

## OFERTA DE PROYECTO DE TESIS DOCTORAL AYUDAS PARA LA FORMACIÓN DE PROFESORADO UNIVERSITARIO (FPU) 2018

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<b>TÍTULO DE LA TESIS</b>
“Mapping and Aligning Mental Health and Research”
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## MEMORIA DEL PROYECTO DE TESIS DOCTORAL (Entorno a 500 palabras)

This thesis will develop new methods for priority setting in health research that will be tested in the area of mental health. The goal is to build a comprehensive methodology aimed at informing resource allocation in health research on the basis of three sources of evidence:

- i) perceptions and values of stakeholders on health needs and research priorities,
- ii) evidence of health needs obtained from new digital healthcare data,
- iii) evidence of current research priorities obtained from publication and funding data.

This approach is a response to the perception that research is not sufficiently contributing to improving welfare. This misalignment between research efforts and health needs is more visible in contexts, such as cities, where socio-economic and environmental stresses are prominent. Mental health is an issue with a major social burden, in which there is an ongoing public and plural debate on preferred research trajectories – making it a very interesting test case. To address the divide between research and needs, we aim to develop a priority setting strategy that exploits newly available big data on healthcare and on scientific activities and that uses, in parallel, wider forms of expertise through public participation. Such approaches are in agreement with research health strategies in Europe and with the wider science policy initiatives on ‘Open Science’ and ‘Responsible Research and Innovation’ (RRI), as well as the ‘Evaluation System for Research in Health’ of Catalonia (SARIS).

Our contribution aims to build one comprehensive methodology through techniques from three disciplines: participatory process from science and technology studies, health needs and cost estimates from health economics, and on science mapping techniques from scientometrics – all of them enriched with novel digital visualizations to facilitate stakeholders’ engagement.

The project is unique in bringing together highly transdisciplinary expertise from an innovation studies institute, Ingenio (CSIC-UPV), and a health policy agency (AQuAS) that are among the leading European centres in the study and application of research impact assessment. Ràfols (at Ingenio) will lead the development of quantitative evidence and its visualization. Paula Adam, head of research assessment of AQuAS, will lead the qualitative approaches and policy interfaces with stakeholders.