



Action plan

Karolinska Institutet's strategy for research infrastructure 2021 – 2024

Translated from Swedish

Following the strategy and action plan established for Karolinska Institutet's research infrastructure 2021–2024, time and resources will now be allocated to related activities.

This action plan and the activities described herein will be followed up and revised (when necessary) at least once a year.

Underlined activities fall under two or more strategy areas.

Activities *in italics* are not owned by the strategy work but are relevant to it.

General approaches

More effective use of KI resources

- Define what KI means by instruments with the potential for co-utilisation – Draw up an inventory of such instruments that do not currently exist within the core facilities.
- Define clear, transparent and predictable processes for coordination at different levels. Test the use of iLab for searchability, booking, etc.
- Define responsibility for procuring, maintaining and renewing basic equipment and user competence.
- Test the possibility of calls for core facilities "light" (an instrument call where the instrument is not necessarily linked to a core facility).

Measures to improve overview

- Single point of contact for research infrastructure: Organisation, structure and financing.
- Database for the easy identification of instruments, premises and competence in research infrastructure. Test if iLab can fulfil this function.
- Advance the structure for the web to simplify navigation.
 - User perspective.
 - One simple template for all core facilities on the web.
 - Lay descriptions.

A long-term perspective

- Identify research infrastructures that need long-term planning conditions for managing knowledge building and investments – identify which core facilities are absolutely necessary for KI.
- Establish resource-allocation and steering models for research infrastructures that are essential to KI and/or research infrastructures that require long-term planning conditions.
- Review the three-year financing cycle process – call/evaluation/renewal.

Coordination internally (across campuses), regionally and nationally

- Make sure that research support is available that enables seamless collaborations with Region Stockholm. This shall include clear guidelines for analysis and extraction (contract, principal etc.) of samples regardless of whether they are held by KI Biobank or the Stockholm Medical Biobank (SMB), and easily accessible and clear guidelines for administrating Material Transfer Agreements (MTAs) and Data Transfer Agreements (DTAs) and the systematic review and allocation of resources to necessary activities.
- Produce impact analyses, for example as regards minimum level of research infrastructures on KI's different campuses, as internal coordination is to be based on the principle that operations are not to be doubled (multiplied) at KI.
- Test the possibility of coordinating and co-locating the healthcare sector's production infrastructures with KI's cutting-edge infrastructures by means of shared management and premises.

Specific investments

- Follow up investments made for electron microscopy and imaging.
- Produce a clear and transparent process for strategic investments within the Infrastructure Council's responsibility.
- Propose a process for the coordination of strategic investments between the Infrastructure Council and the Committee for Research.
- Decide whether KI, within the Infrastructure Council's responsibility, is to take strategic initiatives to capitalise on MAX IV and/or ESS – and define and allocate resources to such initiatives.

Education assignment

- List the current educational assignment of the research infrastructures.
- Define and clarify the future educational assignment of the research infrastructures.

Thematic areas

Clinical research

- Make sure that research support is available that enables seamless collaborations with Region Stockholm. This shall include clear guidelines for analysis and extraction (contract, principal etc.) of samples regardless of whether they are held by KI Biobank or the Stockholm Medical Biobank (SMB), and easily accessible and clear guidelines for administrating MTAs and DTAs and the systematic review and allocation of resources to necessary activities.
- “Single point of contact” to give an overview of KI’s entire research infrastructure: Organisation, structure and financing.
- Investigate opportunities in interesting future areas such as “social innovation”, “control databases”, research infrastructures in healthcare research and “professional patients”.

Animal operations

These issues are not owned by the Infrastructure Council but the Council can assist if so required.

- *Develop the collaboration between the animal operations at KI and Region Stockholm, including shared personnel and specialist functions and local animal welfare bodies.*
- *Test common methods, pricing and purchasing.*
- *Draw up proposals for reducing costs/over-capacity in KI’s animal operations.*

In vivo imaging

- Follow up relocation to KMB (the Comparative Medicine building) in 2022 and BioClinicum in 2023.
- Finalise installation of the equipment in the Infrastructure Council’s long-term budget.
- *Recruitment of professors of nuclear medicine, molecular neuroimaging and molecular oncological imaging – This matter is owned by the relevant department(s).*

Biosafety

- Ensure an overview of biosafety work: methods and compliance with rules.
- Improved digital infrastructure with document management and traceability in terms of operations and permits to ensure that KI’s research groups active in operations covered by biosafety principles. It is important that such a system can be used by other operations (e.g. work with ionising radiation).

Biochemical analyses

- Test the possibility of coordination of certain biochemical analyses with Karolinska University Laboratory (KUL).
- Ensure optimal guidance for researchers in terms of where a given analysis is best obtained (e.g. core facility, commercial actor) – Test the possibility of incorporating this in the “single point of contact” function.

e-infrastructure

- Produce a plan for structured work regarding KI’s active involvement in SND and SNIC.
- Ensure an optimal interface with the implementation of the strategy for information management.
- Monitor the development of Clinicum to ensure a good interface with the rest of KI’s research infrastructure, where relevant.

Conditions

Sustainability/Lifecycle analysis

- Create opportunities for competence and experience exchange for people working within KI’s research infrastructures.
- Highlight the issue of good career opportunities for people working within KI’s research infrastructures.
- Implement relevant activities as described in the report “Management and control of KI’s research infrastructure” (Ref. No 1-1011/2020)..

Steering and control

- Implement activities as described in the report “Management and control of KI’s research infrastructure” (Ref. No 1-1011/2020).

Quality system

- The core facilities’ quality work is addressed in annual dialogues between the core facility and representatives of the Infrastructure Council.
- Produce a quality system for KI’s research infrastructure as part of KI’s cohesive quality system.
- Examine if any research infrastructure should be ISO accredited.

Financing

- Initiate a project to establish processes for the future allocation of resources to KI’s research infrastructure, including core facilities – [call/evaluation/renewal](#).
- Continually and actively improve the internal application process that is aimed at attracting external funds for KI’s research infrastructure.

Priorities/Accessibility

- Clarify IP (“Intellectual property”) linked to the utilisation of KI’s research infrastructure.
- Establish the collective exposure of KI’s research infrastructure vis-à-vis the commercial sector (“single point of contact”).
- Produce guidelines on prioritising the commercial sector’s use in relation to the needs of the university and incentives for making the research infrastructure available to a wider segment of the commercial sector.

Communication

- The communication activities of the core facilities are addressed in annual dialogues between the core facility and the Infrastructure Council.
- Allocate resources to communication activities.
- Review how KI’s core facilities are presented on ki.se and other websites in order to simplify navigation for the visitor.
- Produce communication templates and guidelines for the core facilities.
- Investigate the need to market core facilities and to devise a plan for this.