JACARDI

Joint action
cardiovascular diseases
and diabetes

From the editors

To screen or not to screen? That is no longer the question.

Screening and early detection are firmly in the spotlight this autumn. With the first EU Screening Week, new recommendations on cardiovascular health checks, and the Safe Hearts Plan moving from ambition towards implementation, this issue explores how JACARDI is helping turn prevention into practice.
Enjoy the read and keep your finger on the JACARDI pulse!

Focus on screening

JACARDI expertise reflected in new EU recommendations on cardiovascular health checks



The recommendations place strong emphasis on prevention, early detection, equitable access and reaching people at higher risk. This significant milestone demonstrates how evidence generated through European collaboration can help shape policies that strengthen prevention, improve access to health checks and support better cardiovascular health outcomes across the EU.

Read the article

Smarter screening, stronger prevention: JACARDI’s contribution at ESC Congress 2026



Hanna Tolonen (THL), leader of JACARDI’s Work Package on Screening, and Héctor Bueno (CNIC), leader of JACARDI’s Work Package on Data, brought the JACARDI perspective to the debate on the future of cardiovascular prevention in Europe during an ESC TV Connect session. The discussion explored the implementation of the Safe Hearts Plan and how screening, early detection and high-quality data can contribute to stronger cardiovascular prevention.

Read the article

Making screening count: what JACARDI’s Short Guide to Screening offers



JACARDI’s Short Guide to Screening brings together evidence and practical guidance on screening for cardiovascular disease and type 2 diabetes, the

result of a major collaborative effort across the European consortium. The guide has now helped inform the European Commission's proposal for a Council Recommendation on cardiovascular health checks, bringing this collective work into European policy.

Read the article

Finding risk before disease: how the Safe Hearts Plan aims to transform prevention



How can screening turn silent risks into actionable health information, and what makes health checks effective pathways to prevention and care? The latest article in the *Following the Safe Hearts Plan: JACARDI insights* series explores these questions and looks at how JACARDI's guidance and evidence can contribute to the implementation of the Safe Hearts Plan.

Read the article

Science to policy news

No one can build this bridge alone: JACARDI strengthens the science–policy interface



Across Europe, JACARDI is helping public health experts connect evidence with action. Through a consortium-wide training programme spanning 18 countries, participants are developing the skills to bring scientific knowledge into policy discussions and decision-making. This is how the wider programme came to life in Italy.

Read the article

Joint editorial calls for protecting Europe's prevention infrastructure

Prevention is not a cost. It's an investment in healthier populations, stronger health systems and a more resilient Europe. In an editorial in the European Journal of Public Health, Benedetta Armocida, Coordinator of JACARDI, Knut-Inge Klepp, Scientific Coordinator of JA PreventNCD, and Hanna Tolonen, leader of JACARDI's Work Package on Screening, highlight why the next EU budget must protect not only funding for prevention, but also the governance and implementation mechanisms that make collaboration across countries possible.

Read the editorial

JACARDI Highlight

What data cannot capture: a young researcher's perspective on public health systems



During a visit to a JACARDI pilot project site in an underserved Romanian village, young researcher Tommaso Bertossi saw the people and local realities behind the intervention. As part of JACARDI's *Voices of Young Professionals* series, he reflects on what it takes to put public health interventions into practice in complex settings.

Read the interview

Equity Lens

How JACARDI's local projects can incorporate equity and diversity into their work

JACARDI's 143 local pilot projects are using a practical framework and maturity tool to build more inclusive approaches. Early results show clear progress.

Scientific Corner

New study shows how combining health data can support diabetes policy
The Diabetes Data Cell Project demonstrates how linking real-world health data across care settings can provide a comprehensive view of patient pathways, treatment outcomes and healthcare use.

Improving nutrition literacy may support healthier diets and reduce cardiovascular risk
The findings come from a cross-sectional study in a socioeconomically disadvantaged area of Florence, Italy, and highlight the possible value of practical nutrition skills in cardiovascular disease prevention.

Europe lacks comparable data on cardiovascular disease and diabetes risks among migrant and minority populations

The study found that most European countries lack health examination survey data for these populations, making it more difficult for policymakers to identify health inequalities and design effective prevention measures.

Upcoming events

- **28 September - 2 October, Milan:** EASD Annual Meeting: Joint JACARDI & EUDF Symposium: Reducing the burden of cardiovascular diseases and diabetes in Europe: Early evidence from the JACARDI Joint Action
- **6-7 October, Copenhagen:** Translating Evidence Into Policy & Practice Through Strategic Public Health Communication
- **20-23 October, Poznań:** JACARDI IV General Assembly: From a shared vision to voices of impact
- **10 November, Bilbao:** EPH 2026 Pre-Conference: Operationalising the Safe Hearts Plan through European Joint Actions
- **10-13 November, Bilbao:** European Public Health Conference 2026
- **24 November, Brussels:** Delivering on the EU Safe Hearts Plan: the impact of EU-funded projects

News from our allies

JA PreventNCD

A new European campaign is shining a light on how the world around us shapes our health.

ESC European Society of Cardiology

Know your numbers – experts welcome first-ever EU Screening Week.

World Health Organization European Region

WHO Europe Health Reality Check podcast: Who really keeps us healthy?

Synergy news

Connecting early paediatric FH screening with Europe's cardiovascular prevention agenda



At its closing event in Brussels, the PERFECTO project brought together experts, policymakers and patient representatives to explore synergies with JACARDI and the EU Safe Hearts Plan.

Read the article

More ways to stay engaged

Thank you for keeping your finger on the JACARDI pulse. Stay connected to explore new insights as they emerge, and join the conversation to help turn evidence into impact across Europe.

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