

Alpro foundation research grant call – 2021

To be submitted no later than **May 15**, 2021 midnight (CET)

Sent to alprofoundation@alpro.com

We call for *Systematic Reviews or Meta-analysis* with a research question focused on cardiometabolic health

The aim is to understand the role of plant-based eating patterns / plant-based foods / dietary patterns on cardiometabolic health, weight management, MAFLD (metabolic dysfunction-associated fatty liver disease), obesity, diabetes, ...

Scope of work for systematic review or meta-analysis

- Systematic review can be Cochrane reviews or EPC evidence reports
- Randomized clinical trials and/or observational evidence
- Exclusion of studies based on in vitro and/or animal experiments
- Exclusion of studies focussed on supplements or one particular bioactive plant compound
- Geographic area: western diet / European population
- Age range: adults, adolescents, children +3y

Qualifications of the author(s) / review team

- must be residents in a European country
- must be affiliated to a European university or a European research institute
- must have experience with conducting systematic reviews and should provide references of systematic reviews that they have published in peer-review journals.
- should have members with complementary skills and competencies including knowledge of the technical area and statistical analysis capabilities.

Timeline

15 May 2021	1 July 2021	15 Sep 2021	31 Oct 2021	1 Jan 2022
Deadline to submit short proposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Selection by SAB• Invitation to prepare long proposal	Deadline to submit long proposal	Final selection by SAB	Start research grant

Submission deadline short proposals: **May 15, 2021** midnight (CET).

The Scientific Advisory Committee of Alpro Foundation will short list the proposals which will be invited for the next stage of selection **by July 1, 2021**. If invited to submit a long proposal, this has to be submitted by **September 15, 2021** midnight. Final decision on the grant will be communicated by **October 31, 2021**. The awarded research grant should start in **January 2022**.

Selection procedure

Only research topics which endorse the objectives of the 2021 call of Alpro Foundation will be considered. Judging criteria are based on

- 1. Excellence (weight 50%)**
 - Proposed work is novel and has innovation potential (eg. novel objectives, novel concepts and approaches, potential for innovative results, ...)
 - Quality/Credibility of proposed approach/methodology
 - Quality/Credibility of research team
- 2. Impact (weight 30%)**
 - Extent to which the outputs of the proposed work could result in relevant benefits for the European population (eg. towards recommendations, policy makers, ...)
 - Extent to which the outputs of the proposed work could increase the understanding on health benefits of plant-based eating patterns
- 3. Quality and efficiency (weight 20%)**
 - Clarity and pertinence of the objective
 - Likelihood that the proposed approach can be accomplished within the timeframe
 - Likelihood that the proposed approach can result in publication[s]

About Alpro Foundation:

At Alpro Foundation we are passionate about supporting and promoting scientific knowledge and research in the areas of plant-based nutrition, its impact on human health and the sustainability of the planet.

How to submit the short proposal

Short proposals (**max 2 pages**) give a basic description of the project.

Submit [preferably in a single pdf document] by email to Alpro Foundation at alprofoundation@alpro.com not later than May 15, 2021 midnight (CET). The subject heading of the email should read as, **“Systematic Review proposal for Alpro Foundation 2021”**.

Title of project:

Applicants:

The lead author and host institution with overall responsibility for the review, and contributors. The specific competencies and contributions of each author or team member should be explicitly stated.

	Name (last, first)	Position/Title	Institute	Competencies & contributions
1.				
2.				
...				

Timing (maximum 12 months):

Starting date:

End date:

Total requested budget. This should outline only the total amount for the review including an approximate breakdown of personnel vs. institutional/other costs. For the purpose of this short proposal, it is not necessary to describe every budget detail of the systematic review. Note that Alpro Foundation grants **maximum €50.000 per year** all costs included, VAT and overhead costs.

Project description (max 1.5 pages)

Proposed question(s) to be addressed through systematic reviews, outlining the background and justification for the review, the search strategy and databases to be searched, definition of inclusion/exclusion criteria, process of data extraction and analytical approach. This description should reflect the scope of work.

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Who we are

Alpro Foundation is an independent European platform for academics, health care professionals and key stakeholders in nutrition to share knowledge and discuss the relevancy of plant-based eating.

Our primary focus is to educate, support and build scientific knowledge and research in plant-based nutrition and its impact on health and planet by:

- Funding research to enlarge the understanding of plant-based diets and its impact on human health and the planetary boundaries.
- Awarding young scientists for a new publication emphasizing the relevance of plant-based eating.
- Organizing conferences, student symposia, webinars and e-learning.

Alpro Foundation newest in-depth scientific review **is dedicated to different plant-based eating patterns and some specific plant-based foods and how these impact cardiometabolic health.**

https://www.alprofoundation.org/files/AF-update-_Cardiometabolic-health_2020.pdf

The Scientific Advisory Committee is an international group of experts in the field of nutrition. They advise about the research grants, symposia and awards.

The members are:

- Prof. Ian Rowland, UK (chair)	- Dr. Stephanie De Vriese, Belgium
- Prof. Harry Aiking, The Netherlands	- Prof. Helmut Heseker, Germany
- Prof. Anna Arnoldi, Italy	- Prof. Sander Kersten, The Netherlands
- Prof. Peter Clarys, Belgium	- Prof. Cesare Sirtori, Italy
- Pharm. Christine Debeuf, Belgium	- Prof. Kurt Widhalm, Austria

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