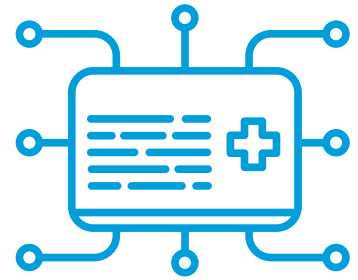


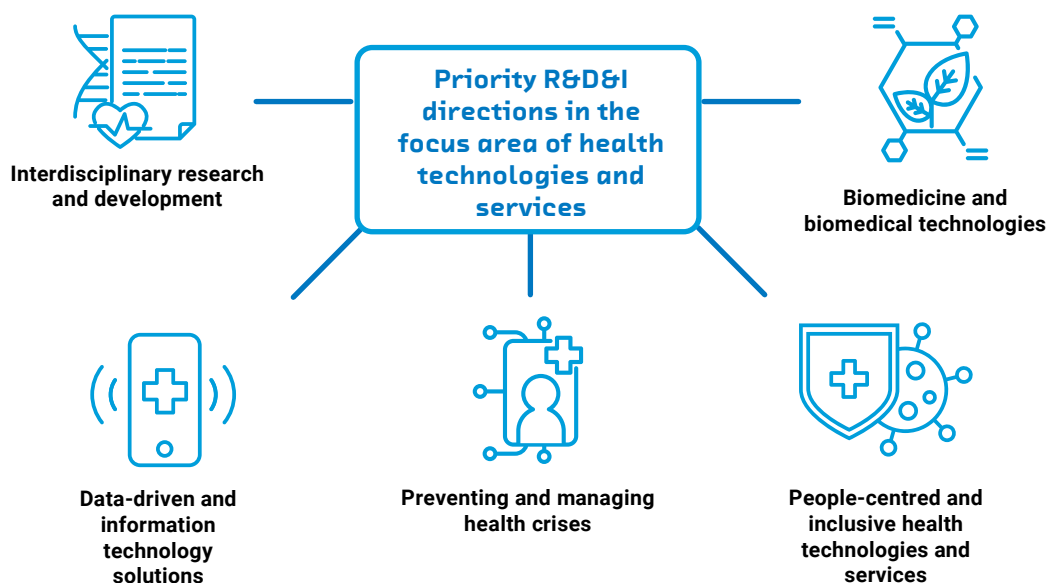
Health technologies and services



One of the starting points of the Estonian Research and Development, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Strategy is the need to make smart choices and to concentrate activities and funding in those areas that can best contribute to **creating solutions to society's challenges, based on research results and cooperation between different actors**. To this end, the Strategy identifies priority areas for development and increased financial support.

One such priority area is the focus area of health technologies and services. In order to best support the area of health, a roadmap was drawn up in cooperation with researchers, business communities, government agencies and other partners. In the roadmap, the parties agreed on the priority needs for the development of the health focus area in cooperation between research and business community, and what is needed to ensure that the Estonian economy and society benefit most from the development of the focus area.

The aim of the health technologies and services focus area is to work with research institutions and the business community to develop better, more accessible and personalised health services that also offer business community opportunities. It was agreed in the roadmap that the areas most in need of development are **biomedicine and biomedical technologies**, which encompass a whole range of disciplines such as biology, chemistry, physics, which are linked to the development of human health and also form the basis of personalised medicine. Equally, attention needs to be paid to solutions that enable the **smart use of health data** to develop new health products and services. **A people-centred and inclusive approach** to the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of diseases also requires **collaboration between different disciplines** such as digital, data, medical, material and behavioural sciences to develop new products and services that affect people's holistic healthcare pathways. Where possible, we should support the development of research-based solutions to **prevent and manage (future) health crises**.



In order to find appropriate research-based solutions for the needs identified, it was agreed in the roadmap that what needs support most in the focus area of health technologies and services is **the uptake of research results and the technologies developed**, e.g. through basic and applied research, the development of research directions, joint activities involving business communities and researchers, the mutual sharing of knowledge and experience between researchers and business communities, the provision of R&D services, international cooperation, etc. There is also a need to **foster broader cooperation** between research institutions, business communities and the public focus area as well as internationally. We also need to develop capabilities and environments for **assessing and testing the solutions we create**. **Activities related to health data** are essential for the creation of innovative solutions, health products and services. There is also a need to boost the emergence and growth of **start-ups** in the health focus area, **investment and exports**.



The roadmap is approved for a period of 3–4 years, after which it will be updated to take account of changes in the field. The development of the focus area will be regularly monitored and assessed to allow changes to be made to the roadmap and to the focus area's activities and funding. On the basis of the roadmap, **support measures** for the development of health technologies and services will be designed by the Ministry of Education and Research and the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications, alongside general research and business community funding measures such as research grants, research infrastructure grants, business community grants, etc., for which there are no priority areas.

