

IMPACT-MED project: Advancing integrated, patient-centred care for cardiometabolic diseases

- **Supported by IHI JU:** a 60-month initiative running from April 2026 to March 2031, with a total budget of €22.9 million, co-funded by the Innovative Health Initiative Joint Undertaking (IHI JU) and industry member associations.
- **A collaborative European consortium:** IMPACT-MED brings together 26 partners across 13 countries from healthcare, research, industry and patient organisations, under the leadership of Università Campus Bio-Medico di Roma (IT) and Medtronic Ibérica (ES).
- **A new model for integrated cardiometabolic care:** the project will develop integrated, multidisciplinary and personalised care pathways to improve prevention, diagnosis, monitoring and long-term management.
- **Real-world validation:** four clinical studies across five European sites will test IMPACT-MED solutions in real healthcare settings, supporting scalability, clinical effectiveness and broader adoption across healthcare systems.

Cardiometabolic diseases, including hypertension, diabetes, obesity and cardiovascular conditions such as coronary artery disease and heart failure, represent one of the most pressing health challenges in Europe. These interconnected chronic conditions are highly prevalent, frequently coexist in the same patient and are among the leading causes of mortality, hospitalisations and long-term disability across the continent. Cardiovascular disease alone accounts for around 4 million deaths every year in Europe and costs healthcare systems more than €210 billion annually, while diabetes affects approximately 61 million adults and continues to drive healthcare expenditure and productivity losses across the region.

Despite significant medical advances, healthcare systems are still struggling to manage the complexity of patients living with these conditions, often resulting in late diagnosis, fragmented care across different specialties, and limited support for long-term monitoring, prevention and self-management.

Addressing this critical challenge, the IMPACT-MED project officially launches with the goal of transforming cardiometabolic disease management through an integrated, multidisciplinary and patient-centred model of care. Supported by the Innovative Health Initiative Joint Undertaking (IHI JU), the 60-month project has a total budget of €22.9 million, with contributions from the European Union's Horizon Europe programme and IHI JU industry member associations.

IMPACT-MED will design, develop and validate an integrated multidisciplinary cardio-metabolic care (MCMC) model supported by a connected digital ecosystem combining advanced technologies, real-world evidence and patient-generated data to strengthen prevention, improve continuity of care and support better patient outcomes across the continuum of care.

Last week, all consortium members held a productive Kick-off Meeting at the facilities of Università Campus Bio-Medico di Roma, bringing together all consortium stakeholders from the public sector, industry, academia and patient organisations. Over two days, partners highlighted the importance of cross-sector collaboration and their commitment to moving from disconnected care pathways across different specialties towards more coordinated, proactive and personalised cardiometabolic care.

About IMPACT-MED

IMPACT-MED is a collaborative European initiative designed to bridge critical gaps in the management of cardiometabolic diseases. The project focuses on the full continuum of care, from prevention and early detection to treatment, remote monitoring, long-term follow-up and patient self-management.

Rather than addressing conditions such as hypertension, diabetes, obesity, coronary artery disease and heart failure in isolation, IMPACT-MED will promote a multidisciplinary care approach that reflects the reality of patients living with multiple, interconnected chronic conditions, better responding to both clinical demands and patient expectations.

By combining clinical expertise, digital health tools and patient-centred data, IMPACT-MED aims to:

- **Integrate multiple medical specialties into coordinated, patient-centred care pathways** designed to empower patients across the full continuum of care, from prevention and early detection to long-term management and self-care.
- **Enhance early detection and personalised care** through predictive analytics, advanced diagnostics and integrated patient data.
- **Empower patients and healthcare professionals** with remote monitoring, digital education and data-driven decision support tools.
- **Improve healthcare efficiency and continuity of care** by reducing fragmentation and supporting more coordinated and sustainable care models.

At the heart of IMPACT-MED is an integrated digital ecosystem that combines remote monitoring, wearables, advanced imaging, biomarkers, patient-reported outcomes and interoperable digital platforms. These solutions will help healthcare teams better understand each patient's needs, anticipate risks and deliver more personalised and proactive care.

Validation in real healthcare settings

IMPACT-MED will validate its approach through four clinical use cases across Europe, each focused on a major cardiometabolic challenge and designed to generate real-world evidence on clinical effectiveness, patient experience, economic value and healthcare system integration.

- **AI-driven hypertension management.** This pilot study, developed in Spain and led by Medtronic Ibérica together with Hospital Clínico San Carlos through its research foundation, will evaluate how AI-based risk stratification, remote blood pressure monitoring and digital engagement tools can improve blood pressure control and support earlier detection of cardiovascular complications in high-risk patients.
- **Remote monitoring for patients with chronic coronary syndrome.** Developed in France by AP-HP hospitals, the cardiovascular research network ACTION, and Medtronic France, this study will assess how structured remote follow-up using connected devices, and Advanced Practice Nurse led triage can safely reduce unnecessary in-person cardiology visits, while strengthening outpatient follow-up and improving continuity of care among patients with history of myocardial infarction and documented hypertension.
- **Supporting type 1 diabetes self-management.** This UK-based use case, developed by Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust together with Minimed-Diabeter and DigiBete, will explore how remote monitoring and personalised digital education can improve treatment adherence, self-management and quality of care among children, adolescents and young adults living with Type 1 diabetes.
- **Personalised care for type 2 diabetes and obesity.** Developed in Denmark, this study combines the expertise of Perspectum (UK) and Siemens Healthineers (Germany and India) with the clinical and research capabilities of Steno Diabetes Centre (North Denmark) and Aalborg University. By integrating multiorgan phenotyping using advanced imaging techniques, blood-based biomarkers, patient-reported outcomes and experiences, and AI-based risk prediction tools, the study aims to support more personalised treatment decisions and improve outcomes for patients living with type 2 diabetes and obesity.

Each use case will contribute to the refinement of IMPACT-MED's integrated care model, ensuring that the solutions developed respond to real clinical needs and deliver measurable benefits for patients, healthcare professionals and health systems.

Shaping the future of cardiometabolic care

By integrating multidisciplinary expertise, digital innovation and coordinated care transformation, IMPACT-MED aims to set a new standard for cardiometabolic disease management in Europe.

The project seeks to support a shift from fragmented and reactive disease management towards more proactive, coordinated and personalised care. This approach will help healthcare systems detect risks earlier, personalise interventions, improve patient engagement and reduce avoidable complications and hospitalisations.

IMPACT-MED will also contribute to the generation of evidence on how integrated digital solutions can be implemented safely, effectively and sustainably across different

healthcare settings. This includes developing regulatory pathways aligned with the EU regulations to ensure that digital and AI-powered solutions meet the highest standards of safety, transparency and patient data protection.

"IMPACT-MED reflects our conviction that the future of cardiometabolic care lies in integration — not just of technologies, but of disciplines, data and perspectives. By bringing together clinical expertise, artificial intelligence and patient-generated evidence within a shared digital ecosystem, we aim to move from reactive disease management to truly personalised, anticipatory care. This project is an opportunity to demonstrate, at European scale, that precision medicine and people-centred care are not competing goals — they are the same goal," says Prof. Leandro Pecchia, Full Professor and Principal Investigator at Università Campus Bio-Medico di Roma and Impact-Med Project Coordinator.

"At Medtronic, we believe that technology only creates real value when it is embedded in care pathways that work for patients and clinicians alike. IMPACT-MED is a unique opportunity to move beyond siloed solutions and build something the healthcare ecosystem genuinely needs: a validated, scalable model that connects remote monitoring, AI-driven decision support and multidisciplinary coordination into a seamless experience. Public-private collaboration of this depth is how we turn innovation into lasting impact," adds Jorge Posada, Head of Open Innovation and EU Project Management Office at Medtronic Ibérica and Impact-Med Industrial Leader.

The project will actively engage healthcare providers, researchers, policymakers, regulators, patient organisations and other relevant stakeholders through co-creation activities, scientific publications, public outreach, policy dialogue and knowledge-sharing initiatives.

A strong consortium for a common goal

IMPACT-MED brings together a multidisciplinary consortium of leading academic, clinical, industry and patient organisation partners working collaboratively to advance integrated cardiometabolic care across Europe.

By combining expertise across different sectors, disciplines and healthcare systems, IMPACT-MED is uniquely positioned to develop and validate scalable solutions that respond to the complexity of cardiometabolic diseases and support more sustainable, equitable and patient-centred care across Europe and beyond.

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<https://impactmed-ihj.eu/>

And **social media channels**:

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