



*Instituto de Salud Carlos III*

**Quality assessment in biomedical research:  
The accreditation process of  
Health Research Institutes (HRI)  
in Spain**

**Antoni Trilla**

**Professor of Public Health - University of Barcelona (Spain)  
Barcelona International Health Research Center (CRESIB-IDIBAPS)  
National Accreditation Committee Member - *Instituto de Salud Carlos III***



*Instituto de Salud Carlos III*



**A national public research and scientific support organization, responsible for promoting and funding biomedical research.**

**Its mission is to develop and provide the highest quality scientific evidences to the Spanish National Healthcare System.**

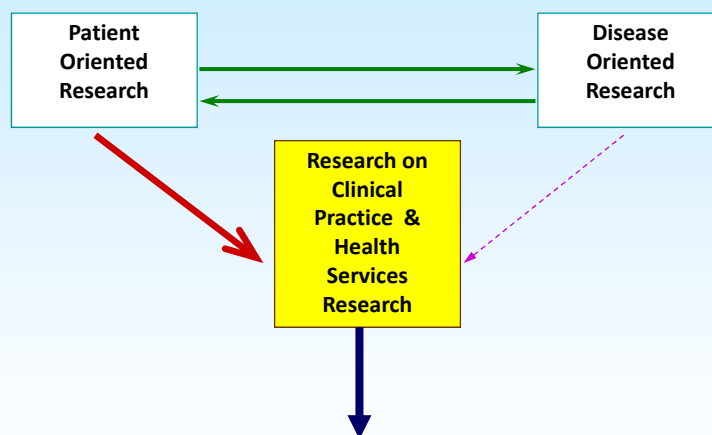


A Spanish Law ("*Ley de Cohesión y calidad del Sistema Nacional de Salud*") and the National Research Plan supports the creation of **Health Research Institutes (HRI)**, linking together Hospitals, Universities and Public Research Bodies (CSIC).


The HRI candidates must undergo a formal accreditation process to assure the standards of quality in biomedical translational research.



### Translational research



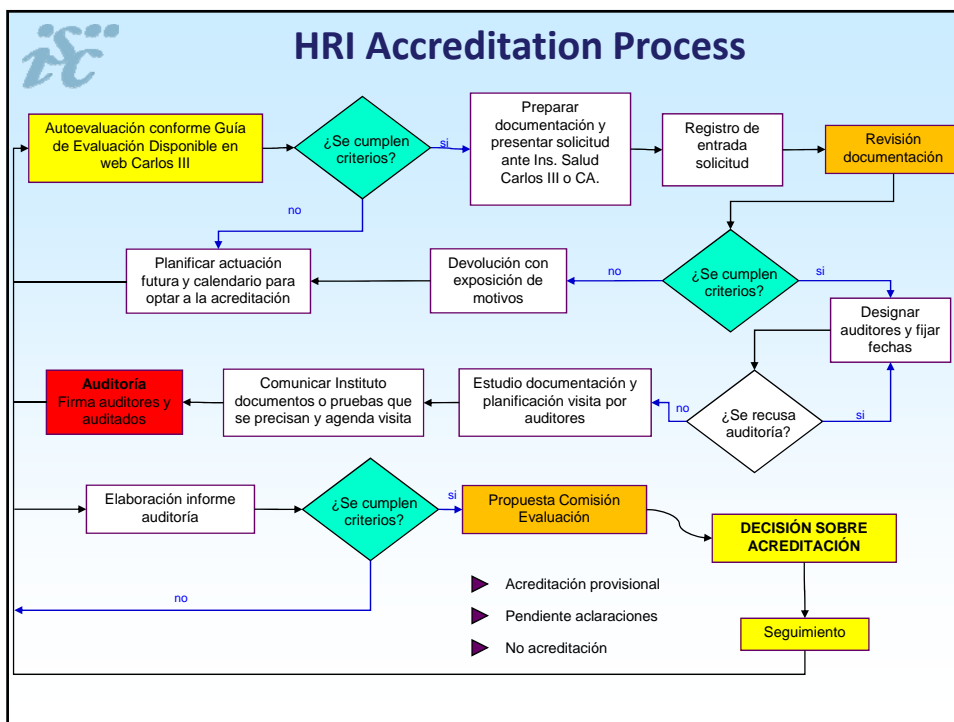
**Knowledge transfer to the National Health System**



## HRI Accreditation Process: Terms of Reference

**Orden Ministerial 1245/2006**

- Evaluation Committee
- Audit Members
- Audit Guidelines
- Certification Process





### Minimum requirements for applying

- Number of researchers (as PI) with public funded (FIS, MEC, UE) active projects **> 10**
- Number of public funded projects (5 years) **> 40**
- Original articles (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Q, SCI) (3 years) **> 100**
- Researchers in training tracks **> 20**
- Health Care Workers as PI on public funded research projects **> 30%**



### Assessment Criteria

#### R&D Management Structure and Procedures

HRI Aims and Structure.

Organizational Chart.

Financial Resources.

Management Systems.

Staff Professional Qualifications



## Assessment Criteria

### **R&D Management Structure and Procedures**

- Inventory.**
- Scientific Equipments.**
- Safety and Emergency Plans.**
- IT Safety.**
- Environmental Protection.**



## Assessment Criteria

### **Scientific Activities**

- Strategic Research Plan.**
- Quality Assessment (QA) and Improvement Plan.**
- Ethics Code.**
- Good Research Practices Code.**
- Professional Development Plans.**



## Assessment Criteria

### Analysis of Research Results

#### Research Activity:

- Projects
- Papers
- Patents (IPR)

Professional development activities.

External Alliances and Joint Ventures.

Difussion and Transfer of Research Results.



## First call results (2008)

Applicants: 2

Accredited: IDIBAPS (Barcelona)  
IBIS (Sevilla)





**IDIBAPS**  
**Institut d'Investigacions Biomèdiques**  
**August Pi i Sunyer**

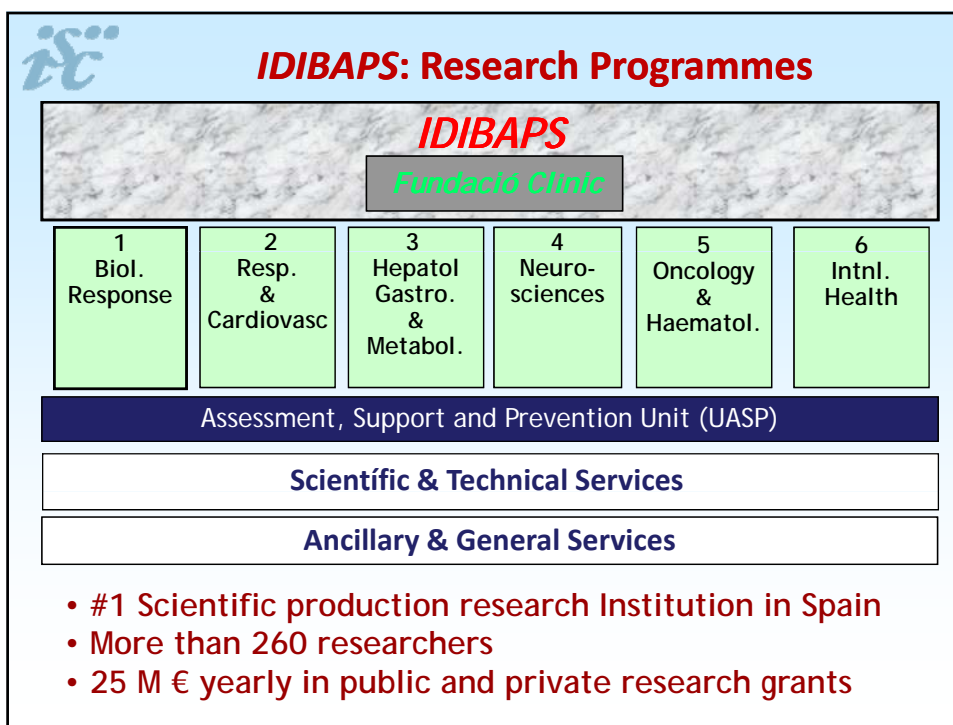
**Consortium**


*Generalitat de Catalunya*  
*Universitat de Barcelona (UB)*  
**Consejo Superior Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC)**  
*Hospital Clínic de Barcelona (HCB)*



**IDIBAPS**






 **What benefit means to be an accredited HRI ?**

Measuring & improving quality of research.  
Introducing QA basics for researchers.  
Strategic alliance with *ISCIII*.

*An improved and better  
“credit card” in all public  
funding research calls...*





**Final reflections:**

**Quality research is a must for Hospitals and Medical Schools.**

**Quality research can be implemented and assessed in all research institutions.**

**Quality of teaching does not include usually teaching quality.**

*Perhaps we should fix that!*

