

Project Cooperation Brief

HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01-CARE-03: Identifying and Addressing Low-Value Care in Health and Care Systems

Title

Measurement, De-implementation, and Economic Evaluation of Low-Value Care

Partner Seeking Consortium / Coordinator

Arizona State University (ASU) – Safety Net Advancement Center (SNAC)

U.S. R1 Public Research University | Non-EU Associated Partner (Eligible for EU Funding)

Institutional Profile

Arizona State University (ASU) is a leading U.S. R1 public research university with a mission to serve communities and improve health and wellbeing through use-inspired, translational research. ASU is internationally recognized for interdisciplinary innovation in health systems science, data analytics, digital health, and implementation and de-implementation research. The Safety Net Advancement Center (SNAC) is an applied health research center at ASU. Through long-standing partnerships with safety-net providers, behavioral health systems, and public health agencies, we maintain access to large-scale U.S. health system, administrative, and population-level datasets. We bring real-world evaluation experience, strong data science capacity, and an established technology transfer ecosystem, and is actively expanding its international research portfolio as a European-research-ready partner.

Relevance to the Horizon Europe Call

This cooperation proposal is directly aligned with the objectives of HORIZON-HLTH-2026-01-CARE-03, addressing overuse, misuse, and underuse of healthcare services across the care pathway. ASU/SNAC contributes advanced methodologies to support healthcare providers, policymakers, and patients in identifying low-value care, implementing de-implementation strategies, and reallocating resources toward higher-value, patient-centered care. The team's work emphasizes equity, intersectionality, and real-world feasibility, consistent with Health Systems Performance Assessment (HSPA) principles.

Proposed Role in the Consortium

Work Package Lead or Co-Lead – Measurement, De-implementation, and Evaluation

ASU proposes to lead or co-lead a work package focused on:

- Development and validation of evidence-based indicators to identify overuse, misuse, underuse, and unwarranted variation
- De-implementation research and system redesign strategies to reduce low-value care while maintaining quality and patient safety
- Economic and ROI evaluation, including resource reallocation from low-value to high-value care
- Mixed-methods assessment of effectiveness, equity, scalability, and transferability across health systems
- Support for cross-country learning, best-practice transfer, and policy-relevant dissemination

Key Technical Contributions

- Measurement & Data Science: Advanced analytics using administrative, registry, and population-level data; indicator testing and validation
- De-implementation & Implementation Research: Workflow redesign, process engineering, and guideline-based discontinuation strategies
- Economic Evaluation: Cost-efficiency and ROI models aligned with fiscal and environmental sustainability goals
- Equity & Underuse: Focus on behavioral health, access barriers, disparity-sensitive and intersectional analysis
- Knowledge Translation: Learning collaboratives, dashboards, implementation toolkits, and policy briefs

Added Value as a Non-EU Partner

ASU provides complementary international expertise through:

- Access to unique U.S. health system datasets and comparative insights
- Experience evaluating payment and incentive models affecting low-value care
- Strong translational pathways from research to policy and practice
- Global visibility and commitment to sustained EU–U.S. research collaboration

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