

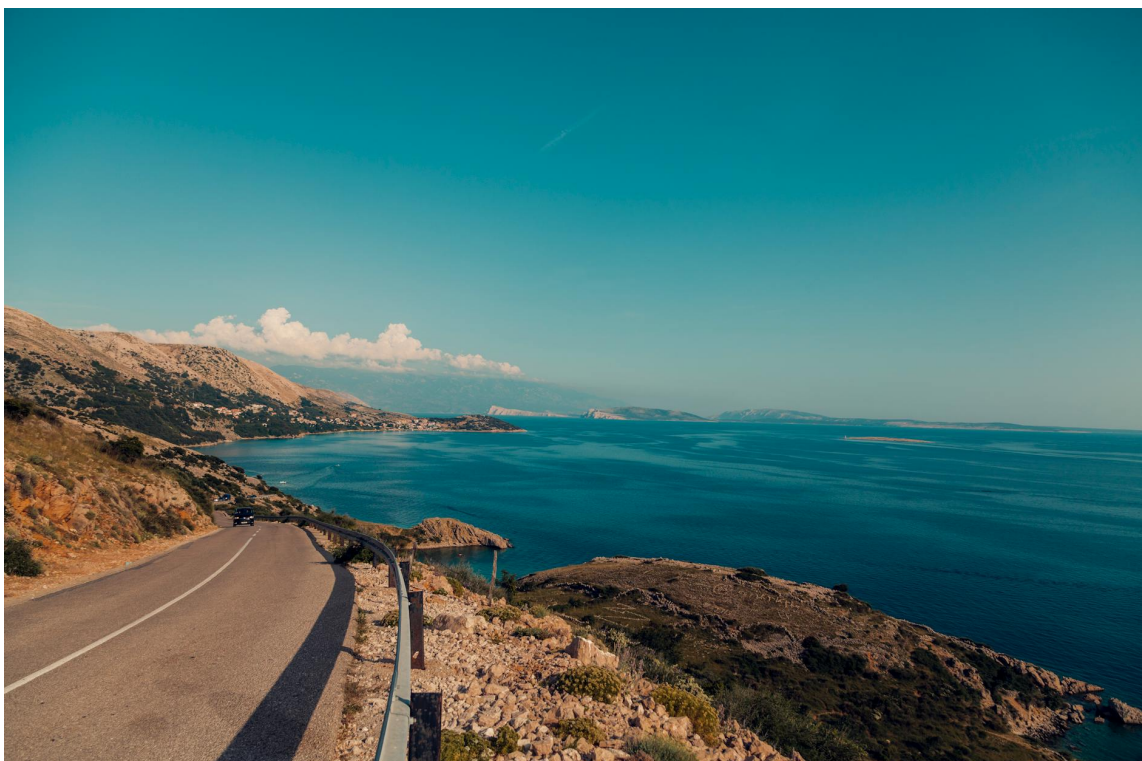
From the editors

It's been a full and fast-paced first half of 2025 for JACARDI

Thanks to the dedication of our work package leaders, pilot teams, and all consortium members, JACARDI is making real progress, and our collaboration with WHO, JA PreventNCD, the European Heart Network, the European Diabetes Forum, the International Diabetes Federation Europe, and the OECD is growing more meaningful by the day. The Cardiovascular Health Plan is starting to take shape, not just as a concept, but as a shared direction backed by strong partnerships.

JACARDI doesn't seem to know how to slow down, but before autumn brings major moments like the UN High-Level Meeting on NCDs and JACARDI's General Assembly, we're taking a short summer pause. A moment to catch our breath before we pick up the pace again.

Let's take a moment to look back, because a lot has happened already, and it's worth celebrating how far JACARDI has come.



Policy highlight

Joint publication in *The Lancet* calls for urgent action on NCDs in Europe

THE LANCET *Regional Health Europe*



A new Comment in *The Lancet Regional Health – Europe*, co-authored by JACARDI Coordinator *Benedetta Armocida*, WHO Europe's *Ivo Rakovac*, Technical Officer for NCD surveillance, and JA PreventNCD's Scientific Coordinator *Prof Knut-Inge Klepp*, along with a wide group of expert contributors, brings timely attention to the urgent need for equity-driven, coordinated action on non-communicable diseases.

Also backed by the OECD and DG SANTE, the piece translates the latest WHO findings into a clear call for faster implementation, stronger data systems, and a shared European commitment ahead of the 2025 UN High-Level Meeting on NCDs.

Read the press release on why this united call matters, and don't miss the Lancet publication and WHO report.

[Explore the full picture](#)

News from the pilots

JACARDI pilot activities are now taking off across Europe. From hospitals and community centres to ministries, people are meeting our pilot teams, contributing their insights, and helping bring these pilot interventions to life. Here's a first look at what's unfolding on the ground.

Pilots in the Spotlight: stories from the field

We launched our *Pilots in the Spotlight* video series to start introducing some of the innovative interventions taking place across JACARDI's work packages. From co-design to data modelling, from peer support to early detection, these pilots offer a glimpse into the diverse strategies being tested to improve prevention and care for cardiovascular diseases and diabetes.

WP06



Health literacy and awareness

Empowering women's health in Italy

The University of Florence is using the OPHELIA co-design method to improve health literacy among women in vulnerable situations. *Chiara Lorini* shares how this pilot is helping women take more control over their health.

[Watch video](#)

WP07



Data availability, quality, accessibility and sharing

Transforming cardiovascular health with data in Spain

The Eurocardiab Simulator, developed by the Spanish National Centre for Cardiovascular Research (CNIC), uses digital health records to predict the impact of policy changes on cardiovascular health. *Fatima Sanchez-Cabo* explains how this tool can support data-driven decision-making.

[Watch video](#)

WP08



Screening high-risk population and individuals

Early detection of diabetes in Ukraine

With only 35% of diabetes cases diagnosed, early detection is critical. *Hanna Halan* explains how Ukraine's Public Health Center is piloting a national screening strategy, even amid the challenges of war.

Watch video

WP09



Integrated care pathways

Health education for cardiac patients in Slovenia

Two leading institutions in Slovenia are creating a structured education programme for people recovering from heart attacks. *Silva Nemeš* and colleagues explain how the pilot helps patients reduce risks and stick with rehab.

Watch video

WP10



Patients' self-management

Supporting Somali communities in Finland

This pilot at the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL) delivers culturally adapted lifestyle counselling to Somali communities through peer mentors. *Idil Hussein* shares how this approach is breaking down barriers to prevention and care.

Watch video

Read & share: pilot updates from Jacardinis

- [JACARDI featured on Italian national TV: free health screenings raise awareness on diabetes and cardiovascular risks](#)
- [New online risk test by THL garnered over 120,000 users in just one month in Finland](#)
- [JACARDI on Spanish national TV: INCLIVA carried out its second cardiovascular and diabetes screening](#)

In the first half of 2025, JACARDI experts actively shared key findings and pilot insights at major scientific events across Europe. From health literacy and integrated care to biomarker screening and health economics, their work reflects real progress across several work packages. This article details JACARDI's presence at conferences in Lisbon, Dublin, Poznań, and Palermo, and how these engagements are helping shape the future of cardiovascular and diabetes care in Europe.

Get an overview of the evidence JACARDI teams are bringing to the scientific stage.

[Read about conference highlights](#)

"There is a positive story to be told here" — what we learned at the DigiCare4You workshop



At the recent DigiCare4You workshop held alongside the International Conference on Integrated Care (ICIC) in Lisbon, JACARDI team members joined international experts to reflect on early findings in the prevention of type 2 diabetes and hypertension. The project's approach, combining school-based screening, digital tools, and family support, is already showing measurable impact: many adults with intermediate hyperglycaemia returned to normal glucose levels, participants with diabetes improved their HbA1c, and those with obesity experienced weight loss and reduced BMI and cholesterol, all without increased reliance on medication. With several

shared experts and aligned goals, these initial outcomes offered valuable insights for JACARDI as its own pilot activities are getting underway.

Find out how early results from a related initiative are informing JACARDI's prevention efforts.

[See what we learned in Lisbon](#)

JACARDI takes the floor at OECD policy dialogue on Europe's Cardiovascular Health

At a high-level policy event hosted by the OECD in Brussels in May, JACARDI took part in shaping Europe's response to cardiovascular disease. With the participation of the European Commission and key representatives from national governments, civil society, and international organisations, the event marked an important moment in advancing the OECD's analytical work on cardiovascular disease prevention and care across the EU. Represented by its coordination team, the Joint Action contributed practical perspectives from its work, highlighting insights from its ongoing collaboration with countries and stakeholders. The dialogue revealed strong alignment between JACARDI's approach and the OECD's priorities.

Read more about how JACARDI's experience is helping inform European CVD policies.

[Read the OECD event summary](#)

JACARDI steps up

Science, policy, and a growing community of Jaccardinis

At the Executive Board meeting in Budapest in May, it became clear that JACARDI is steadily evolving, from a set of pilot teams and work packages to a real community of professionals working together across Europe. The atmosphere was thoughtful and focused, and several key themes emerged from the discussions.

- **Supporting the EU CVH Plan:** Marianne Takki from DG SANTE joined us to discuss the upcoming European Cardiovascular Health Plan and invited JACARDI to contribute to its development. Our expertise in early detection, risk assessment, and care pathways is expected to play a role, and we are committed to providing meaningful input as the framework takes shape.
- **Science to policy, a shared ambition:** While there is strong motivation to make our work more visible and useful for policy, participants recognised that this remains a challenge. More coordination between work packages and pilot teams will be needed along with policy papers and storytelling formats, and joint publications.
- **A living network of Jacardinis:** As Benedetta Armocida reminded us, “community” means both responsibility and gift, and this spirit is increasingly visible as JACARDI is becoming a real collective effort, shaped by trust, openness, and a shared purpose to make a difference in public health.

The meeting was a reminder that progress is not only about ticking boxes, it's about alignment, collaboration, and a long-term vision we build together.

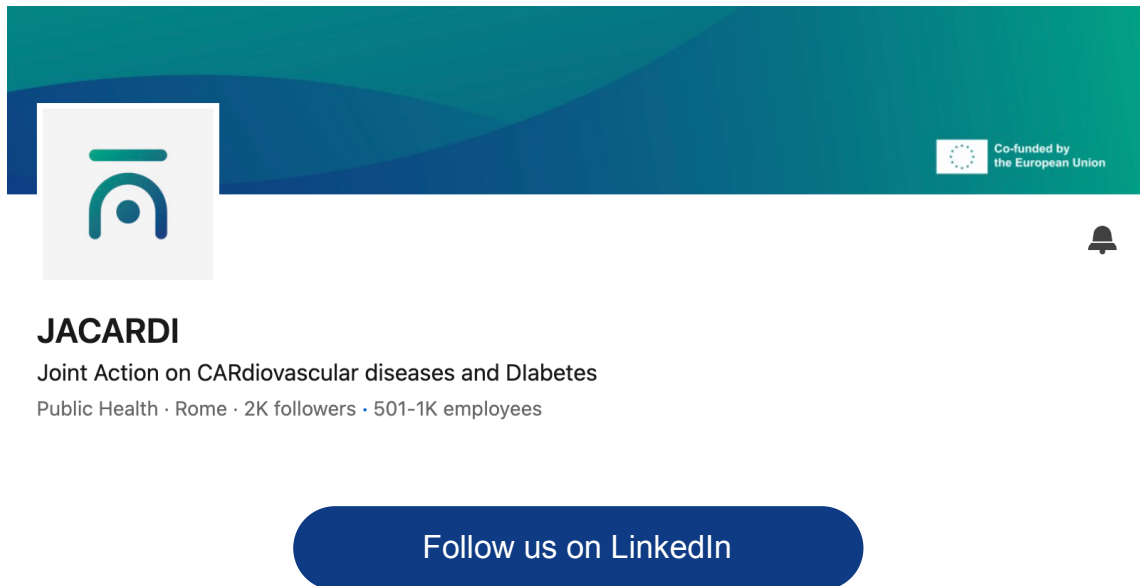


News from our allies

- JA PreventNCD: [2nd EU cancer and other non-communicable diseases \(CNCD\) Prevention meeting held in Katowice](#)
- European Diabetes Forum: [Strategic forum on diabetes and obesity at the European Parliament](#)

- European Heart Network: [Statement on the 2028–2034 Multiannual Financial Framework: Health is Not a Commodity](#)
- European Health Alliance: [July's Health Equity Newsfeed](#)
- International Diabetes Federation Europe: [A message from IDF's new Regional Chair, Prof. Tadej Battelino](#)

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