

Implementing precision and preventive psychiatry in Europe

Summary Document

This event was organised by the **European Brain Research Area Prevention of Severe Mental Disorders (EBRA-PSMD) Cluster**, co-chaired by **Ole Andreassen** (University of Oslo) and **Paolo Fusar-Poli** (King's College London & University of Pavia), to highlight the urgent need to address the lack of parity between mental and physical health in European funding and aid navigation of barriers to implementation of precision and preventive psychiatry.

In **Session 1**, **Tim Raemaekers** (European Commission) and **Cornelia Dorner-Ciossek** (Boehringer Ingelheim) discussed the relative importance of precision and preventive psychiatry in the European funding landscape and in industry. **Mirko Manchia** summarised the recently published white paper on ethics in precision psychiatry (<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.euroneuro.2022.08.001>) that followed the EBRA-PSMD workshop in February 2021. This led into an informative panel discussion, moderated by **Frédéric Destrebecq** (executive director of EBC) where **Paolo Fusar-Poli**, **Tineke Mollema** (GAMIAN-Europe) and **Jan Wise** (European Psychiatric Association) discussed how to advance the field while prioritising service user wellbeing and equity of access to mental healthcare, and how funders can best support this effort.

In **Session 2**, **Damian Okaibedi Eke** (De Montfort University) elaborated on his work in the EU Human Brain Project, how legal and regulatory frameworks are essential for good quality, ethical research, and how best to navigate them. **Florence Butlen-Ducuing** (European Medicines Agency) informed us of the regulatory, scientific and qualification processes at EMA and how they apply to precision and preventive psychiatry. There was particular focus on biomarkers and digital health tools. For more information on these topics, please see the following links:

<https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/human-regulatory/research-development/scientific-advice-protocol-assistance/qualification-novel-methodologies-medicine-development-0>
https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/documents/other/questions-answers-qualification-digital-technology-based-methodologies-support-approval-medicinal_en.pdf
<https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/human-regulatory/research-development/scientific-guidelines/clinical-efficacy-safety/clinical-efficacy-safety-nervous-system>
https://www.icmra.info/drupal/sites/default/files/2021-08/horizon_scanning_report_artificial_intelligence.pdf

In **Session 3**, **Niall Boyce** (Wellcome Trust) and **Joshua Gordon** (National Institute of Health) discussed current and future initiatives within their organisations to advance precision and preventive psychiatry. To finish, a productive roundtable discussion summarised research priorities within the field and how to ensure any progress results in inclusive and equitable improvements in mental healthcare.

There may be scope for a white paper to be produced from the content of the meeting. We will be in contact with attendees and cluster members with further details once we have reviewed the event transcript. We will also explore opportunities for a follow-up meeting in the near future.