



**“We wanted to help  
with the pandemic!”**

**Francesca Incardona**  
Coordinator of the EuCARE project  
CEO of the EuResist Network



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# First interview of the EuCARE partners

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## Q01

**Interviewer:** Hi Francesca. So, you are the CEO of the EuResist Network and the coordinator of the EuCARE project. Tell us a little about yourself, why are you involved with EuResist and why is EuResist involved in this project.

**Francesca Incardona:** Hi, thanks for this question. I have a background in physics and I'm **working on European projects in healthcare since 1999**. I am specifically involved in virology since 2006 when the EuResist project started. The **EuResist Network** ([www.euresist.org](http://www.euresist.org)) is a **European Grouping active in virology research**, composed by the University of Siena, the University of Cologne, the Karolinska Institute, the Max Planck Institute as well as InformaPRO (a small company in Italy).

So why are we involved in this project? Well, **we actually designed the project**, EuCARE was really born from our scientific and social burning questions.

As probably all the virologists and the physicians in the world, **the “Euresisters” were heavily hit by the SARS-COV-2 pandemic** and wanted to try to give some help on how to contain it and how to understand it more. Personally, I was also involved in the civil society trying to contain the impact of the pandemic on the schools, on the children and on the adolescents.



## Q02

**Interviewer:** Besides yourself, who else participates in this project from the EuResist Network?

**Francesca Incardona:** Many members of the EuResist Scientific Board participate as independent organizations. From our Rome offices, I can count on the support of a very strong team. In the **management**, **Chiara Mommo** who has a Masters' degree in communication; **Francesca Ferrucci**, who has a PhD in Linguistics, then our **DPO Antonia Bezenchek**, with a PhD in engineering, **Iuri Fanti**, PhD in **data management for biological studies** and of course **administrative people**, but in particular **InformaPRO** with **Dario Corsini**, experienced contract research organization supporting clinical studies. We also have a **Regulatory and Ethics Manager**, **Giorgio Resta**, who is professor at "Università degli Studi Roma Tre" and guides us as through these crucial issues.

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## Q03

**Interviewer:** The next and final question, the EuCARE project is divided into **eight workpackages (WP)**, right? In which ones is the EuResist Network involved and what has been done already?

**Francesca Incardona:** So yes, we are **leading WP1, on data management and ethics issues, WP7 on project management** as we are the coordinators and **WP8, on ethics**. We are **involved in the WP4 on the school studies as co-leaders and in WP6, on dissemination and communication activities**. After 1 year I'm very proud that we not only **set-up all the IT and ethics infrastructure** of the project. But our studies are ongoing, **tens of thousands of patients have been enrolled, hundreds of school students and teachers are actively engaged. Nineteen scientific papers** have been already **published** and others are in preparation. There are also **difficulties**, because the **pandemic changes** continuously and we have to adapt our studies to it: it's a very challenging project, and I'm happy that **I can count on a super consortium of reliable partners** to face it.

**Interviewer:** Thank you, Francesca.

**Francesca Incardona:** Thank you very much for this work!



If you want to know more about the  
EuCARE project or our partners

Contact us:

<https://eucareresearch.eu/contact-us/>

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