

EN  
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Answer given by Mr Moedas  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(28.10.2019)

The Commission recognises the importance of research on myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome (ME/CFS).

Under Horizon 2020, the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation (2014-2020)<sup>1</sup>, the project Help4Me<sup>2</sup>, funded via the SME Instrument, has worked on developing GutMagnific™, a probiotic designed to correct the gut microflora imbalance – linked to CFS symptoms. This innovative product could represent a life-changing promise to severely underserved population of CFS patients. Moreover, Horizon 2020 funds GLORIA<sup>3</sup>, a project investigating the pathophysiology of chronic pain conditions, and the RTCure<sup>4</sup> project that aims at improving diagnostics and treatment of the rheumatic and other autoimmune diseases largely associated with fatigue and pain.

Horizon 2020 strategically supports scientific excellence using a variety of funding schemes, including bottom-up approaches, and continues to provide opportunities for research funding on ME/CFS. The Commission has proposed that Horizon Europe<sup>5</sup>, building upon Horizon 2020, continues to support research in a flexible manner to improve the health of the European citizens and to provide further opportunities for research in ME/CFS.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/>

<sup>2</sup> Evidence-based probiotic for Chronic Fatigue Syndrome –  
<https://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/223054/factsheet/en>

<sup>3</sup> Understanding chronic pain and new druggable targets: Focus on glial-opioid receptor interface –  
<https://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/110940/factsheet/en>

<sup>4</sup> Rheuma Tolerance for Cure – <https://cordis.europa.eu/project/rcn/211964/factsheet/en>

<sup>5</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/info/designing-next-research-and-innovation-framework-programme/what-shapes-next-framework-programme\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/designing-next-research-and-innovation-framework-programme/what-shapes-next-framework-programme_en)