





Kick off of the 'PROPHET' project

Join a network of 18 European partner organisations to create a PeRsOnalised Prevention roadmap for the future HEAlThcare in Europe

From 21st to 23rd of September 2022 the first meeting of the European Commission funded project PROPHET was held in Rome at the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (UCSC), the project coordinator.

The Personalised Prevention Roadmap for the future healthcare, that will be **co-created together with a large panel of stakeholders** gathered in the PROPHET Stakeholder Forum, aims at supporting the definition and implementation of innovative, sustainable and high-quality personalised strategies that are effective in **preventing chronic diseases**.

Prevention is in fact a high priority at the European level: 900,000 people in EU countries die prematurely every year due to risk factors that can largely be prevented through a shift from the treatment of established diseases to a “person-centered” disease prevention and early diagnosis, where citizens and patients are equals and active partners in their care pathway.

So, what does personalised prevention mean?

According to the project's experts, “Personalised prevention aims to prevent onset, progression and recurrence of disease through the adoption of targeted interventions that consider the biological information¹, environmental and behavioural characteristics, socio-economic and cultural context of individuals. This should be timely, effective and equitable in order to maintain the best possible balance in lifetime health trajectory”.

Why is this project relevant to you?

The project aims at engaging organisations and individuals to contribute to the construction of a Strategic Research Innovation Agenda (SRIA) to adopt Personalised Prevention approaches into EU health systems. **Personalised prevention strategies are in fact only possible if citizens, health professionals and policy makers are all aware of their potential and have the knowledge and resources to design and implement them. Specific measures will therefore be developed to educate and empower the different targets and in particular the citizens** of all ages and throughout their life, to play an active role in the self-management of their own health and self-care.

¹ e.g., genetics and other biomarkers, demographics, health condition



Prof. Stefania Boccia, the scientific project coordinator, has declared: “In order to reach all these objectives PROPHET will revolve around the Stakeholder engagement and the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (SRIA) development, processes that will be in close relationship with three main strands of activities: Mapping, Assessment, and Building. The project involves 18 partners from 12 different EU Member States plus UK and it responds to a specific need of the European Beating Cancer Plan and related implementation plan published on 2021”.

The PROPHET consortium is a multidisciplinary group of organisations across 12 Countries working on the different dimensions of Personalised Prevention that includes: Research organisations (*Università Cattolica Del Sacro Cuore, Foundation For Genomics & Population Health, Consorcio Centro De Investigacion Biomedica En Red M.P., Stichting Vumc, University Of Debrecen, University Of Tartu, Universiteit Gent, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Karolinska Institutet*), healthcare organisations (*Fondazione Policlinico Universitario Agostino Gemelli Irccs*), public authorities representing Research Funders and National Health Agencies (*Instituto De Salud Carlos Iii, Instituto Nacional De Saude Dr. Ricardo Jorge, Finnish Institute for Health And Welfare*), citizens and patients’ associations (*Cittadinanzattiva APS and European Patients Forum*), scientific society (*European Public Health Association*), European Research Infrastructure (*European Molecular Biology Laboratory-ELIXIR and Biobanks And Biomolecular Resources Research Infrastructure Consortium BBMRI-ERIC*) and companies in innovation topics (*Allelica SRL and G.A.C.*).

The project has been funded by the European Commission's Horizon Europe programme, cluster 1- destination 1: “Staying healthy in a rapidly changing society” and is part of the International Consortium for Personalised Medicine (ICPerMed). Its results will feed the many other projects and initiatives of the ICPerMed family, as well as the highest policy levels.

For further information, and if you are interested in joining the PROPHET Forum as an expert, please contact: Mario Masiello, PROPHET project manager, UCSC, mario.masiello@unicatt.it