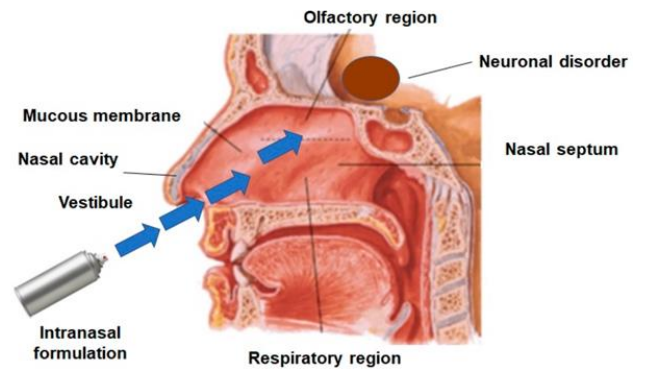


**EVEON announces the launch of the European project INDENEO  
to develop an innovative delivery system for nose to brain administration  
of biological and advanced therapy drugs to neonates**

**Grenoble (France), July 5, 2022 – EVEON, designer and manufacturer of medical devices for the preparation and delivery of drugs, announces the launch of a European consortium project INDENEO, for the Rare Disease Research (RDR) Challenge Call, to develop a delivery system from the nose to the brain for the treatment of rare central nervous system (CNS) diseases like encephalitis in neonates.**

The Rare Disease Research Challenge Call, launched by the European Joint Programme for Rare Diseases and co-funded by the biopharmaceutical company Chiesi Group, aims to develop a dropper system from nose to brain for biological drugs and advanced therapies in neonates. For certain rare diseases involving the CNS, for example, neonatal encephalitis, intranasal delivery allows to target the central nervous system, thanks to the transfer from the nose to the brain of the molecules. Minimally invasive and restrictive, this is recognized as one of the most useful and reliable routes for brain drug absorption leading to quick drug action, with greater efficacy and reduced risk of infection.



Source : Pharma Excipients

INDENEO (INtraNasal Device for NEOnates) project brings together an international consortium of 4 partners. EVEON, project leader, brings its expertise in the development of delivery devices and its ability to deliver microdoses; Chiesi contributes with its expertise in pharmaceutical development and neonatology; Les Cliniques universitaires Saint Luc (Belgium) brings its top level clinical expertise and Infectious Disease Models and Innovative Therapies (IDMIT) department at the CEA (Fontenay aux Roses site - France) its expertise in carrying out pre-clinical trials.

INDENEO will last 18 months with two main milestones: the design and development of a functional prototype, then the pre-clinical validation.

«At EVEON, we are honored and excited to lead the INDENEO project and work together with Cliniques Saint Luc, CEA and Chiesi Laboratories for the development of a new device. Nose To Brain delivery will open up new ways to address major unmet medical needs for neonates neurological rare conditions. We are proud to work on this innovative project that is at the heart of our goals : developing automatic and controlled devices for allowing safe and efficient delivery of biological drugs.» said Claire Authesserre, Technical Pre-Sales Manager and Gladys Corrons-Bouis, Business Development Director, EVEON.

“As Chiesi Global Rare Diseases we are excited to contribute to such an important project to enhance the possibilities of successfully treating rare central nervous system (CNS) diseases in neonates. Our Company has a long history in the field of neonatology, which is combined here with our commitment to rare diseases - commented Diego Ardigò, Head of R&D Rare Disease Unit at Chiesi Group -. We truly believe in the power of collaboration in the advancement of scientific research, because by combining expertise and resources you can answer bigger and more complex scientific questions and generate greater value. We are also driven by our desire to bring new or improved treatments and services to people suffering from rare diseases and debilitating chronic conditions, always focusing on the often-unseen needs, where



*we can make the biggest difference. We are committed to giving our patients and their loved ones the support they need to lead more active and fulfilling lives”.*

*« Stem cells hold tremendous promise for regenerative medicine. Preclinical research suggest that stem cells may represent the next breakthrough in the repair of currently devastating brain injury in neonates, including stroke and hypoxic-ischemic lesions. Recent safety studies in human neonates have suggested that the nasal route may be the most efficient way to deliver stem cells in the neonatal brain. This exciting project will pave the way for a safe, effective, and painless administration of novel therapies for the neonatal brain »* said Maria-Roberta Cilio, Cliniques universitaires Saint Luc.

*«INDENEO is one of three projects selected for funding within the Rare Diseases Research (RDR) Challenges call led by the Foundation for Rare Diseases and EJP-RD. We are very excited about this innovative project fostering public-private partnerships to drive rare disease research towards effective treatments, which is at the very heart of this European funding initiative.»* said Christine Fetro, Foundation for Rare Diseases.

*«We are enthusiastic to contribute to this European consortium. The development of nasal drug delivery systems is an important challenge for many fields of medicine, beyond the rare pediatric diseases targeted by INDENEO. »* said Roger Le Grand, executive director of IDMIT, CEA.

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#### **About Chiesi Group**

Chiesi is an international, research-focused biopharmaceuticals group that develops and markets innovative therapeutic solutions in respiratory health, rare diseases, and specialty care. The company’s mission is to improve people’s quality of life and act responsibly towards both the community and the environment.

By changing its legal status to a Benefit Corporation in Italy, the US, and France, Chiesi’s commitment to create shared value for society as a whole is legally binding and central to company-wide decision-making. Since 2019, Chiesi is the world’s largest biopharmaceutical group to be certified B Corp, meaning that its sustainability efforts are measured and assessed by the most ambitious global standards. The company aims at becoming net-zero by 2035.

With over 85 years of experience, Chiesi is headquartered in Parma (Italy), operates in 30 countries, and counts more than 6,000 employees. The Group’s research and development centre in Parma works alongside 6 other important R&D hubs in France, the US, Canada, China, the UK, and Sweden.

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#### **About Cliniques universitaires Saint Luc**

Cliniques universitaires Saint-Luc is the largest hospital of Brussels (Belgium), with 5800 employees and more than 900 beds. Beyond providing optimal patient care, Saint-Luc partners with the Université Catholique de Louvain (UCLouvain) in activities centered on research, innovation and teaching.

Saint-Luc provides reference care and treat serious, rare or complex diseases of patients in Belgium and abroad. The hospital is structured into medical departments but also multidisciplinary centers and healthcare networks have been developed to better coordinate and manage patient care.

In 2014, a Clinical Trial Center has been created in order to professionalize the organization and the coordination of biomedical research across the institution.

Saint-Luc is the first hospital in Europe having obtained the full AAHRPP accreditation, an international recognition that the hospital follows the standards of ethics and quality in the management of its clinical research activities.

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#### **About EVEON**

EVEON is an ISO 13485-certified company that designs and manufactures safe, connected automatic medical devices for the preparation and delivery of therapeutic treatments to improve patient quality of life. EVEON places the needs of patients and care professionals at the heart of its development by designing simple, intuitive devices to improve therapeutic performance, compliance, and the conditions of at-home care.

The company's expertise has been recognized by Forbes magazines, which ranked EVEON as the 3rd most inventive company in France in the category of medical technology in 2019.

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#### **About Foundation for Rare Diseases**

FFRD is a unique cooperative framework coordinating research resources and expertise in the Rare Disease (RD) field. Flagship of the 2nd French National Rare Diseases Plan, FFRD acts as a federative hub to fund research and accelerate scientific, clinical and social innovation by stimulating cross-sector cooperation towards effective healthcare to the benefit of RD patients. FFRD main objectives include: detecting business development opportunities; accelerating the translation of research into clinical development; enhancing access to innovative technologies; facilitating public-private partnerships.

<https://fondation-maladiesrares.org/>

[EJP RD – European Joint Programme on Rare Diseases \(ejprarediseases.org\)](https://ejprarediseases.org/)

#### **About IDMIT-CEA**

The CEA is a French key player in research, development and innovation in four main areas: energy transition, digital transition, technology for the medicine of the future and defense and security. IDMIT is a department of the CEA's François Jacob Institute of Biology. This institute, based at the CEA Paris-Saclay sites in Fontenay-aux-Roses, Evry and the Hôpital Saint Louis, carry out research in 3 areas: radiobiology and radiotoxicology, human health (on neurodegenerative and infectious diseases and on immuno-hematology), medical and environmental genomics. IDMIT is dedicated to preclinical and clinical research on human diseases, particularly due to infections and immunological disorders. Among its principal missions, it coordinates and operates a national research infrastructure for biology and health, providing its academic and industry partners with access to facilities and cutting-edge equipment for preclinical studies.

<https://jacob.cea.fr/drf/ifrancoisjacob/Pages/techno/IDMIT.aspx>