a network that provides scientific-technical support for independent/academic clinical research. It is currently composed of 33 clinical trial units (CTUs) distributed across 14 Autonomous Communities in charge of providing support to hospitals throughout the Spanish National Health System. The platform has extensive experience in the management of national and international projects focusing on: 1) Support and scientific advice in the design of studies and drafting of research protocols to ensure the best scientific and technical standards. 2) Clinical operations development: Design and methodology; Start-up and regulatory affairs; Project management and monitoring; Data management; Statistics; Pharmacovigilance; Scientific writing.	https://www.screen.eu/index_EN.html
Centre for Biomedical Research Network (CIBER)	CIBER was set up at the initiative of the ISCIII to promote excellence research in Biomedicine and Health Sciences within the National Health System and the Technology Science System. To this end, interdisciplinary and multi-institutional research efforts belonging to different Administrations, Institutions and Autonomous Communities, in the public and private sectors, are combined. The CIBER's scientific programme is arranged around the following thematic research areas: 1) Bioengineering, Biomaterials and Nanomedicine, (CIBERBBN). 2) Rare Diseases, (CIBERER). 3) Respiratory Diseases, (CIBERES). 4) Liver and Digestive Diseases, (CIBEREHD). 5) Mental Health, (CIBERSAM). 6) Diabetes and Metabolic Diseases, (CIBERDEM). 7) Physiopathology of Obesity and Nutrition, (CIBEROBN). 8) Fragility and Ageing, (CIBERFES).	https://www.ciber-isciii.es/en

9) Cardiovascular Diseases, (CIBERCV).
10) Cancer, (CIBERONC).
11) Neurodegenerative Diseases, (CIBERNED).
12) Epidemiology and Public Health, (CIBERESP).
13) Infectious Diseases, (CIBERINFEC).

Infrastructure for Precision Medicine associated with Science and Technology (IMPaCT)	IMPaCT is the Precision Medicine Infrastructure associated with Science and Technology created by the ISCIII to facilitate the effective deployment of Precision Medicine within the National Health System. It's structured around three programs that serve as the cornerstone for a coordinated integration of complementary research projects within the field of Precision Medicine: Predictive Medicine, Data Science and Genomic Medicine.	https://impact.isciii.es/en/
IMPaCT Cohort	IMPaCT Cohort is the Predictive Medicine program of the Precision Medicine Infrastructure, created by the ISCIII. It is a prospective, multipurpose, and multicentre population-based cohort study. The project was developed to understand and improve the health of the Spanish population. It is coordinated by the Consortium for Biomedical Research Centre (CIBER) through its Public Health Epidemiology area (CIBERESP). The IMPaCT Cohort is characterized by its large size (200.000 participants), intensive use of information and communication technologies (ICTs), inclusion of a physical examination, environmental information collected from an extensive collection of biological samples, and periodic contacts with each participant over a span of 20 years. It operates across 50 units, primary healthcare centres belonging to the healthcare services of the 17 Autonomous Communities and the Autonomous Cities Ceuta and Melilla.	https://cohorte-im-pact.es/en
Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities (MICIU)	It is the State Administration department responsible for the implementation of the Government's policy on scientific and technical research, technological development and innovation in all sectors.	https://www.ciencia.gob.es/
Public Research Bodies (PRBs)	PRBs are those bodies set up by the national government to directly carry out scientific and technical research, provide technological services, and carry out other, complementary activities necessary for society's scientific and technological progress. The Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities is responsible for coordinating the activities of PRBs.	https://www.ciencia.gob.es/en/Organismos-y-Centros/OPI.html
Spanish National Research Council (CSIC)	The CSIC is the main agent responsible for implementing the Spanish System for Science, Technology and Innovation (EICTI). It carries out activities aimed at: scientific and technical research; transfer of research results; promotion and creation of technology-based enterprises; provision of expert advice to public and private institutions; delivery of highly qualified training; management of large facilities and unique scientific and technical infrastructures; and the development of targeted research.	https://www.csic.es/en/csic
National Institute for Agricultural and Food Research and Technology (INIA)	INIA is a reference Institute in agri-food and forestry science and technology, at national and international level. Its objective is to support sustainable economic growth and the well-being of society, through research and innovation in the agricultural and forestry sectors. INIA's scientific and technical activity is carried out in the following centres: 1) Plant Biotechnology and Genomics Centre (CBGP). 2) Animal Health Research Centre (CISA). 3) Plant Genetic Resources Centre (CRF). 4) Institute of Forest Science (ICIFOR).	https://www.inia.es/en-en/Pages/Home.aspx
State Research Agency (AEI)	The mission is to promote scientific and technical research in all areas of knowledge through the efficient allocation of public resources, the promotion of excellence, the encouragement of collaboration between the agents of the system and support for the generation of knowledge of high scientific and technical, economic and social impact, as well as the necessary advice to improve the design and planning of the actions or initiatives through which the R&D policies of the General State Administration are implemented.	https://www.aei.gob.es/
Centre for Technological Development and Innovation (CDTI)	CDTI is a Business Public Entity under the Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities that promotes innovation and technological development of Spanish companies. It provides support and assistance for to R&D&I projects for Spanish companies at both national and international levels.	https://www.cdti.es/en
Spanish Foundation for Science and Technology, F.S.P. (FECYT)	FECYT promotes the public and social value of science and innovation, and their contribution to democratic quality and social well-being. It leads the cultural shift towards Open Science and fostering greater collaboration between scientific knowledge and public policy.	https://www.fecyt.es/
One Health Platform (POH)	The POH emerged in 2021 with the aim of uniting efforts to promote the development of a governance model for health based on the One Health strategy. Since its inception, it has focused on integrating the One Health approach as a structural element in decision-making, incorporating health as a cross-cutting theme in national and regional laws, strategies, and plans. Currently, the POH has established itself as a collaborative ecosystem in which more than 120 entities seek to drive the cultural transformation.	https://onehealthplata-forma.es/
Autonomous Regions	The central state shares authority with the 17 Autonomous Comunities and 2 Autonomous Cities concerning different competences, the regional level is involved in case of an emergency. Regional entities with the Regional Development Agencies can also play a role on R&I.	

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