



Department of Public Health and Community Medicine  
 Section of Psychiatry and Section of Clinical Psychology  
 University of Verona



*WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and  
 Training in Mental Health and Service Evaluation*

**Head: Professor Michele Tansella**

## SCIENTIFIC REPORT 2012

(with 2012 Impact Factor scores)



The WHO Collaborating Centre in Verona is located in a refurbished building, within the University General Hospital of Verona (Policlinico G.B. Rossi, Piazzale L.A. Scuro 10, 37134 Verona, Italy). It was designated by WHO as *Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Mental Health* on **23 February 1987**. According to WHO regulations the designation lasts for four years and may be continued, with periodic reviews by WHO of the scientific performance of the Centre. The designation was confirmed in **1992**. In September **1996** the Centre was re-designated as a *WHO Collaborating Centre for Research and Training in Mental Health and Service Evaluation* and since then this designation was further confirmed in **2001, 2005 and 2009**.

The main research activities, carried out by the six Research Units of the Centre, focus on epidemiological and social psychiatry (including economics and geography of mental health studies), genetics and neuroimaging of schizophrenic and bipolar disorders, clinical psychopharmacology, communication in medicine and evaluation of mental health services. The staff (more than 50 persons) includes psychiatrists, clinical psychologists, computer scientists, physicists, geographers and social scientists, statisticians, technicians and secretaries.

### Total Impact Factor (IF) of Papers Published by Members of the WHO Centre of Verona

**2012: IF 223.167 (IF 2012)**  
**In press: IF 173.157 (IF 2012)**

2011: IF 393.135 (IF 2011)  
 2010: IF 174.288 (IF 2010)  
 2009: IF 234.473 (IF 2009)  
 2008: IF 144.833

2007: IF 224.870  
 2006: IF 76.469  
 2005: IF 116.637  
 2004: IF 83.134

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Research



Education  
and  
Training



Care  
and  
Treatment

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**PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS THAT PUBLISHED IN 2012 PAPERS  
BY MEMBERS OF THE VERONA WHO CENTRE and  
IMPACT FACTOR (2012)**

International Journals	No. of papers	Impact Factor	Total Impact Factor
<i>Acta Psychiatrica Scandinavica</i>	3	4.857	14.571
<i>American Journal of Alzheimer Disease and Other Dementias</i>	1	1.518	1.518
<i>Biological Psychiatry</i>	2	9.247	18.494
<i>BMC Psychiatry</i>	1	2.233	2.233
<i>Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews</i>	2	5.703	11.406
<i>Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews (Protocol)</i>	1		
<i>Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences</i>	14	2.938	41.132
<i>European Journal of Clinical Pharmacology</i>	1	2.741	2.741
<i>European Journal of Public Health</i>	1	2.516	2.516
<i>European Psychiatry</i>	1	3.285	3.285
<i>Evidence Based Mental Health</i>	1		0.000
<i>Functional Neurology</i>	1	1.037	1.037
<i>Human Brain Mapping</i>	1	6.878	6.878
<i>Human Molecular Genetics</i>	1	7.692	7.692
<i>International Journal of Mental Health Systems</i>	2	1.062	2.124
<i>International Review of Psychiatry</i>	1	1.608	1.608
<i>Journal of Clinical Psychopharmacology</i>	1	3.513	3.513
<i>Journal of Neural Transmission</i>	1	3.052	3.052
<i>Journal of Psychiatric Research</i>	1	4.066	4.066
<i>Lancet (Letter) (10% of the I.F.)</i>	1	3.906	3.906
<i>Molecular Psychiatry</i>	1	14.897	14.897
<i>Nature Genetics</i>	1	35.209	35.209
<i>Neuropsychobiology</i>	1	2.371	2.371
<i>Patient Education and Counseling</i>	2	2.372	4.744
<i>Psychiatry Research</i>	2	2.456	4.912
<i>Psychiatry Research: Neuroimaging</i>	1	3.364	3.364
<i>Psychological Medicine</i>	2	5.587	11.174
<i>Schizophrenia Research</i>	1	4.590	4.590
<i>Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology</i>	2	2.861	5.722
<i>Trials</i>	2	2.206	4.412
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>53</b>		<b>223.167</b>

**PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS THAT HAVE IN PRESS PAPERS BY  
MEMBERS OF THE VERONA WHO CENTRE and  
IMPACT FACTOR (2012)**

International Journals	No. of papers	Impact Factor	Total Impact Factor
<i>BMJ Open</i>	1	1.583	1.583
<i>British Journal of Psychiatry</i>	2	6.606	13.212
<i>Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences</i>	3	2.938	8.814
<i>Frontiers in Pharmacology</i>	1		
<i>International Journal of Clinical Practice</i>	1	2.427	2.427
<i>Journal of Affective Disorders</i>	1	3.295	3.295
<i>Journal of Clinical Psychopharmacology</i>	1	3.513	3.513
<i>Journal of Psychiatric Research</i>	1	4.066	4.066
<i>Journal of Psychiatry and Neuroscience</i>	1	6.242	6.242
<i>Lancet</i>	2	39.060	78.120
<i>Molecular Psychiatry</i>	1	14.897	14.897
<i>Patient Education and Counseling</i>	4	2.372	9.488
<i>Plos One</i>	1	3.730	3.730
<i>Psychiatry Research</i>	1	2.456	2.456
<i>Psychological Medicine</i>	2	5.587	11.174
<i>Psycho-Oncology</i>	1	3.506	3.506
<i>Schizophrenia Research</i>	1	4.590	4.590
<i>Statistics in Medicine</i>	1	2.044	2.044
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26</b>		<b>173.157</b>

## H index and No. OF CITATIONS OF SCIENTIFIC STAFF OF THE VERONA WHO CENTRE WITH A TENURED POSITION

Scopus database, Citations from 1996 (search completed on February 6, 2013)	h index (Total)	Scopus database, Citations from 1996 (search completed on February 6, 2013)	No. of citations (Total)
<i>Professor Francesco Amaddeo**</i>	17	<i>Professor Michele Tansella*</i>	5226
<i>Professor Corrado Barbui**</i>	31	<i>Dr. Paolo Brambilla***</i>	3860
<i>Dr. Marcella Bellani</i>	9	<i>Professor Corrado Barbui**</i>	3748
<i>Dr. Chiara Bonetto</i>	13	<i>Professor Mirella Ruggeri*</i>	3657
<i>Dr. Paolo Brambilla***</i>	37	<i>Dr. Sarah Tosato</i>	1827
<i>Professor Lorenzo Burti*</i>	9	<i>Dr. Andrea Cipriani</i>	1820
<i>Dr. Andrea Cipriani</i>	21	<i>Professor Francesco Amaddeo**</i>	973
<i>Dr. Doriana Cristofalo</i>	6	<i>Dr. Antonio Lasalvia</i>	860
<i>Dr. Katia De Santi</i>	2	<i>Professor Christa Zimmermann*</i>	829
<i>Professor Lidia Del Piccolo**</i>	14	<i>Dr. Chiara Bonetto</i>	668
<i>Dr. Nicola Dusi</i>	7	<i>Dr. Michela Nosè</i>	641
<i>Dr. Claudia Goss</i>	11	<i>Dr. Maria Angela Mazzi</i>	510
<i>Dr. Antonio Lasalvia</i>	17	<i>Professor Lidia Del Piccolo**</i>	389
<i>Dr. Maria Angela Mazzi</i>	15	<i>Professor Lorenzo Burti*</i>	340
<i>Dr. Michela Nosè</i>	12	<i>Dr. Marcella Bellani</i>	290
<i>Dr. Cinzia Perlini</i>	9	<i>Dr. Claudia Goss</i>	267
<i>Dr. Gianluca Rambaldelli</i>	10	<i>Dr. Gianluca Rambaldelli</i>	222
<i>Dr. Michela Rimondini</i>	8	<i>Dr. Doriana Cristofalo</i>	211
<i>Dr. Alberto Rossi</i>	6	<i>Dr. Cinzia Perlini</i>	198
<i>Professor Mirella Ruggeri*</i>	28	<i>Dr. Michela Rimondini</i>	165
<i>Dr. Roberta Siani</i>	2	<i>Dr. Alberto Rossi</i>	158
<i>Professor Michele Tansella*</i>	35	<i>Dr. Nicola Dusi</i>	139
<i>Dr. Sarah Tosato</i>	13	<i>Dr. Roberta Siani</i>	46
<i>Professor Christa Zimmermann*</i>	15	<i>Dr. Katia De Santi</i>	9

\*Full Professor

\*\*Associate Professor

\*\*\*Department of Experimental and Clinical Medical Sciences, University of Udine and Inter-University Centre for Behavioural Neurosciences (ICBN), University of Udine and University of Verona, Italy.

**The Hirsch index (*h index*)** is an indicator of citations of a researcher's scientific publications, proposed in 2005 by Professor Jorge E. Hirsch, University of California, San Diego, USA (Hirsch, 2005; 2007).

This index may be defined as the number of papers with citation number equal or higher than *h* (for example ***h index* 5** means that at least 5 papers by that author were cited at least 5 times). Higher the ***h index***, higher is supposed to be the impact of the researcher in his/her scientific community. ***H index*** depends from the level of seniority of the researcher.

Many database can be used to calculate the ***h index***. Therefore it may change according to the database and also according to the time span covered by the database. It is therefore necessary to indicate, together with the ***h index***, the database used and the time span (number of years) covered by the database.

**The Library of the School of Medicine of the University of Verona estimates the *h index* on papers included in the ISI *Web of Knowledge* published from 1990 onwards.**

In several Universities abroad and in some scientific institutions in Italy it is suggested to researchers to include their *h index* in their CV, so it may be considered, together with other indicators and characteristics, for promotion and selection, when new positions become available.

## References

- Hirsch J.E. (2005) An index to quantify n individual's scientific research output. *Proc.Nat.Acad.Sci USA*, 102, 16569-16572.
- Hirsch J.E. (2007) Does the *h index* have predictive power? *Proc.Nat.Acad.Sci. USA*, 104, 19193-19198.

## RESEARCH UNITS

The main research activities carried out by the six Research Units of the Verona WHO Centre are the following:

### 1) Psychiatric Register, Economics and Geography of Mental Health

Coordinator: **Professor Francesco Amaddeo**

The Verona Psychiatric Case Register (PCR) was started on 31 December 1978 and is used for clinical, administrative and research purposes. For research, the PCR is used for: longitudinal analyses of patterns of care; studies on incidence and prevalence and related factors; services utilisation; comparisons with other case-register areas; and costs of care and outcome. The PCR has facilitated the detailed observation of changes in Italian mental health care since the Italian psychiatric reform.

The Unit has conducted a series of studies in prevalence and incidence samples to explore the relationships between the socio-demographic and clinical characteristics of patients and the costs of community-based mental health care, to study the mortality of psychiatric patients, to assess the association between Socio-Economic Status (SES), services utilisation and costs.

Recently, the Unit has participated to a national study that has permitted to develop a new funding system. The Unit is coordinating Centre for a National study on "Socio-economic status, urbanisation and mental health" that use an health geography approach (both studies have been funded by the Italian Ministry of Health). The Unit is involved in validating clinical instruments such as the DIP (Diagnostic Interview for Psychosis, Italian Version), and conducting studies about the compassion fatigue of social and clinical workers and the social capital of psychiatric patients.

The Unit is Coordinator of a FP7 international project (Research on Financing systems' Effect on the Quality of Mental Health Care – REFINEMENT) funded by the EU. The overarching aim of the REFINEMENT project is to look at the relationship between different models of health care financing and the extent to which mental health care services can meet the goals of high quality, equity, efficiency and better long term health outcomes. Ultimately we will use the results of our research to make recommendations on best practice health care financing models that may be used in different part of Europe where different mixes of tax, social health insurance, private health insurance and out of pocket payments are used to help achieve these goals. The study involves 9 European Countries (Italy, United Kingdom, Austria, Spain, Norway, Finland, France, Estonia and Romania).

### 2) Clinical Psychopharmacology and Drug Epidemiology

Coordinator: **Professor Corrado Barbui**

The main research interests of the Unit include: (a) pharmacoepidemiology, oriented to describe the beneficial and harmful effects of psychotropic drugs in ordinary practice; (b) randomised clinical trials, oriented to assess the efficacy and tolerability profile of psychotropic drugs in experimental conditions; (c) systematic reviews, oriented to summarize clinical trial findings using meta-analytical techniques. Recent achievements of the Unit include the development of a psychotropic register that collects information on psychotropic drugs prescribed within the South-Verona catchment area, the development of a network of psychiatric services that is currently collecting patients for a multi-centre clinical trial, the production of systematic reviews in the field of antidepressants and antipsychotics, and the development of tools oriented to assist the World Health Organization to improve the rational use of psychotropic drugs in low and middle income countries. The projects of the Unit are financially supported by organisations not linked with drug companies.



### 3) Brain Imaging and Neuropsychology

Coordinator: **Dr. Paolo Brambilla**

The Unit of Brain Imaging and Neuropsychology (RUBIN) was first established in the spring of 2003. Since 2005 it is a member of the ICBN InterUniversity Center of Behavioral Neuroscience (University of Udine and University of Verona). Our main interest is to better understand the neurobiological underpinnings of the major psychoses (bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, and unipolar depression) and to study the possible connection with outcome, neuropsychological and biological measures, using a multidimensional approach. The main aim of our research group is to increase the knowledge of possible neural circuitry in these disorders, to study the timing and development of the neuroanatomical alterations, in order to achieve the knowledge for an early detection and treatment of these disorders. The two main fields of research are: 1) Brain Imaging: Different neuroimaging techniques based on Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) are being used to investigate the neurobiological bases of affective and psychotic spectrum disorders, i.e. structural MRI, diffusion tensor imaging (DTI), tractography, perfusion weighted imaging (PWI), MR spectroscopy (MRS), and functional MRI (fMRI). They allow to finely investigate brain microstructure, connectivity, vascular organization, biochemistry and activation. The samples taking part to the studies are assessed at baseline after a 12 month follow up. 2) Neuropsychology: A full neuropsychological assessment has been designed to assess specific neuropsychological components that may be impaired in major psychoses, such as executive functions, language and cerebral communication. The subjects are studied at baseline and at after a 12 month follow up in order to build a neuropsychological profile of patients to be compared with neuroanatomical and functional data. Moreover, we have a collaboration with the Neuroimmunology Unit of Ospedale San Raffaele in Milan, to characterize the immunological profile of our sample, by the blood level of inflammatory and pro-inflammatory cells and antibodies.

### 4) Integrating physical health, mental health and human rights

Coordinator: **Professor Lorenzo Burti**

The research Unit mainly addresses human rights, dignity and general health status of psychiatric patients. The Unit has been involved in two multicentric three-year EU projects: *European Network for Promoting the Health of Residents in Psychiatric and Social Care Institutions* (HELPS), and *Institutional treatment, human rights and care assessment* (ITHACA), both recently closed. Currently, the protocol *Physical co-morbidity, poor health behaviour and health promotion in South Verona patients with functional psychoses: a prevalence study and a randomised controlled Study* (PHYSICO) has been extended to the four Mental Health Services (MHS) of the Verona Local Health Authority (ULSS 20) and funded by the CariVerona Foundation. The PHYSICO project address the physical health of mental patients and draws on the synergy between the South Verona Community Mental Health Service and the Department of Prevention (ULSS20 Verona), resulting in the intervention program studied. The collaboration with the Department of Prevention, initiated in 2005, was recently strengthened in 2010 by means of the agreement for a National Project for Physical Activity (PNPAM) that was accomplished with the publication of the Guidelines for the promotion of healthy lifestyles in psychiatric patients in July 2011. Moreover, the Unit has completed the Bio.Ve.D.A. (BIObanca VEneta per i Disturbi dell'Alimentazione) project aiming to develop a register of eating-disorders taking advantage of the fact that the Unit of Psychotherapy, which hosts this Research Unit, has been appointed Regional Centre for Eating Disorders.

### 5) Environmental, Clinical and Genetic Determinants of the Outcome of Mental

Coordinator: **Professor Mirella Ruggeri**

The Unit has worked since the '80s with the aim of characterizing the outcome of the mental disorders. Many longitudinal studies both in prevalence and incidence samples have been carried on to identify predictive patterns of favourable and unfavourable outcomes in naturalistic settings, using a

multidimensional approach to include objective and subjective variables, and taking into account the relative role of clinical, social, service variables and genetic factors on the course of illness. Currently, the *Psychosis Incident Cohort Outcome Study (PICOS)*, a multicentric study involving 28 mental health services in the Veneto Region, is ongoing. The PICOS aims to test the relationship between clinical and genetic features of psychosis in an epidemiologically representative sample of first episode psychotic subjects. Recently, the Research Program GET UP (*Genetics, Endophenotypes and Treatment: Understanding early Psychosis*), with Professor Ruggeri as National Coordinator, has been funded by the Ministry of Health. It is constituted by four partner projects. Its main axis is a controlled randomized Trial that involves 116 Mental Health Centres covering a 10 million inhabitant catchment area and aims to: **1)** test the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of multi-component psychosocial intervention, fostering evidence-based innovation in the area of FEP; **2)** verify the clinical routine limits of this approach, i.e. identifying barriers that obstacle its application and situations in which this type of treatment might not be effective or appropriate; evaluate it as a cluster randomized, controlled trial; **3)** identify clinical, psychological, and environmental predictors of treatment efficacy in first episode psychosis.

Secondary aims are: 1) to evaluate the role of pharmaco-genetic analysis in improving pharmacological treatment efficacy and 2) to identify morpho-functional and neuropsychological factors influencing stress, treatment response, and outcome.

Moreover, the Unit is collaborating in the SGENE project, a large scale genome-wide association study of schizophrenia addressing variation in expressivity and contribution from environmental factors. Additionally it runs some projects in the area of Liaison Psychiatry with the aim to develop innovative treatments for patients affected by mental disorders in comorbidity with physical illnesses, and evaluate their effectiveness.

From 2011 the Unit has joined, as associated partner, in the EU GEI (*European network of national schizophrenia network studying Gene-Environment Interaction*), a EU funded multisite international research which aims to identify, over a 5-year period, the interactive genetic, clinical and environmental determinants, involved in the development, severity and outcome of schizophrenia. The partners in EU GEI represent the nationally funded schizophrenia / mental health networks of the UK, Netherlands, France, Spain, Turkey and Germany, as well as other research institutes and a number of SME's in Austria, Belgium, Ireland, Italy, Switzerland, and outside the EU in Hong Kong/China and Australia. The project, started on May 1, 2010, will run until May 1, 2015.

## 6) Clinical Psychology and Communication in Medicine Disorders

Coordinator: **Professor Christa Zimmermann, Ph.D.**

During the last decade, the Unit has developed and standardised several instruments and methodologies to study doctor patient interactions both in Primary Care and in Psychiatry. The unit has developed, together with European researchers (Verona network on sequence analysis), a consensus based coding system (VR-CODES) for identifying patient cues and concerns expressed in a medical encounter and subsequent health provider responses. The Unit has carried out the evaluation of the efficacy of training courses in improving communication skills of General Practitioners and Psychiatrists, and has studied the information-giving process in primary care consultations and in psychiatric outpatient intake interviews. Currently, the Unit is engaged in three studies: one multi-centre study on patients' perception of the doctors' clinical communication skills (Verona, Liverpool, Utrecht), one randomized clinical trial on the informative needs of breast cancer patients and their involvement in treatment decisions (Verona, Brescia) and one on the informative needs of patients with early onset of psychosis, a multi-centre study, sub project of the GET-Up study coordinated by Prof. Ruggeri, University of Verona.

## Organizational Chart

### Professor Michele Tansella, *Dr.Med.* (Head of the WHO Centre)

#### Prof. F.Amaddeo

*Dr.Med, PhD*

Dr. Alberto Rossi,  
*Dr.Psicol, PhD*  
Dr Valeria Donisi,  
*Dr.Psicol. PhD*  
Dr Laura Grigoletti,  
*Dr.Psicol, PhD*  
Dr. Damiano Salazzari,  
*GIS Expert*  
Dr. Federico Tedeschi,  
*Dr. Stat, PhD*  
Dr. Ilaria Montagni,  
*PhD Stud.*  
Sig.ra Cristina Pighi,  
*Data Manag.*  
Sig.ra Sabrina Zuliani,  
*Data Manag.*  
Sig. Mario Ballarin,  
*IT Manag.*  
Dr. Laura Rabbi,  
*Soc. Worker*  
Dr . Gaia Cetrano  
*PhD Stud*

#### Prof. C.Barbui

*Dr. Med.*

Dr Andrea Cipriani,  
*Dr. Med*  
Dr Michela Nosè,  
*Dr. Med*  
Dr. Irene Bighelli  
Dr. Mariasole Castellazzi  
Dr Francesca Girlanda,  
*Dr.Psicol.*  
Dr Marianna Purgato,  
*Dr.Psicol.*

#### Dr. P.Brambilla\*

*Dr.Med, PhD*

Dr. Marcella Bellani,  
*Dr.Med*  
Dr. Cinzia Perlini,  
*Dr. Psicol. PhD*  
Dr.Gianluca Rambaldelli,  
*Dr. Ing. (part time)*  
Dr. Nicola Dusi, *Dr.Med,*  
*PhD (part time)*  
Dr. Veronica Marinelli,  
*Dr. Psicol, PhD*

#### Prof. L.Burti

*Dr.Med.*

Dr Roberta Siani,  
*Dr.Psicol.*  
Dr Loretta Berti,  
*Dr.Psicol, PhD*  
Dr Elena Bison,  
*Dr.Diet. (part time)*  
Dr Elena Bonfioli,  
*Dr.Psicol, PhD Stud.*  
Dr Daniele Di Pauli,  
*Dr.Psicol. (part time)*  
Dr Chiara Guarnier,  
*Dr.Med (part time)*  
Dr Luca Ravazzin,  
*Dr.Psicol, PhD (part time)*  
Dr Silvia Viccaro,  
*Dr.Psicol. (part time)*

#### Prof. M.Ruggeri

*Dr.Med, PhD*

Dr Antonio Lasalvia,  
*Dr.Med, PhD*  
Dr Sarah Tosato,  
*Dr.Med, PhD*  
Dr Chiara Bonetto,  
*Dr.Stat, PhD*  
Dr Doriana Cristofalo,  
*Dr.Sci.Edu*  
Dr Katia De Santi,  
*Dr.Med.*  
Dr. Elisa Ira,  
*Dr.Psicol., PhD*  
Dr. Sara Poli,  
*Dr. Psicol.*  
Dr Silvia Scala,  
*Dr.Psicol. PhD*  
Dr Silvia Zoppei,  
*Dr.Psicol (PhD student)*  
Dr Rosario Lombardo,  
*PhD (Bioinformatician)*

#### Prof. Ch.Zimmermann *M.Sc, PhD*

Professor Lidia Del Piccolo,  
*Dr.Psicol, PhD*  
Dr Claudia Goss,  
*Dr.Med, PhD*  
Dr Maria Angela Mazzi,  
*Dr.Stat.*  
Dr Michela Rimondini,  
*Dr.Psicol, PhD*  
Dr Giuseppe Deledda,  
*Dr.Psicol.*  
Dr Alessandro Bottacini,  
*PhD Student*

\*Department of Experimental and Clinical Medical Sciences, University of Udine and Inter-University Centre for Behavioural Neurosciences (ICBN), University of Udine and University of Verona, Italy

## PAPERS and BOOKS

This list includes full papers, chapters of books and monographs and volumes published in 2012. The latest Impact Factor (**I.F. scores (2011)**) are indicated.

The list includes also Letters, but only those peer-reviewed and published in outstanding Journals. According to the rules of the Scientific Committee of the Medical School of the University of Verona these Letters are given an I.F. score that is 10% of the original score.

Abstracts of papers presented at scientific Meetings and Congresses and posters are **NOT** included.

**For further information and for receiving copies of papers included in this list, please contact our Librarian:** Dr. Lucia Convertino Tel. +39 045 812 6415 [lucia.convertino@univr.it](mailto:lucia.convertino@univr.it)

### Published in 2012

#### A) Papers published in international journals

Amadeo F. & Tansella M. (2012). Mental health, natural and human made disasters: lessons learnt and future needs. *Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences* 21, 1-5.

**I.F. 2012: 2.938**

Amadeo F, Barbui C. & Tansella M. (2012). The state of psychiatry in Italy 35 years after the psychiatric reform. A critical appraisal of National and local data. *International Review of Psychiatry* 24, 314-320.

**I.F. 2012: 1.608**

Barbui C. & Cipriani A. (2012). Agomelatine and the brave old world of narrative-based medicine. *Evidence Based Mental Health* 15, 2-3.

Barbui C. & Cipriani A. (2012). Novel melatonin-based treatments for major depression. *Lancet* (Letter) 379, 215.

**I.F. 2012: 3.906**

Barbui C. & Saraceno B. (2012). Geneva calling: WHO resolution on mental disorders. *International Journal of Mental Health Systems* 14, 1-6.

**I.F. 2012: 1.062**

Barbui C. & Tansella M. (2012). Guideline implementation in mental health: current status and future goals. *Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences* 21, 227-228.

**I.F. 2012: 2.938**

Barbui C., Koesters M. & Cipriani A. (2012). Implementation of treatment guidelines for specialist mental health care (Cochrane Protocol). *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews*, Issue 4. Art. No.CD009780.

Bellani M., Bonivento C. & Brambilla P. (2012). Interaction between cognition and emotion in developmental psychopathology: the role of linguistic stimuli. *Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences* 21, 249-253.

**I.F. 2012: 2.938**

Bellani M, Negri G.A. & Brambilla P. (2012). The dysregulation profile in children and adolescents: a potential index for major psychopathology? *Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences* 21,155-159.

**I.F. 2012: 2.938**

Bellani M., Garzitto M. & Brambilla P. (2012). Functional MRI studies in disruptive behaviour disorders. *Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences* 21, 31-33.

**I.F. 2012: 2.938**

Bellani M., Perlini C., Ferro A., Cerruti S., Dusi N., Rambaldelli G., Isola M., Cerini R., Andreone N., Balestrieri M., Pozzi Mucelli R., Tansella M. & Brambilla P. (2012). White matter microstructure alterations in bipolar disorder. *Functional Neurology* 27, 29-34.

**I.F. 2012: 1.037**

Bellani M., Hatch J.P., Nicoletti M.A., Ertola A.E., Zunta-Soares G., Swann A.C., Brambilla P. & Soares J.C. (2012). Does anxiety increase impulsivity in patients with bipolar disorder or major depressive disorder? *Journal of Psychiatric Research* 46, 616-621.

**I.F. 2012: 4.066**

Bellani M., Nobile M., Bianchi V., van Os J. & Brambilla P. (2012). G × E interaction and neurodevelopment I. Focus on maltreatment. *Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences* 21, 347-351.

**I.F. 2012: 2.938**

Bertani M., Lasalvia A., Bonetto C., Tosato S., Cristofalo D., Bissoli S., De Santi K., Mazzoncini R., Lazzarotto L., Santi M., Sale A., Scalabrin D., Abate M., Tansella M. & Ruggeri M. on behalf of the PICOS-Veneto Group. (2012). The influence of gender on clinical and social characteristics of patients at psychosis onset: A Report from the Psychosis Incident Cohort Outcome Study – PICOS. *Psychological Medicine* 42, 769-780.

**I.F. 2012: 5.587**

Bighelli I. & Barbui C. (2012). What is the European Medicine Agency? *Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences* 21, 245-247.

**I.F. 2012: 2.938**

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**I.F. 2012: 2.233**

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#### D) Papers published in Italian books and monographs

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#### F) National books

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**I.F. 2012: 2.372**
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**I.F. 2012: 39.060**
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**I.F. 2012: 2.938**
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**I.F. 2012: 3.513**
- Deledda G., Moretti F., Rimondini M. & Zimmermann C. (2013). How patients want their doctor to communicate. A literature review on primary care patients' perspective. *Patient Education and Counseling* 90, 297-306.  
**I.F. 2012: 2.372**



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**I.F. 2012: 6.606**

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**I.F. 2012: 4.066**

## **B) Papers and reviews accepted for publication in international books and monographs**

Burti L., Berti L., Canova E., Fornari M. & Pavani D. An approach to interdisciplinary mental health work in South-Verona, Italy. In *Textbook of Modern Community Mental Health Work*. (ed. K. Yeager, D. Cutler, D. Svendsen, G. M. Sills). Oxford University Press: New York.

Thornicroft G. & Tansella M. The Balanced Care Model: the optimum combination of hospital and community mental health care Forward to Georgian Translation of *Better Mental Health Care*.

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## RESEARCH GRANTS

The following Grants have been active during the years 2008-2012:

Description	Funding Institution	Scientific Coordinator	Total/Grant
“REsearch on FINancing systems’ Effect on the quality of MENTAL health care (REFINEMENT)”	European Commission, DG Health, FP7	Professor Francesco Amadeo	831.040,00 (sulla quota totale di 3.000.000,00 gestiti dalla nostra Unità)
“Promozione della salute fisica mediante intervento sugli stili di vita relativi ad attività motoria e abitudini alimentari in pazienti affetti da psicosi funzionali afferenti ai Servizi Psichiatrici Territoriali del Dipartimento Interaziendale per la Salute Mentale di Verona (PHYSICO-DSM-VR)”	Fondazione CariVerona, Verona	Professor L. Burti	300.000,00 €
“European networks for the promotion of the healthy living conditions in psychiatric care institutions (HELPS)”	Public Health Executive Agency (PHEA), London	Professor L. Burti	52.000,00 €
“GET UP (Genetics, Endophenotypes and Treatment: Understanding early Psychosis)”	Ministry of Health, Rome	Professor M. Ruggeri	760.000,00 €
“Systematic review of meta-analyses on the efficacy of SSRI and SNRI in the treatment of Major Depression”	German Medicine Health Authority	Professor C. Barbui	20.000,00 €
“Anti Stigma Programme: European Network (ASPEN)”	European Commission, Directorate General for Health and Consumer Affaire, Public Health Executive Agency	Dr. A. Lasalvia	76.309,00 €
“Institutional Treatment, Human Rights and Care Assessment (BURTITHACA)”	Public Health Executive Agency (PHEA), London	Professor L. Burti	80.798,27 €
“Randomized evaluation of the effectiveness of lithium in addition to standard treatment in individuals with depression and suicide risk.	AIFA, Rome	Professor C. Barbui	478.000,00 €

An independent, pragmatic, multicentre, parallel-group, superiority trial (Studio CHAT)”			
“Disabilità Cognitiva e Comportamentale nelle Demenze e nelle Psicosi. Sotto-Obiettivo A.9. Basi Morfofunzionali Cognitive E Genetiche Delle Psicosi Maggiori: Uno Studio Integrato Longitudinale” (BRAINIMAG) (Three year research program)”	Fondazione CariVerona	Dr Paolo Brambilla	140.339,50
“Disabilità Cognitiva e Comportamentale nelle Demenze e nelle Psicosi. Sotto-Obiettivo A.9. Basi Morfofunzionali Cognitive E Genetiche Delle Psicosi Maggiori: Uno Studio Integrato Longitudinale (Genetics) (Three year research program)”	Fondazione CariVerona	Professor M. Ruggeri	94.374 €
“I percorsi di cura dei pazienti inseriti nelle strutture residenziali psichiatriche. Analisi dei bisogni e dei costi.”	MIUR ex 60%	Professor F. Amaddeo	5.596,00 €
	MIUR ex 60%	Professor C. Barbui	7.471,00 €
“Efficacy and acceptability of escitalopram compared with other antidepressants: a systematic review and meta-analysis”	MIUR ex 60%	Dr. A. Cipriani	8.922,00 €
“The clinical correlates of Neurological Soft Signs in a representative sample of first episode psychosis patients”	MIUR ex 60%	Professor M. Ruggeri	7.016,00 €
	MIUR ex 60%	Professor C. Zimmermann	6.367,00 €
	MIUR ex 60%	Professor M. Tansella	7.316,00 €
	MIUR ex 60%	Professor L. Burti	3.809,00 €
Establishing a regional genetic and clinical register of eating disorders (5 centres)	Bio.Ve.D.A.	Professor L. Burti	40.000 € (sulla quota totale di 200.000 €)

The following Institutions and Funding Bodies have provided financial support and Grants to Research projects of our Centre during the previous years:

Description	Funding Institution	Scientific Coordinator	Total/Grant
“Implementing Mental Health Promotion Action” (TANSIMHPA)	European Union	Professor M. Ruggeri / Dr. M. Stegagno	10.382,00 €
“Donation” (TANSPFIZER)	Pfizer Italia SRL	Professor M. Tansella	75.000,00 €
“Mental Health Economics-European Network” (AMADDLSE)	European Community (LSE), London	Professor F. Amaddeo	11.181,50 €
“Promuovere la ricerca scientifica per migliorare la qualità delle cure. Il Centro OMS di Ricerca sulla Salute Mentale, Verona” (TANSFOND06) (Three year research program)	Fondazione CariVerona	Professor M. Tansella	600.000,00 €
“Identification and treatment of depression in comorbidity with physical illness” (RUGMSALU)	Ministry of Health, Rome	Professor M. Ruggeri	150.000,00 €
“Toward a new definition of schizophrenia: the biological basis of a core phenotype” (RUGJOINT07)	Glaxo SmithKline Spa and University of Verona	Professor M. Ruggeri	90.000,00 €
“Economic evaluation of psychiatric care in Ukraina, Moldova and Georgia”	WHO-Regional Office for Europe, Copenhagen	Professor F. Amaddeo	11.680,44 €
“Genotype, endophenotype and phenotype: identifying etiopathogenetic factors of psychoses for the development of preventive models and individualised therapeutic strategies”	Veneto Region, Azienda Ospedaliera di Verona	Dr. A. Lasalvia	70.000,00 €
“Geographical distance, socio-economic status (SES) and utilization of community-based mental health services”	MIUR ex 60%	Professor M. Tansella	7.248,00 €
“Socio-economic Status, urbanicity and mental health”	Italian Ministry of Health	Professor F. Amaddeo	153.000,00 €
“Donation for PICOS project”	AITSAM	Professor M. Ruggeri	2.000,00 €

“The development of the Italian version of the Diagnostic Interview for Psychosis”	MIUR ex 60%	Professor F. Amaddeo	5.205,00 €
“Selective serotonin-reuptake inhibitors versus other types of pharmacotherapy for depression: systematic reviews and meta-analyses of randomised controlled trials”	MIUR ex 60%	Professor C. Barbui	12.494,00 €
“Comparative efficacy and acceptability of 12 new generation antidepressants: a mixed-treatment comparison meta-analysis”	MIUR ex 60%	Dr. A. Cipriani	9.391,00 €
“Relationship between COMT and affective symptoms in schizophrenia: a 6-year follow-up study”	MIUR ex 60%	Professor M. Ruggeri	6.795,00 €
“Citizens’ preferences concerning communication issues in medicine. A multicentre study”	MIUR ex 60%	Professor C. Zimmermann	5.665,00 €

## THE SOUTH-VERONA COMMUNITY-BASED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE: CLINICAL and TEACHING ACTIVITIES

The WHO Collaborating Centre of Verona is part of the **Section of Psychiatry and Clinical Psychology, Department of Public Health and Community Medicine, University of Verona**, that provides Research, Clinical Activity and Education and Training.

### Clinical Activity

**Clinical activity** takes place in the Academic General Hospital of Verona (*University Department of Psychiatry and Psychiatric University Clinic and University Department of Psychosomatics and Clinical Psychology*), in the *South-Verona Mental Health Centre* (a multi-purpose facility providing outpatient consultations, day care, crisis intervention, home visits and rehabilitation), in the *staffed residential facilities and apartments for long-term patients*, in the *Outpatient Departments*, and in other community-based facilities, which constitute an integrated Service: **the South-Verona Community Psychiatric Service (CPS)** (Head: Professor Michele Tansella). Attached to the *University Department of Psychiatry and Psychiatric University Clinic* there are three Clinical Units: The *Unit of Psychotherapy* (Professor Lorenzo Burti) that provides individual and family psychotherapy, the *Unit of Psychology and Therapy of Eating Disorders* (Dr. Roberta Siani) and the *Unit of Monitoring and Evaluating Patterns of Care* (Professor Francesco Amaddeo). Our clinical facilities include also the *University Department of Psychosomatics and Clinical Psychology* (Head: Professor Mirella Ruggeri), with the attached *Clinical Unit of Clinical Psychology and Communication in Medicine* (Professor Christa Zimmermann), that provide specialist outpatient care by psychiatrists and clinical psychologists for patients with panic attacks and obsessive-compulsive disorders, as well as consultations for patients and doctors of other departments of the Verona Academic General Hospital (800 beds) and psychological assessments and treatment.

The South-Verona CPS was established in 1978, according to the provision of the Italian Psychiatric Reform, and is responsible for providing comprehensive psychiatric care (prevention, therapy and rehabilitation) for all those living in South-Verona, an area of 100,000 inhabitants.

### The South-Verona Community Psychiatric Service (CPS)

#### General organization

The **South-Verona Community Psychiatric Service (CPS)** is made by two University Departments: *The Department of Psychiatry* and the *Department of Psychosomatics and Clinical Psychology*. It was designed as a unitary service, in which great emphasis is given to communication between staff and to integration between the various clinical activities. It is first described here in general terms. The various facilities and services available to South-Verona residents are then detailed. Staff members are divided into two multidisciplinary teams, each serving a sub-sector of the South-Verona catchment area. The two teams are organised according to a "*single staff module*": with the exception of nurses, all staff (psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers) work both inside and outside the hospital setting and retain responsibility for the same patients across different components of the service and through all phases of treatment. There are hospital nurses (who provide 24 hour cover over three shifts in the general hospital ward), hostel nurses, Mental Health Centre nurses and community nurses (who provide cover over two shifts, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m, and are on call, two at a time, during the weekends and overnight). Of the nursing staff, only the community nurses are assigned to one of the three teams. This module was designed to ensure continuity of care, both longitudinal continuity (through the different phases of treatment) and cross-sectional continuity (through the different components of the

service). Within each team, each patient is assigned to one particular member of the staff (the "case manager"). Case managers may be psychiatrists, psychologists or senior nurses.

The South-Verona CPS is well integrated, allowing patients easy access to most components and easy transfer from one component to another, according to need. A "drop in" approach is encouraged at the Mental Health Centre and patients can seek care from specialist services directly, without referral from GPs. However most patients are referred by GPs and referred back to them by the CPS, when it is felt that less stigmatising care can be provided through primary care. There are good relations between primary and secondary care and regular meetings are held with GPs to discuss how to improve the primary care / mental health service interface

## Components of the CPS

The Mental Health Centre is the linchpin of the CPS and is where staff meetings take place and interventions are planned and initiated. The Centre, located in an old, recently refurbished three-floor building with a garden, not far away from the University general hospital, is open on weekdays, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Therapeutic programs include crisis intervention, day care for acute and chronic patients and social skills groups. The Centre also serves as an informal meeting place for Service "users", and it is conceived as a flexible resource whose organisation can be modified from time to time to meet the users' changing needs.

**The psychiatric ward (University Psychiatric Clinic)** is an open ward of 16 beds located in the University general hospital which has in total about 800 beds. It is a traditional hospital ward, similar to all other medical wards in the hospital and its door is locked when there are patients who have been compulsory admitted.

**The outpatient department** provides psychiatric consultations and individual and family therapy. Offices are located in the general hospital and in the Mental Health Centre.

**The consultation liaison service** for other medical and surgical departments (run by the *University Department of Psychosomatics and Clinical Psychology* directed by Professor M. Ruggeri) maintains psychiatric integration with other hospital-based medical activities and ensures continuing contact with our patients when hospitalised for medical reasons; it runs also a series of out-patients activities, including visits for patients with mental disorders in comorbidity with physical illnesses and patients affected by Panic Disorder. **Unit of Clinical Psychology and Communication in Medicine** (Professor Christa Zimmermann), that provides psychological assessment and care for a variety of mental disorders and for psychological suffering and runs courses and teaching activities for improving the quality of communication between patients and members of the clinical teams.

**The emergency service.** There is a psychiatric emergency service at the general hospital, open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It is run by a psychiatrist from our team, who is on call. To ensure therapeutic continuity, he/she is usually assisted during working hours by the treatment team members who are (or will be) in charge of the patient requiring the urgent intervention.

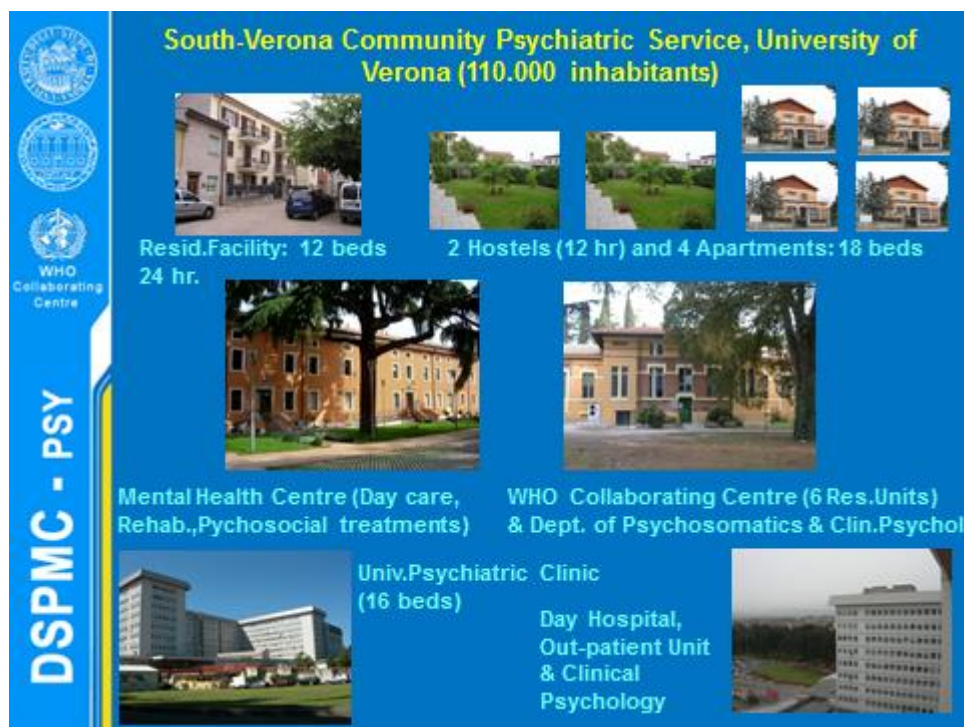
Additionally, during **night and week-end**, two psychiatric nurses from our team, supervised by a psychiatrist, are on call to provide care in the supported flats and hostel, as well as at patients' homes.

**Home visits** can be made to provide crisis intervention in response to emergency calls, but for chronic patients these are usually planned in advance and offer regular, long-term support and care to patients and their families with the goal of minimising relapses and hospital admissions. Home visits are highly regarded by the service and are well accepted by patients and families.

**Two group homes and four apartments** (with a total number of 18 beds), offering different levels of supervision, and **one hostel** (with 12 beds, supervised 24 hours a day by support workers and counsellors and occasionally visited by nurses), are also available.



**Unit of Psychotherapy** (Professor Lorenzo Burti), that provides individual and family psychotherapy. **Unit of Psychology and Therapy of Eating Disorders** (Dr. Roberta Siani), that provides assessment and therapy and coordinates long-term care for people with eating disorders. **Unit of Monitoring and Evaluating Patterns of Care** (Professor Francesco Amadeo) that provides data and coordinates care for long-term care of patients with mental disorders.



### Distinctive features of South-Verona Community Psychiatric Service

The features of the South-Verona Community Psychiatric Service that could be considered "distinctive" to the service are as follows:

- a.** It is not experimental; the South-Verona initiative is a long-term undertaking, implemented by legislation in 1978 and based on a National Act flexible enough to permit development of a system of care which is suited to local needs;
- b.** It was designed and is still functioning to substitute, not to supplement, the old hospital-based system of care. The front doors of the mental hospital have been closed to new admissions since May 1978 and to all admissions since January 1982;
- c.** The clinical model developed in South-Verona is "systemic" and with a "single-staff module": all staff apart from nurses work both in the hospital and in the community and remain responsible for the care of the same patients across different components of the service and through the different phases of care. The "single staff" module is designed to ensure continuity of care and to encourage commitment and the assumption of full responsibility by the service.
- d.** The South-Verona CPS is well integrated, and allows easy and informal access to patients. It is a public service run by the National Health Service. Payment is not required, except for a fee for out-patient visits (this applies only to more affluent patients and for those who are not considered long-term).
- e.** Every effort is made to meet user's needs with individual care plans. A well established clinical practice in South-Verona is the critical examination of the user's explicit requests, in order to recognise what his/her real needs are. Included in this process is the need to question who originated the request for intervention (the real, often disguised or secret client), besides the usual assessment of psychosocial, precipitating and intervening factors.

f. Although not designed as an experiment, the South-Verona initiative was from the beginning associated with a series of long-term research projects for monitoring and evaluating the changes in service organisation. Many projects use an epidemiological approach and include evaluations of needs, costs and outcomes.

## Education & Training

**Education and training** is provided for undergraduate medical students, for post-graduate residents at the *Scuola di Specializzazione in Psichiatria* of the University of Verona (advanced courses in Clinical Psychiatry, Social Psychiatry, Clinical Psychology, Psychotherapy and Clinical Psychopharmacology) (Director: Professor Mirella Ruggeri), for post-graduate Ph.D. students in Psychology and Psychiatry (*Dottorato di Ricerca in Scienze Psicologiche e Psichiatriche*) (Director: Professor Mirella Ruggeri), and for undergraduate students in psychosocial rehabilitation (*Corso di Laurea in Tecniche della Riabilitazione Psichiatrica*) (Director: Professor Lorenzo Burti). Short courses in Psychiatry, Medical and Clinical Psychology, Psychosomatics, and Psychogeriatrics are also provided for other Schools of Specialisation within the Medical School of the University of Verona.

The South-Verona CPS provides undergraduate and postgraduate students with the opportunity to obtain up-to-date education, and to receive their training in settings identical to those that they will find in their professional life, under the supervision of experienced personnel.



**APPOINTMENTS AND ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS  
OF MEMBERS OF THE VERONA WHO CENTRE WITH A TENURED  
POSITION**

<b>Professor Francesco Amadeo</b>	<p><b>Scientific Societies and Associations. Executive Committees:</b>  <i>Società Italiana di Epidemiologia Psichiatrica</i> (President)  <i>Società Italiana di Psichiatria (Sezione Veneta)</i> (Executive Committee)</p> <p><b>Scientific National Journals</b>  <i>Psichiatria di Comunità</i> (Editorial Board)</p> <p><b>Scientific International Journals</b>  <i>Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences</i> (Associate Editor)  <i>Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology</i> (Editor)</p>
<b>Professor Corrado Barbui</b>	<p><b>Scientific Societies and Associations</b>  WHO Guidelines Development Group of the mhGAP Intervention Package (Member)</p> <p><b>Scientific National Journals</b>  <i>Dialogo Sui Farmaci</i> (Editorial Board)  <i>Economia e Politica del Farmaco</i> (Editorial Board)  <i>Informazioni Sui Farmaci</i> (Editorial Board)</p> <p><b>Scientific International Journals</b>  <i>Cochrane Depression, Anxiety, &amp; Neurosis Group - The Cochrane Collaboration</i> (Editorial Board)  <i>Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences</i> (Associate Editor)  <i>European Psychiatry</i> (Editorial Board)  <i>Evidence Based Mental Health</i> (Associate Editor)  <i>Internet Mental Health</i> (Editorial Board)</p>
<b>Dr. Paolo Brambilla</b>	<p><b>Scientific National Journals</b>  <i>Minerva Psichiatrica</i> (Editorial Board)</p> <p><b>Scientific International Journals</b>  <i>Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences</i> (Editorial Board)  <i>European Psychiatry</i> (Advisory Board)  <i>International Journal of Mental Health</i> (Editorial Board)  <i>The Open Neuroimaging Journal</i> (Editorial Board)  <i>Psychiatry Research: Neuroimaging</i> (Editorial Board)  <i>World Journal of Psychiatry</i> (Editorial Board)  <i>Scientific World Journal</i> (Editorial Board)</p>
<b>Professor Lorenzo Burti</b>	<p><b>Scientific Societies and Associations. Executive Committees:</b>  Italian Psychiatric Association (Member Executive Committee)  Italian Association of Medical Psychotherapy (Member Executive Committee)  Società Italiana di Riabilitazione Psicosociale (SIRP) (Honorary President; Funding)</p> <p><b>Scientific International Journals</b>  <i>Community Mental Health Journal</i> (International Correspondent)</p>
<b>Dr. Andrea Cipriani</b>	<p><b>Scientific International Journals</b>  <i>Clinical Evidence: Depressive Disorders in Adults</i> - BMJ Publishing Group (Review Team Co-ordinator)  <i>Cochrane Depression, Anxiety, &amp; Neurosis Group</i>, The Cochrane Collaboration (Editorial Board)</p>

	<p><i>Current Drug Therapy</i> (Advisory Board)  <i>Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences</i> (Editorial Board)</p>
<p><b>Professor Lidia Del Piccolo</b></p>	<p><b>Scientific International Journals</b>  <i>Patient Education and Counseling</i> (Editorial Board)  <b>Scientific Societies and Associations.</b>  <i>European Association of Communication in Healthcare (EACH)</i> (Member Research Committee and Steering Committee)  <i>American Association for Communication in Healthcare (AACH)</i></p>
<p><b>Dr. Antonio Lasalvia</b></p>	<p><b>Scientific National Journals</b>  <i>Psichiatria di Comunità</i> (Executive Board)  <b>Scientific International Journals</b>  <i>Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences</i> (Associate Editor)</p>
<p><b>Dr. Michela Rimondini</b></p>	<p><b>Scientific Societies and Associations. Executive Committees:</b>  European Association of Communication in Healthcare (Teaching Board)</p>
<p><b>Professor Mirella Ruggeri</b></p>	<p><b>Scientific Societies and Associations. Executive Committees:</b>  Società Italiana di Epidemiologia Psichiatrica (SIEP) (Past President)  European Network for Mental Health Services Evaluation - ENMESH (Chairperson)  International Federation of Psychiatric Epidemiology (IFPE) (Board Member)  Association of European Psychiatrists (EPA) – (Section of Epidemiology and Social Psychiatry) (Board Member)  <b>Scientific National Journals</b>  <i>Psichiatria di Comunità</i> (Editorial Board)  <b>Scientific International Journals</b>  <i>Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences</i> (Associate Editor)  <i>Psychological Medicine</i> (Advisory Board)  <i>Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology</i> (Editorial Board)</p>
<p><b>Professor Michele Tansella</b></p>	<p><b>Scientific Societies and Associations. Executive Committees:</b>  Società Italiana di Epidemiologia Psichiatrica (Honorary President)  Association of European Psychiatrists (Section of Epidemiology and Social Psychiatry, Board Member)  World Psychiatric Association (Section on Epidemiology and Public Health, Board Member)  Comitato Tecnico Scientifico (CTS) dell'IRCS – Fatebenefratelli di Brescia  Expert Advisory Panel on Mental Health, World Health Organization  Expert Advisor on the External Strategic Advisory Board (ESAB), Biomedical Research  Centre for Mental Health (BRC-MH) at South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation  Trust and Institute of Psychiatry, King's College, London.  <b>Scientific National Journals</b>  <i>Psichiatria di Comunità</i> (Advisory Board)  <i>Rivista di Psichiatria</i> (Advisory Board)  <b>Scientific International Journals</b>  <i>Archivos de Psiquiatria</i> (Advisory Board)  <i>Acta Psychiatrica Scandinavica</i> (Advisory Board)  <i>British Journal of Psychiatry</i> (International Editorial Board)</p>

	<p><i>Early Intervention in Psychiatry</i> (Advisory Board)  <i>Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences</i> (Chief Editor)  <i>European Journal of Psychiatry</i> (Advisory Board)  <i>International Journal of Mental Health Systems</i> (Advisory Board)  <i>International Journal of Methods in Psychiatric Research</i> (Advisory Board)  <i>International Review of Psychiatry</i> (Advisory Board)  <i>Socijalna Psihijatrija</i> (Advisory Board)  <i>World Psychiatry</i> (Advisory Board)</p>
<p><b>Professor Christa Zimmermann</b></p>	<p><b>Scientific International Journals</b>  <i>Epidemiology and Psychiatric Sciences</i> (International Advisory Board)  <i>Patient Education and Counseling</i> (Associate Editor)  <b>International Committees</b>  <i>Member of EuroPsy Committee (AIP delegate) for Psychotherapy European Certification</i></p>

## MAIN ON-GOING RESEARCH PROJECTS 2010-2013

### Research Unit

#### Psychiatric Register, Economics and Geography of Mental Health

Head: **Professor Francesco Amaddeo**, MD, PhD

Research on Financing systems' Effect on the Quality of Mental Health Care – REFINEMENT, funded by the EU-FP7.

*(F. Amaddeo, L. Grigoletti, V. Donisi, I. Montagni, D. Salazzari & F. Tedeschi)*

Mortality and avoidable mortality among psychiatric patients. A 20-year case register study.

*(G. Perini, A. Biggeri, L. Grigoletti, A. Rossi, C. Barbui, M. Tansella & F. Amaddeo)*

Mortality for cancer in Verona in psychiatric patients and in the general population.

*(M. Tansella, F. Amaddeo, C. Barbui, G. Perini, L. Grigoletti, M. Nosè & A. Rossi)*

Geographical distance, socio-economic status (SES) and utilization of community-based mental health services.

*(L. Grigoletti, J. Jones, G. Zulian, R. Pertile, V. Donisi, M. Ballarin, M. Tansella & F. Amaddeo)*

Economic evaluation of psychiatric care in Ukraina, Moldova and Georgia.

*(F. Amaddeo)*

Atlas of Mental Health Care in the Verona Health District.

*(G. Zulian, F. Amaddeo, L. Grigoletti)*

Urbanicity and psychiatric care.

*(G. Zulian, V. Donisi, L. Grigoletti, R. Pertile, A. Rossi, E. Rigon, M. Tansella & F. Amaddeo)*

Mobility of psychiatric patients in community-based mental health centres.

*(G. Zulian, V. Donisi, R. Pertile, L. Grigoletti, L. Rabbi & F. Amaddeo)*

Continuity of care and outcome in a community-based system of mental health care.

*(A. Rossi, V. Vailati Venturi & F. Amaddeo)*

The evaluation of a new funding system for mental health departments: results from a multi-centre Italian study (*I-psycost*).

*(L. Grigoletti, A. Grassi, M. Boldrini, M. Chiappelli, M. Percudani, F. Catapano, A. Fiorillo, L. Bartoli, M. Bacigalupi, P. Albanese, S. Simonetti, F. Perali, P. De Agostini, M. Tansella & F. Amaddeo)*

### Research Unit

#### Clinical Psychopharmacology & Drug Epidemiology

Head: **Professor Corrado Barbui**, MD

Monitoring the use of psychotropic drugs in clinical practice: analysis of a psychotropic drug register.

*(M. Nosè, E. Esposito, M. Bianchini, P. Petroseolo & C. Barbui)*

Selective serotonin-reuptake inhibitors versus other types of pharmacotherapy for depression: systematic reviews and meta-analyses of randomised controlled trials.

*(A. Cipriani, M. Dieterich & C. Barbui)*

Comparative efficacy and acceptability of 12 new generation antidepressants: a mixed-treatment comparison meta-analysis.

*(A. Cipriani, T. A. Furukawa, G. Salanti, J.R. Geddes, R. Churchill, J. Higgins, H. McGuire, N. Watanabe, A. Nakagawa, I.M. Omori & C. Barbui)*

Clozapine, Haloperidol, Aripiprazole Trial (CHAT): Randomized evaluation of the effectiveness of clozapine and aripiprazole versus clozapine and haloperidol in the treatment of schizophrenia. An independent, pragmatic, multicentre, parallel-group, superiority trial.

*(C. Barbui, A. Cipriani, M. Nosè, A. Veronese, E. Esposito, P. Petrosecolo, S. Accordini & M. Tansella)*

Randomized evaluation of the effectiveness of lithium in subjects with treatment-resistant depression and suicide risk. An independent, pragmatic, multicentre, parallel-group, superiority trial.

*(C. Barbui, A. Cipriani, M. Nosè, M. Purgato, F. Girlanda, E. Esposito, G. Bisoffi & M. Tansella)*

Pharmacological treatment of mental disorders in primary health care". Development of a booklet to assist WHO in increasing the rational use of psychotropic drugs in low and middle income countries.

*(C. Barbui, & A. Cipriani)*

Comparative efficacy and acceptability of pharmacological treatments for acute mania. A multiple treatment meta-analysis.

*(A. Cipriani, C. Barbui, G. Salanti, J. Rendell, R. Brown, S. Stockton, M. Purgato, LM. Spinesi, GM. Goodwin, JR. Geddes)*

Fluoxetine versus other type of pharmacotherapy for depression (Cochrane Systematic Review).

*(C. Barbui, L. Magni, C. Gastaldon, M. Purgato, A. Cipriani)*

Paroxetine versus other antidepressive agents for depression. (Cochrane Systematic Review).

*(A. Cipriani, M. Purgato, D. Papola, C. Barbui)*

Subjective tolerability of antipsychotic drugs: an epidemiological perspective using the Liverpool University Neuroleptic Side-Effects Rating Scale.

*(M. Nosè, E. Esposito, M. Bianchini, P. Petrosecolo & C. Barbui)*

Development of an essential health package to assist WHO to scale up care for mental, neurological and substance use disorders (mhGAP Intervention Package).

*(C. Barbui)*

## Research Unit

### Brain Imaging & Neuropsychology

Head: **Dr. Paolo Brambilla**, MD, PhD

Disabilità Cognitiva e Comportamentale nelle Demenze e nelle Psicosi.

Obiettivo A.9 "Basi Morfofunzionali, Cognitive e Genetiche delle Psicosi Maggiori: uno Studio Integrato Longitudinale".

*(M. Bellani, C. Perlini, A. Ferro, S. Cerruti, N. Dusi, V. Marinelli, G. Rambaldelli, S. Tosato M. Tansella A. Beltramello, M. Ruggeri & P. Brambilla)*

GET UP – Contrabass. COgnitive Neuroendophenotypes for Treatment and RehAbilitation of psychoses: Brain imaging. inflAmation and Stress.

*(C. Perlini, V. Marinelli, M. Bellani, G. Rambaldelli, A. Bertoldo, M. Atzori, F. Mazzi, P. Carpeggiani, A. Beltramello, F. Alessandrini, F. Pizzini, G. Zoccatelli, M.Sberna, A. Konze)*

Following Imaging and Resilience features in Schizophrenia and affective disorders (FIRST).

*(M. Bellani, C. Perlini, N. Dusi R. Cerini, R. Pozzi-Mucelli, A. Ferro, S. Cerruti, V. Marinelli, G. Rambaldelli, M. Tansella & P. Brambilla)*

Prevention on Psychotic and Affective Events (PREVENT).

*(M. Bellani, C. Perlini, N. Dusi A. Ferro, L. Tomelleri, M. Atzori, G. Rambaldelli, A. Beltramello, F. Alessandrini, F. Pizzini, G. Zoccatelli, M. Tansella & P. Brambilla)*

The neurobiological underpinnings of social psychiatry.

*(N. Dusi, M. Bellani, G. Rambaldelli, C. Perlini, R. Cerini, R. Pozzi-Mucelli, M. Tansella & P. Brambilla)*

Perfusion imaging studies in human brain.

*(G. Rambaldelli, D. Peruzzo, M. Bellani, M. Atzori, A. Bertoldo, F. Zanderigo, M. Tansella, C. Cobelli & P. Brambilla)*

Cognitive and language disturbances in schizophrenia.

*(C. Perlini, V. Marinelli, A. Ferro, S. Cerruti, M. Bellani, G. Rambaldelli, F. Fabbro, A. Marini, M. Tansella & P. Brambilla)*

Investigation of brain connectivity in twins.

*(M. Bellani, C. Fagnani, S. Cerruti, C. D'Ippolito, G. Rambaldelli, S. Alviti, C. Perlini, M. Tansella, M. Balestrieri, S. Stazi, P. Brambilla)*

Neurodevelopmental markers of Autism.

*(L. Zocante, A. Ferro, G. Rambaldelli, M. Bellani, C. Perlini, M. Tansella, B. Dalla Bernardina, P. Brambilla)*

Evaluation of white matter alterations using diffusion tensor imaging techniques.

*(M. Bellani, C. Perlini, G. Rambaldelli, V. Marinelli, S. Cerruti, A. Ferro, N. Dusi, L. Squarcina, A. Bertoldo, G. Zoccatelli, F. Alessandrini, F. Pizzini, A. Beltramello, M. Tansella, P. Brambilla)*

A European multicentre Voxel Based Morphometry study of major psychoses (JEVESAMI, Jena-Verona-Santander-Milan).

*(I. Nenadic, F. Crespo Facorro, F. Benedetti, C. Gaser, G. Rambaldelli, M. Bellani, C. Perlini, V. Marinelli, S. Cerruti, A. Ferro, N. Dusi, P. Brambilla)*

Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) in Psychiatric Imaging.

*(C. Corradi Dell'Acqua, C. Perlini, M. Bellani, G. Rambaldelli, L. Tomelleri, R. Cerini, R. Pozzi-Mucelli, M. Tansella, P. Brambilla)*

Classification of psychiatric disorders using brain imaging data.

*(U. Castellani, M. Bellani, D. Cheng, S. Cerruti, G. Rambaldelli, C. Perlini, M. Tansella, V. Murino, P. Brambilla)*

## Research Unit

### Integrating physical health, mental health and human rights

Head: **Professor Lorenzo Burti**, MD

Physico-DSM-VR: Physical co-morbidity, poor health behaviour and a preventive intervention in Verona patients with functional psychoses: a randomised controlled study.

*(L. Berti, E. Bonfioli, G. Imperadore, M. Mazzi & L. Burti)*

## Research Unit

### Environmental, Clinical and Genetic Determinants of Outcome of Mental Disorders

Head: **Professor Mirella Ruggeri**, MD, PhD

GET UP (Genetics, Endophenotypes and Treatment: Understanding early Psychosis) Project.

*(M. Ruggeri, A. Lasalvia, S. Tosato, P. Brambilla, M. Bertani, C. Bonetto, S. Bissoli, D. Cristofalo, C. Perlini, K. De Santi & M. Tansella)*

SGENE: A Large Scale Genome-Wide Association Study of Schizophrenia addressing variation in expressivity and contribution from environmental factors.

*(S. Tosato, C. Bonetto & M. Ruggeri)*

European network of national schizophrenia network studying Gene-Environment Interaction (EU GEI).

*(M. Ruggeri, A. Lasalvia, S. Tosato, K. De Santi, D. Cristofalo, C. Bonetto, G. Zanatta & E. Dal Corso)*

Identification and treatment of depression in comorbidity with physical illness: the DECO-TRE Project.

*(M. Ruggeri, K. De Santi, D. Cappellari, A. Cipriani & C. Barbui)*

PICOS- Psychosis Incident Cohort Outcome Study. A multisite collaborative project on the clinical, social and biological factors predicting outcome in the new cases of psychoses in the Veneto Region, Italy.

*(M. Ruggeri, A. Lasalvia, S. Tosato, P. Brambilla, M. Bertani, C. Bonetto, S. Bissoli, D. Cristofalo, E. Ira, M. Zanoni, G. Marrella, K. De Santi, G. Zanatta, L. Lazzarotto, M. Tansella & Gruppo PICOS)*

Genotype, endophenotype and phenotype: identifying etiopathogenetic factors of psychoses for the development of preventive models and individualised therapeutic strategies.

*(M. Ruggeri, S. Tosato, A. Lasalvia, C. Bonetto, D. Collier, M. Di Forti, R. Murray & M. Tansella)*

Schizotaxia: epidemiology and clinical and neuropsychological validation.

*(A. Lasalvia, M. Ruggeri, S. Scala, M. Tansella, C. Bonetto, D. Berardi, D. Cristofalo, G.F. Placidi & S. Scarone)*

Assessing self-perceived discrimination and stigma following the first episode of psychosis by using the DISC-11 Scale.

*(A. Lasalvia, S. Zoppei, G. Thornicroft, M. Bertani, S. Bissoli, D. Cristofalo, L. Lazzarotto & M. Ruggeri)*

Relationship between the presence of candidate gene (Dysbindin, Neuregulin 1, BDNF) for schizophrenia and illness onset and severity: a 6-year follow-up study.

*(M. Ruggeri, S. Tosato, C. Bonetto, M. Zanoni, A. Lasalvia, D. Collier, M. Di Forti, R. Murray & M. Tansella)*



International Study of Discrimination and Stigma Outcomes (INDIGO Multisite Study)  
(*L. Burti, A. Lasalvia & M. Tansella*)

Comparison of drug abuse among patients at their first episode of psychosis in Italy and the UK.  
(*S. Tosato, A. Lasalvia, R. Murray & M. Ruggeri*)

Extended endophenotypes in early psychosis.  
(*E. Ira, M. Zanoni, C. Bonetto, M. Ruggeri & S. Tosato*)

Physical health and lifestyle in patients at their psychosis onset. A multicentric European Study.  
(*A. Lasalvia, P. Santo, S. Tosato & M. Ruggeri*)

Anti Stigma Programme: European Network (ASPEN).  
(*A. Lasalvia, C. Bonetto, L. Burti, D. Cristofalo & S. Zoppi*)

## Research Unit

### Clinical Psychology & Communication in Medicine

Head: **Professor Christa Zimmermann**, Dr. Psychol, PhD

Information giving in psychiatric and general hospital patients.  
(*C. Goss, L. Del Piccolo, M.A. Mazzi, S. Fontanesi, F. Moretti, M. Rimondini & Ch. Zimmermann*)

The involvement of psychiatric patients in the decision making process.  
(*Ch. Zimmermann, L. Del Piccolo, C. Goss, T. Pozzan, M.A. Mazzi & M. Rimondini*)

The evaluation of communication skills training in psychiatry.  
(*M. Rimondini, L. Del Piccolo, C. Goss, M.A. Mazzi & Ch. Zimmermann*)

Validation of the consensus definitions of patient cues/ concerns and related physician behaviour during medical consultations.  
(*L. Del Piccolo, C. Goss, M.A. Mazzi, F. Moretti, M. Rimondini & Ch. Zimmermann*)

Citizens' view and preferences concerning communication issues in medicine . A multicentre study.  
(*F. Moretti, Jozién Bensing, Ian Fletcher, M. Rimondini, M.A. Mazzi, L. Del Piccolo, C. Goss, G. Deledda & Ch. Zimmermann*)

The informative needs of breast cancer patients and their involvement in treatment decisions.  
(*C. Goss, C. Zimmermann, G. Deledda, M.A. Mazzi, A. Bottacini*)

The informative needs of psychotic patients and their family members and their involvement in treatment decisions.  
(*C. Goss, C. Zimmermann, G. Deledda, M.A. Mazzi, A. Bottacini*)



