

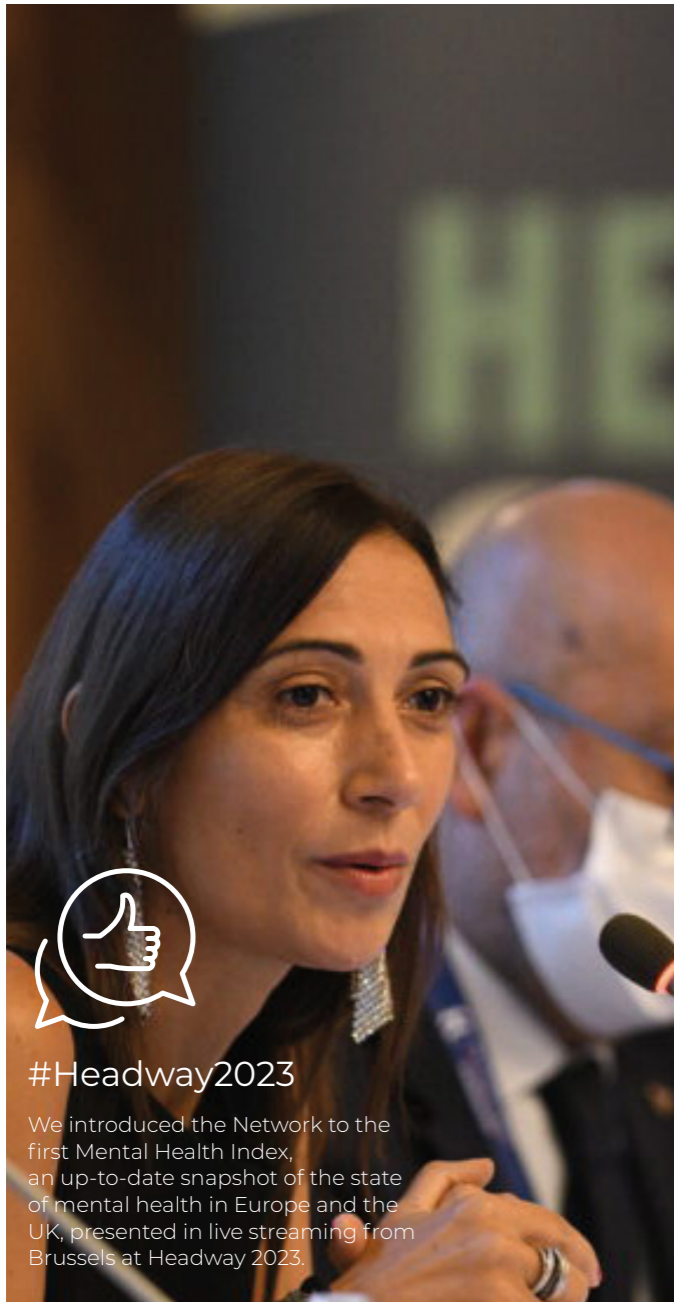


MAGAZINE

aptitude»

BY ANGELINI PHARMA

ISSUE / COMMITTED TO PATIENT'S LIFE



#Headway2023

We introduced the Network to the first Mental Health Index, an up-to-date snapshot of the state of mental health in Europe and the UK, presented in live streaming from Brussels at Headway 2023.

Angelini Pharma
@AngeliniPharma

We analyzed the state [#mentalhealth](#) in 27 EU countries and in the UK with the first [#MentalHealthIndex](#) in Europe. We will present it at the [#Headway2023](#) Forum, in partnership with [@Ambrosetti_](#).

[#7October](#) | 9:30 - 11:30 am
In Brussels and online
bit.ly/MentalIndex



LA COVER

What is mental illness if not a plunge into dark waters full of uncertainty? Faced with a sea that is anything but calm, every day you feel like you are riding waves bigger than you are. Torn between the inexorable need to move forward and loneliness, you feel yourself sinking. But hope is possible: we want to be like your surfboard, able to bring you back to the surface, to support you in challenges that seem impossible but are not, to carry away the violent tides of stigma and bring you back to the coast, in safety.

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A new awareness for a new society

by Pierluigi Antonelli, Angelini Pharma CEO

// **The pandemic and the recent Olympics have put the topic of mental health in the spotlight. Now it is our responsibility not to allow this new light to dwindle.**

The Tokyo Olympics were one of the most important events of last summer: a moment in which we partly savoured life as we knew it before the pandemic, a life that included public events. However, the Olympic Games in Tokyo were also a pivotal moment in society's interpretation of mental health. A **turning point** that began when young American gymnast Simone Biles pulled out of the competition in order to focus on her mental well-being, and that continued with the testimonies of the sprinter Noah Lyles, the Russian athlete Anzhelika Sidorova and the Spanish heptathlete Maria Vicente. These champions were able to speak openly about their mental health and raise awareness on the issue, with a basic consideration common to all of them: the lack of support they have received from sports institutions in their daily struggles.

In the rest of the world and in the public debate, albeit with exceptions, we are beginning to **see signs of improvement**, especially in terms of a reduction in the stigma suffered by people with mental disorders. However, we cannot stop here. We can no longer afford not to take care of our brains, it is time to take action. Every year in Europe, some 165,000 people die from causes

related to mental and behavioural disorders. Suicide is the sixth most common cause of death in the European Union in the population under 70 years of age and the fourth most common cause of death in the population under 20 years of age, with alarming increases in the number of suicide cases since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since the outbreak of the **pandemic, anxiety and stress levels** have increased significantly, and necessary lockdowns and social isolation have had major socioeconomic impacts, both on individuals and, by extension, on productive activities and consequently on public infrastructures.

At Angelini Pharma, from the outset, we realised the terrible impact the pandemic would have on people's lives. Since February 2020, we have launched a great many projects to assist people in this complex period, including: "La grande incertezza" (The Great Uncertainty), a series of podcasts on the impact of COVID-19 on the mind; APdates consisting in online talks discussing the effects of the pandemic on the psyche; Nodes, a podcast with which we tried to shed light on the stories of people and caregivers who live with mental health problems every day; and the initiatives that

Point of view

we promoted for World Mental Health Day.

At the same time, a multinational company like ours is well aware that to make a difference, the debate must also take place at a higher level, and involve European institutional tables, to help make mental health a priority in public health programs. With this in mind, in 2017, we partnered with the think tank The European House Ambrosetti to launch the Headway project, a multidisciplinary initiative on mental health in the EU that entered a new phase this year with the preparation of an analysis model regarding the performance of European countries in the mental health field ("Headway 2023 Mental Health Index") focusing on the spheres of Health, Society, School and Work. The lessons learned from the COVID-19 emergency now offer us an extraordinary opportunity to improve European mental health services and policy, by putting Brain Health in the right spotlight and high on the European public health agenda.

At Angelini Pharma, we intend to **confirm and strengthen our commitment** to mental health and the broader area of Brain Health.

After the acquisition of Arvelle Therapeutics and our initiatives based on Open Innovation (such as the investments in the start-up Incubator Argobio and the launch of the Angelini Lumira Biosciences Fund), we intend to **promote a new public dialogue** focusing on mental health to provide support for people and health services. Our goal is, and remains, to be **closer to people**, trying to understand their needs, facing everyday difficulties with them and **fighting alongside them** to overcome the stigma and barriers they face day after day. Because we know that health, which allows us to live the life that each of us wants to live, comes from our heads.

The debate must take place at a higher level, and involve European institutional tables, to help make mental health a priority.

A multidimensional picture of mental health in Europe

by Barbara Nadine De Gol, Global Patient Advocacy Specialist

// On World Mental Health Day, The European House Ambrosetti and Angelini Pharma presented Headway 2023 - Mental Health Index: the report on the status of mental health in Europe.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated existing gender disparities, with its mental health consequences disproportionately affecting women, both at work and at home, according to the findings of the “**Headway 2023 - Mental Health Index**” report, which was presented in Brussels on 7 October, World Mental Health Day. The report also sheds light on the **impact of mental health disorders on children**, revealing a possible relationship between mental health problems and school dropout rates (e.g., 1 in 3 teenagers who drop out of school also has a mental health disorder).

The Index is a **multidimensional snapshot** of the mental health status of the population in European Union countries and the United Kingdom as part

of Headway 2023, a Mental Health initiative conceived and launched by the think tank The European House - Ambrosetti in partnership with Angelini Pharma. Headway 2023 is a multidisciplinary knowledge exchange platform for preventing, diagnosing and managing mental health problems and identifying innovative solutions to reduce their burden and the associated stigma at European and local levels.

“The measures put in place for post-pandemic recovery represent a crucial opportunity to improve mental health services and policy in Europe, by putting brain health at the top of the European public health agenda,” said our CEO Pierluigi Antonelli. The “Headway 2023 - Mental Health Index” provides the **first comprehensive**

overview of the performance of mental health systems in Europe. The report highlights the percentage of mental disorders among working-age people and the urgent need for employers to also create appropriate policies that address their mental health needs. The Angelini Group, thanks also to the strong commitment of its shareholders, provides a psychological helpdesk for all its employees. It is critical as we support pro-citizen advocacy policies to **be consistent and work responsibly** first and foremost within our own organisations.”

According to Daniela Bianco, Partner and Head of the Healthcare Area of The European House - Ambrosetti, “the boundaries of Mental Health go beyond age, gender, social status and background, and **mental disorders** have a major impact not only on individuals and their families, but also **on society**. Our analysis and the “Headway 2023 - Mental Health Index” take all of these aspects into consideration.”

“Although the COVID-19 pandemic had significant consequences for the mental health of the entire population, in Europe, Mental Health was already a matter of **concern long before the pandemic**, with more than 84 million people with mental health conditions and some 165,000 deaths a year caused by

- **83% of women** state that the pandemic has had a negative impact on their mental health, compared to **36% of men**.
- **Twenty percent of the working-age population** experience mild or moderate forms of mental disorders at some point in their lives.
- **70% of the employed population** report mild to moderate forms of mental health problems
- **employment rates amongst people with severe mental illness** have been found to be as low as 45-55% and those who are in employment have been found to receive wages that are **58% lower than average**.
- **the total costs associated with**

mental health disorders are equivalent to 4% of the combined GDP of EU countries

- **Across Europe, 5 percent of total government health spending goes to mental health**
- **1 in 3 children who drop out of school also have a mental disorder.**

As the pandemic continues, healthcare professionals' prolonged exposure to extremely stressful and potentially traumatic situations makes them particularly prone to mental stress and anxiety.



HEADWAY^o 2023

A new roadmap in Mental Health

mental illness or suicide. As a matter of fact, for example, the **life expectancy** of people with schizophrenia - 60 years for men and 68 years for women - is 13 to 15 years lower than that of the rest of the population. In addition, suicide is the sixth most common cause of death in the general population and the fourth most common cause of death amongst youngsters, and in some countries the impact of mental disorders in young people is greater than that of all other medical disorders combined. "The analyses presented today show great variability in the availability, accessibility and quality of the **mental health services** provided and in the responsiveness of European countries to mental health needs in schools, workplaces and society in general," said Celso Arango, president of the Spanish Society of Psychiatry and Advisor to the "Headway 2023" project. "However, a widespread paucity of up-to-date data and possible bias related to "misreporting" and "under-reporting" have come to light. It is therefore critical to increase the various countries' capacity to collect and monitor mental health data in order to assess the extent

of mental health across countries and evaluate their responsiveness to mental health and socioeconomic needs."

According to recent estimates, **83% of women** say that the pandemic has had a negative impact on their mental health, compared to 36% of men. Pregnant women, women in the postpartum period, or those who have experienced trauma such as a miscarriage or domestic abuse were found to be more susceptible to the psychological impacts of the pandemic. The increased burden of household chores and childcare also had a significant impact on women's mental well-being, with 44% of women with children under age 12 stating that they were the only ones handling household duties, compared to just 20% of men.

The report also reveals that mental disorders, especially mild to moderate ones, affect **20% of the working-age population** at some point in their lives, while 70% of the employed population reports mild to moderate forms of mental health problems. Mental illness can also have a significant impact

on people's ability to work, consequently limiting their ability to find a job. The **employment rate** amongst people with severe mental illness is 45-55% and their wages are 58% lower than average. Looking at Europe as a whole, the employment rate of people suffering from depression is extremely variable, with rates ranging from 27 percent in Romania to 68 percent in Germany. Overall, the cost of lost labour productivity is high (amounting to 1.6 percent of the European GDP).

As the pandemic continues, **healthcare professionals'** prolonged exposure to extremely stressful and potentially traumatic situations makes them particularly prone to mental stress and anxiety with a long-term impact on their health. In Europe, 57% of healthcare professionals reported symptoms of post-traumatic stress during the peak of the pandemic.

The "Headway 2023 - Mental Health Index" also highlights the **socioeconomic impact of mental health disorders**. Recent studies estimate that the total cost of mental health disorders, in terms of lost productivity and healthcare and social spending, is equivalent to 4% of EU's GDP. Although mental health

has a critical socioeconomic impact, **no more than 5 percent of total government health spending** is allocated to mental health across Europe (with values ranging from 3 percent in Poland, 3.5 percent in Italy, and 4.2 percent in Spain to 5.4 percent in Denmark), with impacts on the availability of infrastructures and human resources dedicated to Mental Health. As regards the ability to address society's mental health needs, greater perceived social support was reported for countries with higher per capita expenditure on mental health-related disability.

Generally speaking, the available data show that Northern/Central European countries perform better than Eastern European countries; however, there is a widespread shortage of up-to-date data and possible bias associated with "misreporting" and "under-reporting" by some countries.



Putting open innovation at the service of people

by Felicia Ridola, Corporate Digital & Italy Communications Manager

Providing a reference point and an international partner for interaction capable of creating fertile ground for innovative health solutions.

During this past year, Angelini Pharma launched two important initiatives associated with open innovation, with the announcement, in March 2021, of its participation in the **Argobio** start-up incubator, and in July, with the establishment of the **Angelini Lumira Biosciences Fund (ALBF)**.

These initiatives confirm that Angelini Pharma is focusing its attention on the innovation ecosystem with a precise objective: to become an important intermediary for start-ups, to play an active part in the growth of the sector and, in the long term, to identify new health solutions to serve patients, their families and the players involved in the care journey.

We discussed this with **Francesco Paolo Di Giorgio, Global R&D External Innovation Executive Director of Angelini Pharma**, to understand how the new Angelini Pharma - a company betting on innovation - is being forged.

What is open innovation and what is its value for Angelini Pharma?

Open innovation is a term coined by US economist

Henry Chesbrough in 2003: it is an approach that uses external resources to generate innovation within companies. In the pharmaceutical industry, in recent years, we have witnessed a gradual increase in innovation outside of the large pharmaceutical groups, originating from academic centres and small businesses. As a matter of fact, the products placed on the market that originated from start-ups increased from 31% in 2009 to 63% in 2018. At Angelini Pharma, we are developing a well-defined Open Innovation strategy. Given our size, we do not have the resources to compete on all fronts with the industry giants, which is why we have opted for an agile R&D model that captures the best innovation coming from academic centres and start-ups.

Can you tell us about the path we have taken? What are our areas of focus?

Our Open Innovation journey has three fronts. 1) In terms of technical expertise, we constantly interact with a team of external experts who are an integral part of our management team. 2) Our

in-house projects are managed through external research companies and academic centres of excellence that do the experimental work under our coordination. This approach gives us maximum management flexibility. 3) Our pipeline will be fuelled by new projects from outside the company. To do this, we have a team that scouts start-ups around the world; at the same time, we launched initiatives like Argobio and ALBF, creating partnerships with high-level investors. All of this takes place within our areas of focus: the central nervous system and rare diseases.

Thinking back to this journey, have there been any particularly difficult moments and, on the other hand, any particularly exciting ones?

Identifying the right partners took a lot of work and a well-defined strategy. We wanted to work with investors in start-ups that already had extensive experience and success behind them, that would allow us to participate directly in the identification and evaluation of the start-ups in which to invest

and that were at least partially focused on the central nervous system and rare diseases areas. The most exciting moments are, without a doubt, the conclusion of contracts, which are the ultimate result of great teamwork.

Is open innovation the high road, or at least the most important way, to bring new health solutions to people? and why?

The classic R&D model in Pharma is outdated and companies are realising this. Enterprises that are able to better capture innovation by drawing from the best labs, research centres or start-ups and combine it with in-house skill sets and capabilities will certainly be

at an advantage when it comes to identifying new health solutions that benefit patients.

How do you envision the future and what new goals have you set for yourself?

2021 was a very important year: we completed the first phase of our strategy by creating strong partnerships through Argobio and ALBF. In coming years, we will try to use these platforms to generate new projects that feed into our pipeline. We are already working in this direction: we recently completed ALBF's first investment in a start-up working in the epilepsy field. Argobio has already incubated a first project

on Parkinson's Disease and is working on a new platform to create treatments based on protein degradation of specific targets. We invested in Pretzel Therapeutics, a new start-up focused on rare diseases. We are active participants in all of these initiatives; however, one of the biggest challenges will be finding the right way to integrate some of these programmes into our pipeline.

Angelini Lumira Biosciences Fund (ALBF)

Last July, Angelini Pharma and Lumira Ventures announced the launch of **Angelini Lumira Biosciences Fund (ALBF)**. The fund, managed by Lumira Ventures, a North American venture capital firm and leader in the life sciences field, was established with the goal of investing in early-stage companies in Canada and the United States that are developing pharmaceutical therapies for **central nervous system disorders and rare diseases**. Angelini Pharma is the sole institutional investor, with a commitment of \$35 million.

Argobio

Incubator of European start-ups dedicated to life sciences.

In March 2021, Angelini Pharma announced its participation in Argobio, an incubator of European start-ups dedicated to life sciences. Angelini Pharma enters with a 30% stake and capital of 15 million euros. Argobio's goal is to create and launch at least five ambitious biotechnology companies in the next five years. The incubator will focus on selected therapeutic areas, rare diseases, neurological disorders, oncology and immunology, and endeavours to develop promising technology platforms for therapeutic products.



A journey that started in the past and looks to the future

by Doinita Constantinescu, Angelini Pharma Romania HR Head

// A story of success and resilience for Angelini Pharma Romania. A story in which transformational capability and goal-orientation take centre-stage.

When the pandemic struck in the spring of 2020, the world also began to come to terms with the concepts of volatility, unpredictability, and shifting paradigms. However, for **Angelini Pharma Romania**, change management was not something new introduced by COVID-19: it has been a leitmotiv that has accompanied the team throughout its 24-year history, and particularly since 2017. The Romanian organisation has a **history of great success**, with consistently above-market performance and market leadership in the major therapeutic areas addressed. However, along its path, Angelini Pharma Romania has **faced many challenges**. Continuous challenges and the ability to deal with them have been a constant, not episodes, in the history of the Romanian team, partly because of the speed

of change that occurs in a rapidly developing country, and partly because of the cultural and social characteristics of the country. In 2017, the company faced a severe drop in profitability, forcing a business model reset. **Embracing change** has become imperative to implement a turnaround that has put Angelini Pharma Romania back on a path of sustainable and profitable growth. If 2017 was the year of reset, 2018 and 2019 required all the resilience it could muster to get into the groove of profitable growth, starting from a difficult situation. **Integrity has been the moral compass** upon which the team has built the trust and cooperation required to gain maximum engagement from internal and external stakeholders. It is with this approach that the team has **achieved significant results**, with revenue growing

in recent years, and profitability reaching an historic high in 2020, despite the severe impact of the pandemic on seasonal brands. Even in recent weeks, with the fourth wave of the pandemic hitting Romania very severely, Angelini Pharma Romania **looks to the future** trusting in its ability to once again prove to be a little more resilient than circumstances require, ever-more performing, courageous and passionate, in order to continue **its 24-year success story**.

An Hour for Moravia

by Jaroslava Hájková, Angelini Pharma Czech Republic HR Head

During the night of 24 June, a tornado hit southern Moravia, the very region where Angelini Pharma's Czech Republic offices are located. **The tornado wiped out several villages** causing the loss of 5 lives and severe damage to local communities: it was the strongest tornado ever reported in the modern history of the Czech Republic, and the most catastrophic in Europe since 2001.

Being #Angeliners also means caring for others, which is why the response was not long in coming. The very next day, our colleagues organised **An Hour for Moravia**, a charity project for the area, in which Czech Angeliners donated one hour of their work to the Lužice Municipal Office, to fund the reconstruction of public buildings. The amount raised was then

doubled by Angelini Pharma Czech Republic. A project to be proud of, just as proud as our colleagues should be for their commitment to their local area and a better future.

Meet LAURIE

by Kounková Kristýna Angelini Pharma Czech Republic Digital Medicines Manager

Is it possible to support HCPs, and consequently people, with gamification? The answer is yes, as demonstrated by **LAURIE**, a digital project launched by Angelini Pharma Czech Republic that aims to support the professional development of psychiatrists using low-fidelity gamified simulations of clinical cases called virtual patients (VPs). The name of the project is an acronym that stands for **virtual pAtients sUffering fRom schIzophrEnia**. Currently, the project has seen the completion of one pilot case, a 20-year-old patient being treated for a severe psychiatric disorder,

while the team is working to launch four more virtual cases and to initiate the launch of an Italian virtual case. The team's goal is to publish eleven cases in order to provide a supportive service to the broadest audience of HCPs. The project website is online with the first pilot virtual patient and available in seven languages (English, Bulgarian, Czech, Italian, Spanish, Russian and Slovak).

www.laurie-project.com



Being a recognised Partner of Choice every day

by Agnese Cattaneo, Chief Medical Officer

FOCUS ON
Partner of Choice

// Professional ethics and the ability to intercept health needs: these are the essential elements for a pharmaceutical company to be recognised as a Partner of Choice.

Over the past decade, pharmaceutical companies have moved in the direction of an operating model increasingly aimed at what is known as Customer Facing, an approach that prioritises **interactions with external stakeholders** by all functions.

The success of such a model depends both on giving a high-value image of the company and on building a network of partnerships at various levels. In order for a company to be recognised as a Partner of Choice by external stakeholders, it must be characterised by a high **ethical professional value** and the ability to intercept and **accommodate needs**.

In the transformation that leads to Angelini Pharma being recognised as a valued partner a significant role is played by the **medical and clinical research functions**. Consequently, as a company, we are implementing several initiatives with the goal of engaging external stakeholders while keeping patients as the focal point. The activities that we have sponsored or supported in recent

months include some particularly worthy of mention for their innovative nature and genuine scientific collaboration with partners of excellence, such as:

- **The Telemachus Research Project** conducted by a group at Oxford University in collaboration with the UK National Health Service (NHS);
- **An Expanded Access Program** that allows patients in need expedited access to cenobamate;
- acceleration of the **clinical trials digital transformation process** that has allowed us to simplify
- **Angelini for Future** Call for Research projects.

The implementation of each of these projects was made possible by **active partnerships** with centres and groups of excellence in research and clinical practice. Angelini for Future, in particular, has made it possible to provide the resources needed to conduct **research programs in**

the paediatrics field with a focus on rare diseases. Our company had the privilege of supporting a research call promoted by the paediatric network INCIPIT that, through the involvement of an international scientific committee composed by authoritative experts, selected a clinical research project presented by the University of Trieste and a preclinical study by the Italian Institute of Technology Foundation (IIT) in Genoa. These types of initiatives represent crucial opportunities for strengthening relationships between the pharmaceutical company and external stakeholders of excellence with the aim of joining forces to achieve the common goal of creating **medical and scientific value for people**.

Angelini for Future

The future of medical research is already here

by Alessandro Comandini, Global Medical Director Clinical Development Specialty Care

// **Electronic informed consent, wearable devices and telematic platforms: Angelini Pharma's research is transformed and digitised, while keeping people as its focal point.**

Let's start with the **numbers**: more than 26,000 patients were enrolled in our studies over the two-year period 2020-2021, involving more than 200 clinical centres in 13 countries.

These are important results, achieved during a **period that is difficult** for everyone, to **say the least**, but particularly for healthcare providers and, of course, patients. Missed visits, the inability to get to hospital, the risk of contracting COVID, the difficulties receiving care.

Despite all of this, we have managed to keep going and to date we have a dozen ongoing clinical trials in pharma and as many planned for the next three years. This year, we have also had the privilege of being able to work in the **field of epilepsy**, thanks to the acquisition of the antiepileptic cenobamate, for which we are implementing a Paediatric Investigation Plan, to extend its use to the paediatric population.

In the current scenario, people with **psychiatric** and **neurological**

pathologies have been particularly hard hit and have suffered heavily from the isolation and difficulties caused by the health emergency. Aware of this, to try to **minimise inconvenience** and give patients the opportunity to continue to participate in studies, we have put in place all possible measures to dematerialise operations, **digitise processes**, and **facilitate remote access for** both healthcare professionals and patients. The year 2021 saw the first implementation of **electronic informed consent** (e-consent) in an Angelini practice. Using this tool, patients will receive exhaustive information regarding study procedures through voice support and will be able to give their consent electronically, without having to travel to the hospital.

With the aim of limiting the movement of patients and receiving feedback from them on the efficacy and safety of treatments, in a study with patients suffering from major depression treated with

antidepressants (including trazodone), we introduced **electronic data collection tools** (ePRO, electronic Patient Reported Outcome) and a **telemedicine platform** for remote visits.

Putting the patient at the centre is a priority for us and not only do we believe it is essential to collect information directly from patients about their health through ePROs, but we are also studying non-invasive and innovative ways to monitor the progress of therapy.

To do so, we have initiated an innovative pilot study on the use of a **wearable device** for the collection of passive data (digital phenotyping) in patients with depression, treated with trazodone. Our intent is to compare the results collected through classical methods with some functionality parameters related to movement, sleep quality or sociability, collected passively through the wearable device worn by patients.

support independent research on drug repurposing in rare diseases or conditions with unmet medical needs.

Forty-six research proposals responded to the call for graduate European investigators working in public or private nonprofit health care organisations. Of the forty-six proposals, the panel of experts chosen to judge them selected the two winning projects, a phase 2 clinical study and a preclinical study. More specifically, the winning research projects were Repurposing mirtazapine in Rett syndrome: a multicenter randomized, placebo-controlled Phase II study by the **University of Trieste** and Treatment of social, cognitive, and sleep impairment in a mouse model of Prader-Willi by repurposing of the FDA-approved diuretic Bumetanide by the **Fondazione Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia** (IIT) of Genoa.

Being a Partner of Choice also means facilitating the task of identifying new health solutions that can **address** unmet health needs. Because science is ever-evolving and finds its sap and foundations in research work.

It is with this spirit that Angelini Pharma gave its unconditional support to the Angelini for Future project, a **research call** promoted by Incipit (Italian Network for Paediatric Clinical Trials), whose objective was to

Giving people an answer as soon as possible

by Alessandro Comandini, Global Medical Director Clinical Development Specialty Care

// **With the Cenobamate Early Access Program, Angelini Pharma is enabling accelerated access to the drug for patients in need**

Jumping on to the engine of a **moving** train, a train with a thousand passengers on board, taking control of it and **bringing it to the station is no easy feat** but that is what we did when we took over the responsibility of leading the European Early Access programmes with cenobamate. What are Early Access Programs (EAPs)?

EAPs are plans designed and implemented to **ensure that patients have immediate access** to therapies that have yet to receive marketing authorisation in a given country.

EAPs can be implemented for products that satisfy an unmet medical need, or for a public health concern, and for all life-threatening conditions for which no therapeutic alternatives are available.

During these programmes, the drug is provided free of charge, by the company that owns it, to the doctor or institution that requests it, subject to authorisation from the regulatory authorities and/or Ethics Committees; in some countries, such as France and Switzerland, the drug is reimbursed by the Health Service. One thing to always keep in mind, in fact, is the considerable variety of procedures governing the implementation of EAPs in Europe.

Managing an EAP is an extremely **complex, multidisciplinary** activity that involves the timely management of the drug

supply. Not only that, EAPs must end when the drug is placed on the market, which is what happened in Germany and Austria, where, since June and last July respectively, cenobamate is available on the market. In Germany, 440 patients had been included and up to that point, Angelini Pharma had guaranteed them the supply of the drug on the basis of the requests of the treating physicians, and, **thanks to the work of all** the company **functions** involved, the transition was carried out without interruption in the availability of the drug for all the patients being treated.

Through this programme, so far more than one **thousand patients** have been able to take advantage of the therapeutic opportunity offered by cenobamate, while

waiting for the product to be placed on the market in their respective countries. This activity is providing us with the opportunity to collaborate with more than **one hundred** highly specialised **clinical centres**.

In short, the company's choice to support an EAP and to make cenobamate available to patients with Focal Epilepsy has a concrete ethical value, as demonstrated by the massive involvement in the programme by specialists and **their patients. A value we are all extremely proud of.**

■■■
EAPs are plans designed and implemented to ensure that patients have immediate access to therapies that have yet to receive marketing authorisation in a given country.

Remote therapy: the prospects for telepsychiatry

by Fabrizio Calisti, Global Medical Affairs Director Specialty Care

The full impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on health systems and levels of care has yet to fully emerge. However, it is already evident that, in the current scenario, people suffering from **psychiatric disorders** represent a **particularly fragile population** due to the complexity of their needs and the heavy burden of disease that affects the entire family unit, affecting its balance.

In light of these characteristics, **continuity of treatment** is crucial to the clinical management of psychiatric patients. Telemedicine applied to psychiatry, or telepsychiatry, has helped reduce the discontinuity of treatment during these long months of the pandemic.

Between the end of 2020 and the beginning of 2021 Angelini Pharma **promoted a research initiative** in the field of telepsychiatry in collaboration with Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust and the National Health System (UK), also involving several Italian centres. The **research** focused on the modes of telepsychiatry used by physicians, patients, and caregivers, the level of patient satisfaction with the different tools used, and the number of services provided

in telepsychiatry during the pandemic compared to the pre-pandemic period.

The results of the research, which were recently published in the **Journal Evidence-based Mental Health**, highlight several aspects of scientific interest: the rapid shift from in-person to virtual modalities led to the exclusion of entire groups of patients who did not have the means or familiarity with the necessary digital tools; appropriate training of healthcare professionals is necessary to improve the effectiveness of the virtual approach.

Telepsychiatry is a relevant and irreplaceable resource during the health emergency triggered by the pandemic; however, certain aspects need to be reconsidered in order to fully exploit its potential also in the post-pandemic scenario.



By drastically reducing the number of vehicle trips, CO2 emissions into the atmosphere are also considerably reduced.

Green



Ecologista: it is never too late to save the future of the planet

by Stefano Alessandrini -
Packaging Engineering Senior Specialist

// **How a project, conceived and carried out beyond their duties by some Angeliners at the Ancona plant, is doing good for the environment.**

When you work in a design team you learn to never **take anything for granted** and to always be attentive to your surroundings because everything, even the most seemingly insignificant, can hide insights and reflection. This can happen when you enter the warehouse, observe how products are handled and you are suddenly struck by the different treatment reserved for the products of your plant (in this case the Angelini Pharma plant in Ancona). This is what happened to our colleague Stefano Fedeli, who was a member of the Logistics section at the time, the "father" of the Ecologista project

But **where did we start?** Our pallets are stacked, whereas the contractors' are single pallets. This is because the structure of the pallet is designed to reconcile product safety and quality with supply chain optimisation and costs. We design the packaging materials for internal products and purchase external ones. And we also consider storage and transportation aspects during the design process. Being able to stack pallets means halving handling times and being able to saturate the capacity of a truck.

We have always been attentive to the environment and the analysis of the warehouse has shown that the benefits are not only economic but that, by drastically reducing the number of vehicle trips, **CO2 emissions into the atmosphere** are also considerably reduced.

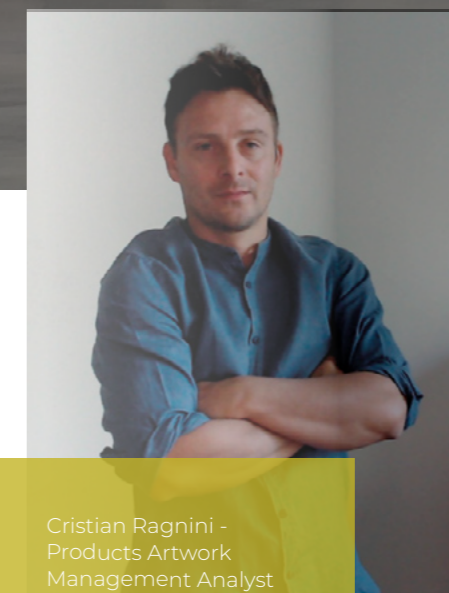
What does it take to get started, what investments need to be made, how many resources are required, and what teams need to be involved? **The answer is simpler than you think!** The logistics function analyses and verifies suppliers (examining the number of deliveries, transportation routes, etc.), while the design team technically evaluates, in concert with the supplier, whether what is currently not stacked can be. And it may turn out that products can be stacked without further action simply by reviewing the pallet structure or modifying box performance.

Following its launch in 2017, the first surprising result of the **Ecologista project** was seen in an analysis at the end of 2018, which showed a reduction in km travelled of more than 150,000 km, equal to a saving of **205 tons of CO2 emissions**. We were rewarded by the Industrial Department with Recognition, an award established by the HR function for high-value proposals made outside of regular job descriptions. The project has continued over the past few years and, even during the pandemic, it was carried on by the Purchasing and Packaging Engineering teams. As of June 2021, the reduction in mileage has exceeded 430,000 km while the savings of CO2 emitted into the atmosphere have reached 585 tons. Buoyed by **such encouraging results**, we are now trying to expand the list of providers to analyse when stacking can be applied. The plan includes an annual analysis of the vendor base, choosing those with whom we can start working. We will continue to strive and do well now that we know that it is good for the environment.

Project team



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 **Angelini**
Pharma