



Evaluation Process for PhD / Post Doc projects applications:

Flowchart for the evaluation process



Applying for CORS-financed PhD/Post doc projects

The project description should be a maximum of 5 pages and include information generally required by the University of Copenhagen when evaluating PhD or Post doc projects (background, justification, purpose, research methods, evaluation parameters, statistics, feasibility, financing, expected impact etc.).

A section explaining the relevance for CORS and how the project would fit in to the CORS research strategy should be included.

The choice of project members should be explained in order to address the multidisciplinary aspects and challenges of Regulatory Science or the applicant might include the SAB in this process.

If a specific candidate is suggested the candidate should submit a letter of motivations of maximum and a CV of maximum 2 pages each stating professional qualifications and competencies, relevant work experience, publications and achieved grads and other relevant issues.

If projects are forwarded directly to the SAB, the project description should be sent to the CORS secretariat 14 days before a SAB meeting at the latest.

Criteria for assessment of proposed projects

Project proposals are systematically assessed and possibly further qualified according to the criteria mentioned below. The process and feedback must be open and transparent.

Evaluation of quality

- ~ Originality (better than me too projects, what new knowledge will be produced?)
- ~ Scientifically sound project
- ~ Clear description of the project
- ~ Thorough background examination

Evaluation of relevance

- ~ Relation to CORS research strategy (see below) must appear clearly
- ~ Meaningful purpose
- ~ Possible impact of the results?
- ~ Identification of relevant cases

Evaluation of feasibility

- ~ Size of the projects: Is it feasible to reach the planned goal within the proposed timeframe?
- ~ Cost for the projects: Presentation of a plausible budget
- ~ Are there any ethical considerations?
- ~ Constraints in resources, e.g. personnel or access to the wanted data?

Evaluation of competencies

- ~ Competence in and justification for choice of main supervisor
- ~ Description of project team
- ~ Qualifications and motivation of the candidate (if one suggested)

Evaluation of collaborations

- ~ Projects should benefit from the diversity and different perspectives offered by the partners
- ~ Inclusion of at least two CORS-partners in the supervision/project team
- ~ Stay at other research environment

Evaluation of CORS affiliated projects - not financed by CORS

The purpose of the establishment of affiliated projects should be a mutual profitable relationship with the possibility to expand networks within regulatory sciences, and increase the quality of research within the area. To establish an official affiliation a project description of app. one to two pages should be constructed, and adhere to the criteria of quality and relevance of the above mentioned demands.

CORS Research Strategy

Research areas

The research projects conducted at CORS should be clearly related to the field of Regulatory Science. Regulatory Science is defined by CORS as “The science of developing new tools, standards and approaches to evaluate the efficacy, safety, quality and performance of medical products in order to assess benefit-risk and facilitate a sound and transparent regulatory decision making.”

In order to draw attention to and take advantage of the variety of competences offered by the multiple CORS partners, diversity in the selection of academic approaches should be ensured. This could be done in a diagram depicting the different competences and research perspectives.

Research subjects will be considered not only in terms of scientific value, but also timeliness and according to relevance from a public health and societal perspective.

Research methodologies

The research at CORS should mainly be applied science, but basic science projects may also be included. A variety of methodologies should be used to mirror the multiplicity of the different faculties and sectors engaged with the Centre.

Research Impact

The mission of CORS is that “...the research and education of the Centre makes a clear mark on regulatory decision-making – to the benefit of stakeholders such as patients, authorities, payers and industry”.

To achieve this it should be ensured that the research activities of the Centre are within all of the following three categories (described by Leufkens & Eichler, 2011):

- 1) Science that assists regulatory decision making (producing evidence)
- 2) Science that facilitates regulatory decision making (producing tools and standards)
- 3) Science that evaluates regulatory decision making (testing performance)

Approval

This evaluation and application procedure, including research strategy, has been approved by the CORS Board of Directors. Re-approval will take place every second year as a minimum.