



SAVE THE DATE: INAUGURAL GRADUATION CEREMONY FOR GMDP ACADEMY

We are delighted to announce the inaugural Graduation Ceremony of the GMDP Academy, celebrating the remarkable achievements of our students who have successfully completed the Certification in Medicines Development program as part of the 2023 cohort. This pivotal event signifies not just the conclusion of a demanding academic journey but also the continuance of promising careers in the field of medicines development.

Join us via Zoom on January 30, 2024 at 10am EST.

Mark your calendars, and click [here](#) to register!

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EMA Launches Electronic Product Information for Medicines • P. 2

Urgent Calls for Action in the Global Hypertension Challenge • P. 2

Industry Influence and a Comprehensive Analysis of 600 Clinical Trials • P. 3

Exploring the Potential of Once-Weekly Insulin Icodec in Type 1 Diabetes Management • P. 3

Brazil's Aging Population Poses Challenges, Calls for Systemic Adjustments • P. 4

Global Impact of Tuberculosis: Assessing Burden and Disparities Among Vulnerable Populations • P. 4

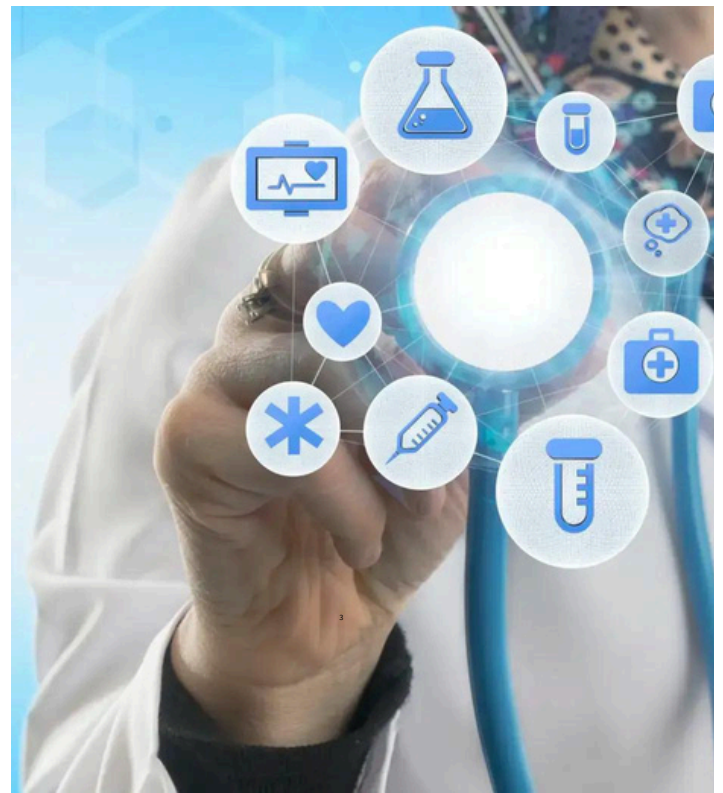
GMDP Academy's 2024 Course Catalog now Available • P. 5

Drug Consumption Rooms: 20 Years of Insite • P. 5

BREAKING GROUND: EMA LAUNCHES ELECTRONIC PRODUCT INFORMATION FOR MEDICINES ACROSS THE EU

The EMA is excited to announce a milestone achievement in collaboration with the Heads of Medicines Agencies (HMA), the European Commission (EC), and EMA. For the first time, electronic product information (ePI) for selected human medicines has been harmonized across the European Union (EU). This marks a significant step in enhancing accessibility and updating capabilities for product information.

A one-year pilot initiative, supported by the EU funding program EU4Health and conducted by HMA, EMA, and the EC, is actively exploring the creation and testing of ePIs in real regulatory procedures. The initiative aims to facilitate the transition to an electronic system for medicines evaluated at both national and European levels.



The 25 medicines involved in the pilot, evaluated by EMA or national authorities in Denmark, the Netherlands, Spain, and Sweden, will be part of this transformative journey. Read more [here](#).¹

URGENT CALLS FOR ACTION IN THE GLOBAL HYPERTENSION CHALLENGE



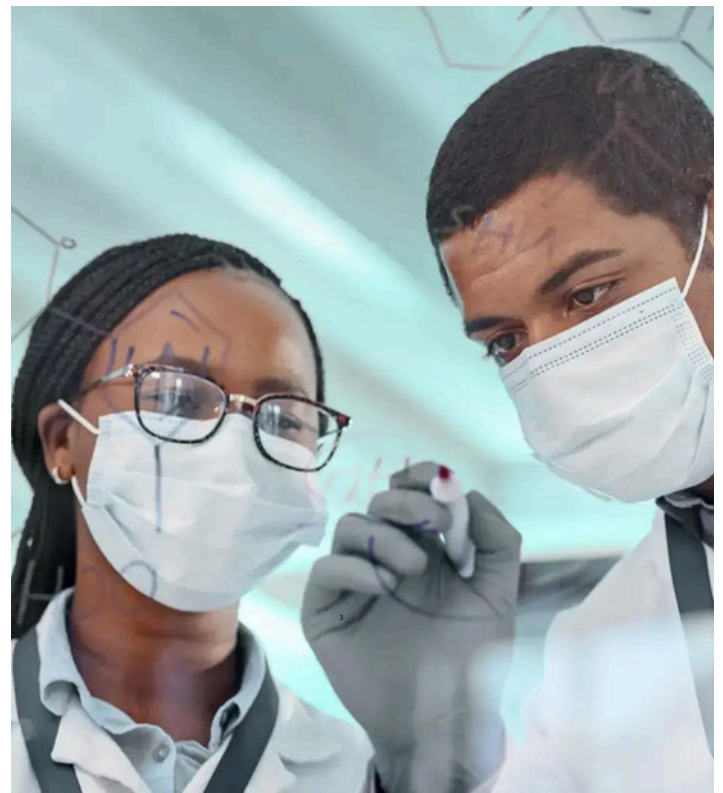
Systolic hypertension poses a significant threat as the primary risk factor for preventable deaths, accounting for approximately one-fifth of global fatalities, totaling around 11 million in 2019. This easily treatable condition, linked to various health issues such as ischaemic stroke, intracerebral haemorrhage, cerebral small vessel disease, and dementia, has seen a concerning doubling of affected adults since 1990, reaching 1.3 billion in 2019.

Despite widespread knowledge about diagnosis and effective, affordable antihypertensive drugs, only half of those with hypertension are aware of their condition, and control is achieved in only a fifth of cases. This situation is more dire in low and middle-income countries, where less than 5% of individuals with HTN have it under control. Continue reading [here](#).²

INDUSTRY INFLUENCE AND A COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS OF 600 CLINICAL TRIALS

Delve into the intricate web of 600 diverse trials, each a microcosm of scientific inquiry, as this article uncovers the pervasive influence of industry funding on research outcomes for these clinical trials. With a median sample size of 415 participants, ranging from 124 to 1046, this study exposes the profound impact of industry affiliations on the integrity of scientific investigations.

A staggering 68.2% of trials were backed by industry funding, and an even more significant revelation is that 50.5% were exclusively financed by industry stakeholders. The narrative deepens as 59.0% of trials featured authors with ties to the industry, with 46.6% involving industry analysts.



Intriguingly, 20.8% of trials were exclusively analyzed by industry experts, raising questions about the impartiality of research findings. Continue reading [here](#).³

EXPLORING THE POTENTIAL OF ONCE-WEEKLY INSULIN ICODEC IN TYPE 1 DIABETES MANAGEMENT



Basal insulin treatment is the cornerstone of type 1 diabetes management and often becomes necessary over time in type 2 diabetes as the disease progresses. Basal insulins are administered once or twice daily; however, there is potential added value from a once-weekly insulin to reduce treatment burden.

Insulin icodec (icodec) is one of two once-weekly insulins in late phase clinical development. Icodec is an insulin analogue with three substitutions to the amino acid structure and an attached C20 icosane fatty diacid chain that allows the molecule to bind reversibly to albumin, prolonging the half-life to 196 h (approximately 7 days) and achieving steady state after 3–4 once-weekly injections. Continue reading [here](#).⁴

BRAZIL'S AGING POPULATION POSES CHALLENGES, CALLS FOR SYSTEMIC ADJUSTMENTS

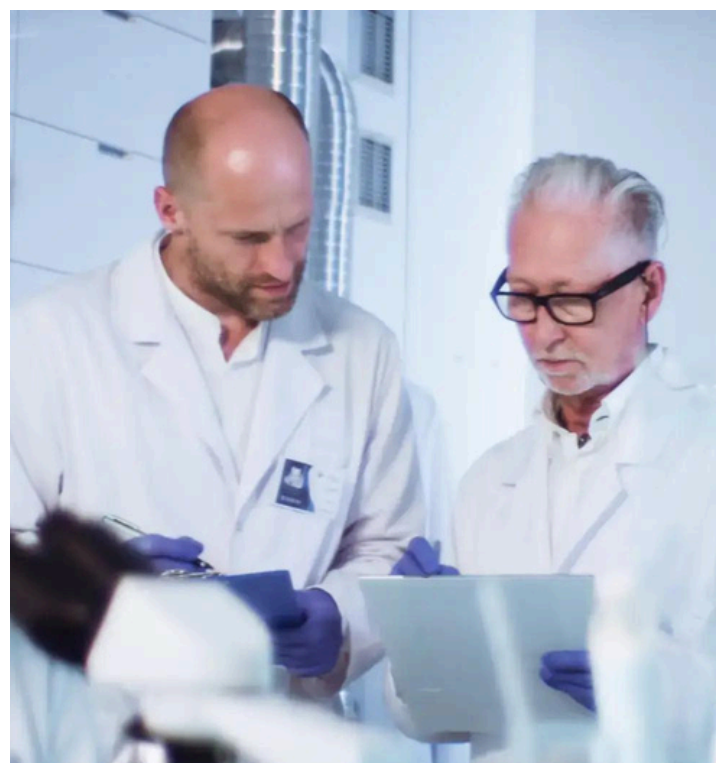
The most recent demographic data from Brazil's Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) paints a striking picture of the country's evolving age structure and Brazil's aging population. Despite Brazil's global reputation as a youthful and dynamic nation, the reality reveals a notable surge in the elderly population.

The number of individuals aged 65 and above has surged by 57% from 14.1 million in 2010 to 22.2 million in 2022, now constituting 11% of the total population. Additionally, an additional 10 million Brazilians fall within the 60–65 age range. Conversely, the count of children aged up to 14 years has decreased by 12.6%, dropping from 45.9 million (24% of the population) to 40.1 million (19.8%). “This recent demographic shift indicates a significant rise in the elderly population compared to the previous census, leading to an increased prevalence-



of chronic degenerative diseases such as dementia and higher rates of cancer,” according to César Eduardo Fernandes, President of the Brazilian Medical Association.⁵ Read more [here](#).

GLOBAL IMPACT OF TUBERCULOSIS: ASSESSING BURDEN AND DISPARITIES AMONG VULNERABLE POPULATIONS



Tuberculosis, a contagious disease with significant implications for public health, disproportionately affects the most vulnerable populations on a global scale. These vulnerable groups, characterized by a heightened risk of tuberculosis and hindered access to healthcare due to socio-economic disadvantages or marginalization, are particularly impacted.

Litvinjenko, Magwood, Wu, and Wei (2023) conducted a comprehensive overview of reviews aiming to evaluate the prevalence and incidence of tuberculosis among 12 vulnerable populations worldwide. Systematic and scoping reviews, specifically addressing the occurrence of active tuberculosis within these populations, were included in the study.⁶ Continue reading [here](#).



GMDP ACADEMY'S COMPLETE COURSE CATALOG FOR THE 2024 ACADEMIC YEAR NOW AVAILABLE

We have some incredible offerings to take your career in Medicines Development to the next level. Checkout our complete course catalog for the 2024 Academic year. Click [here](#) to view or download! Email community@gmdpacademy.com for more information.

DRUG CONSUMPTION ROOMS: 20 YEARS OF INSITE



At the age of 15, Guy Felicella began his substance abuse and addiction journey with cocaine, progressing to heroin and crystal meth, driven by unresolved childhood traumas; entrenched in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, he recounts two decades of rough sleeping, cyclical incarcerations, and a lack of rehabilitation. Amidst the late 1990s HIV/AIDS outbreak, Felicella, with over 55 drug-related convictions, found a turning point in 2013 when an overdose at Insite, a Downtown Eastside drug consumption site, led to a nurse's intervention, catalyzing a desire for change that ultimately spared his life.⁷ Read more of Felicella's story [here](#).

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Thanks for reading!

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