

BiInnovation Institute Brain Health Challenge

February 2026

For further inquiries, reach out to Sofie Singbrant Söderberg at
biostudioprogram@bii.dk

The logo consists of the letters 'BII' in a bold, white, sans-serif font. The 'B' is significantly larger than the 'I's, and the two 'I's are positioned to the right of the 'B', creating a distinctive graphic element.

BiInnovation
Institute

BioInnovation Institute is a Danish non-profit organization focused on bringing science to life



BII turns research into startups, and accelerates innovation through our programs: Bio Studio (company creation), Venture Lab (company acceleration)



BII's primary focus is on supporting early-stage innovation within **Human Health, Planetary Health, and Societal Resilience**



BII supports **35 projects with ~30 MEUR each year**



BII is a **scientist-led organization** that enables a closer connection to the researchers and fosters a **culture of innovation & entrepreneurship**

What is Bio Studio? A company creation program for entrepreneurial academic researchers



Bio Studio projects apply through Challenge-based open call within one of BII's focus areas

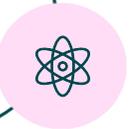
Human Health



Focus Areas



Planetary Health



Societal Resilience

The program is open for world-leading PIs with an entrepreneurial mindset



Funding



The program offers funding of up to DKK 5.35m per year (EUR ~0.72m) up to three years. Access to in-kind support.

Project Team & Incubation



The team will be hired at BII and gain access to state-of-the-art facilities. An Entrepreneur in Residence (EiR) drives company creation while the PI remains at their home institution as scientific advisor.

Program Content



Maturation of the scientific innovation. Access to BII's acceleration platform, network (e.g., 200+ VC), and community events.

Intellectual Property (IP)



Existing IP is not required. However, project-related IP must be licensable to the future spin-out company on market terms.



Are you interested in applying for the current **Brain Health Challenge Call**?

Find details on the next slide, and submit an Expression of Interest (EoI) at www.bii.dk/programs/bio-studio

4th May

Deadline for EoI submission

15th Jun

Pitch of selected projects



Bio Studio is seeking for group leaders (>3 years experience) wanting to see their science translate into real life solution.

For more info, see [here](#) for Bio Studio Guidelines

Already a start up? We still want to hear from you!
Check out our Venture Lab program at <https://bii.dk/programs/venture-lab/>

BII



BII aims to accelerate research into real-world, clinically translatable solutions. Through our current **Bio Studio Challenge Call**, we seek entrepreneurial Principal Investigators that develop technologies with platform potential and a clear therapeutic application.

PROGRAM	Bio Studio
DURATION	Up to 3 years
FUNDING	DKK 5.35M (~€0.72M) per year
In-Kind Support	State of the art lab facilities, business development coaching, intellectual property protection

DEADLINE TO APPLY
4th MAY 2026

Co-funded by



Brain Health Challenge

Despite significant scientific and technological progress, patients suffering from nervous system disorders still rarely see durable improvements in function or quality of life, underscoring a persistent innovation & translational challenge.

The Brain Health Challenge Call aims to tackle this by focusing on three interlinked problems:



Insufficient understanding of disease biology for therapeutic design



Weak translational engines for drug discovery



Brain and cell precision delivery as the bottleneck

Problem

The limited understanding of disease pathology, mechanisms, and patient heterogeneity of nervous system disorders result in poor translation into clinical treatment.

Existing preclinical models fail to capture the complexity of human brain and peripheral nervous system biology, thus failing to serve as reliable drug discovery engines.

There is a lack of broadly applicable, clinically robust delivery strategies to safely move therapies across the blood-brain barrier, and to specific brain regions and cell types.

What are we looking for?

New therapeutic solutions stemming from clear causal biology, which are clinically translatable into real-world, commercially viable treatments.

Drug discovery platforms, either new or superior to current models in recapitulating human disease (e.g., calibrated on validated drug targets).

Robust, modular, and scalable solutions for CNS / PNS regions and cell-specific delivery that enable small molecules, biologics, and/or oligonucleotides to target the nervous system.

A special focus on, but not restricted to, neuro-rare indications (often with clearer causal biology), for example:

- repeat expansion disorders,
- neuroendocrine diseases,
- neurodevelopmental disorders

Platforms may include *in silico* solutions (e.g., cell atlas, pathway analysis, gene variants, GWAS, multi-omics) and new approach methodologies (e.g., organoids, organon-chip, assembloids).

Technology with a clear framework aligning payload, cell specificity, and route of administration to the relevant indication(s).

Out-of-scope

- Repurposing of already marketed assets, over-the-counter solutions
- Cell and gene therapy
- Medical Devices or digital solutions

- Pure-AI play solutions
- Pure platform solution without therapeutic application
- Non-validated model development

- Intracranial route of administration
- Medical Devices

Reach out to Principal, Sofie Singbrant Söderberg via email: biostudioprogram@bii.dk
Lundbeck A/S will participate in due diligence under a confidentiality agreement without any further rights to the funded projects or its IP. Any conflicts of interest will be declared upfront (see [Bio Studio guidelines](#))



Scan the QR code or visit www.bii.dk/programs/bio-studio for the criteria of the Brain Health Challenge Call and the Bio Studio application process.

Brain Health Challenge

Join us to create the next Bio Studio project
and improve lives for patients.

Let's bring science to life.

