

Newsletter for Researchers – 2 March 2026

Dear researcher,

In this newsletter for researchers, we introduce a new option to cover open access publication costs and highlight three recently approved research projects. Continue reading for the latest updates!

Compensation for publications costs

KiKa is committed to maximizing the accessibility, visibility, and impact of the research it funds. To support open science and ensure that research outcomes become widely available, KiKa offers, from 1 March 2026 onwards, compensation for open access publication costs. Compensation can be requested for manuscripts resulting from new, ongoing, and completed KiKa research (pilot) projects/programs (completed within the past two years).

[Read more](#)

New project applications approved for funding

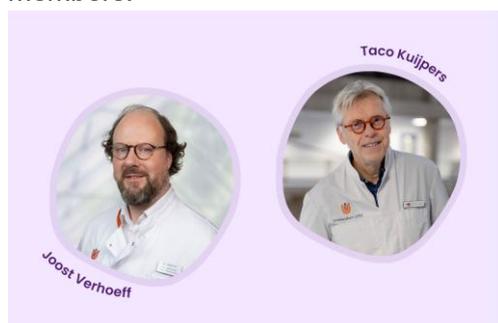
Since the previous newsletter, KiKa has approved three applications for funding:

- Reproductive Outcomes in female Childhood Cancer Survivors - LATER-ROCCS.
Project leaders: Heleen van der Pal (Princess Máxima Center for pediatric oncology), Margeet Veening (Princess Máxima Center for pediatric oncology), and Simone Broer (UMC Utrecht).
- Motion-Free MRI for sedation-free Paediatric Neuro-Oncology: A Clinical Pilot at Princess Máxima Center.
Project leaders: Karina Kersbergen (Princess Máxima Center for pediatric oncology) and Alessandro Sbrizzi (UMC Utrecht).
- Peptide based radiotheranostics for personalized treatment of high-risk neuroblastomas.
Project leaders: Alex Poot (UMC Utrecht) and Seino Jongkees (Amsterdam UMC).

More information

Scientific Board KiKa

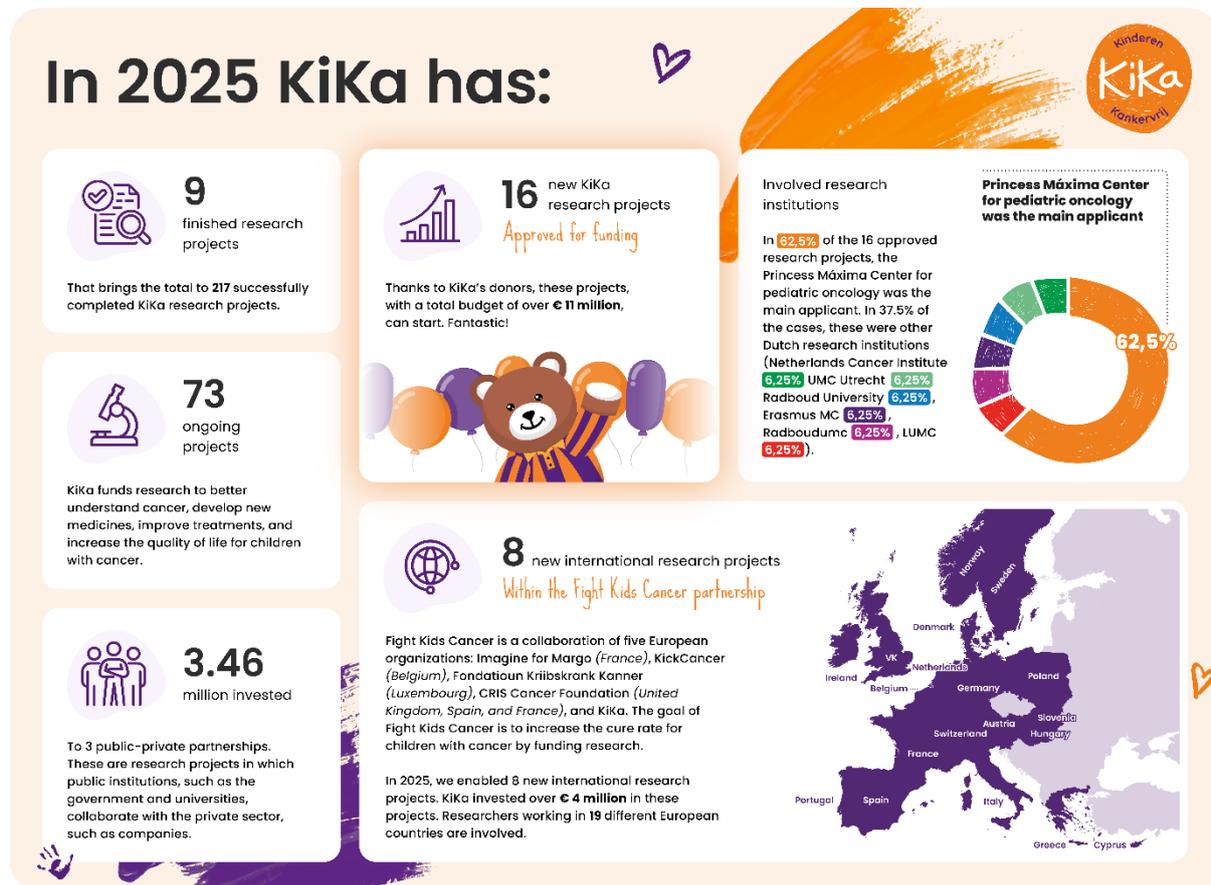
As of February 1, 2026, the Scientific Board KiKa has been strengthened by Prof. dr. Joost Verhoeff and Prof. dr. Taco Kuijpers. After years of providing KiKa with advice about research proposals, Em. Prof. dr. Fred Falkenburg and Prof. dr. Marcel Verheij are leaving the Scientific Board. KiKa sincerely thanks them for their valuable contributions and warmly welcomes the new members!



[Read more](#)

Research highlights of 2025

Research lies at the heart of everything we do. In 2025, KiKa proudly awarded € 11.2 million to 16 new research projects in the Netherlands. We are also pleased to continue our international collaborations, contributing € 4 million to 8 new FIGHT KIDS CANCER projects, alongside providing core funding to the Princess Máxima Centre (€ 14.5 million). Together, we keep getting closer to our ultimate goal: every child cancer-free.



[Read more](#)

Join us in organizing the Tom Voûte Young Investigator Awards 2026

Every year, KiKa organises the [Tom Voûte Young Investigator Awards](#). During this event, PhD students compete for the award by presenting their research on paediatric oncology to fellow researchers and an expert jury. We are looking for enthusiastic PhD students and physician-researchers to help organise this great event. Would you like more information? Get in touch.

[Contact](#)

Calendar

<u>Submitting an application to KiKa</u>	
Research and pilot projects	Deadlines: 1 June 2026 (23:59) and 1 October 2026 (23:59)
Research programs	Deadline preapplication: 1 April 2026 (23:59) Deadline full application: 1 October 2026 (23:59); <i>Invitation only</i>