

**“LONG LIVE THE ELDERLY: A FUTURE FOR ALL”**  
**A 10-YEAR ASSESSMENT WITH MINISTER BEATRICE LORENZIN, ANDREA**  
**CAMILLERI, AND GIANPIERO DALLA ZUANNA**

*The results of the “active monitoring” programme of over 75s in three districts of Rome*  
*Low costs and excellent results of the programme carried out by the Community of*  
*Sant’Egidio*

ROME – A 10-year assessment of the programme of monitoring of over-75s living in three districts of Rome, will be presented on Wednesday 7 May in the Sala Benedetto XIII at the San Gallicano Hospital in Rome at Via San Gallicano 25/A, during a meeting with national, regional and local authorities in the field, the initiative’s operators and partners. The “Long Live the elderly” programme was created in 2004 as an experiment by the Ministry of Health and was implemented by the Community of Sant’Egidio.

Mediolanum Farmaceutici, the main sponsor of the conference, will join the programme for a year, supporting its communication activities and funding the publication of the guide “How the elderly can stay at home”, edited by the Community of Sant’Egidio, which will be distributed in Rome.

The conference will be attended by Health Minister Beatrice Lorenzin, President of the Community of Sant’Egidio, Marco Impagliazzo, CEO of Mediolanum Farmaceutici, Alessandro Del Bono, Councillor of Lazio Region, Rita Visini, Councillor for Social Policies for Rome City Council, Rita Cutini and that of the 1st Municipality of Rome - Historic Centre, Emiliano Monteverde, along with demographer Gianpiero Dalla Zuanna, Giuseppe Liotta of the University of Tor Vergata, Chairman of IPAB (Public Institutions for Assistance and Charity) of Rome City Council, Massimiliano Monnanni, and Fabrizio Davide of the EU project Cross (Citizen Reinforcing Open Smart Synergies). Andrea Camilleri will give a speech by video link. The President of the Community of Sant’Egidio, Marco Impagliazzo, will chair the meeting.

The “Long live the elderly” programme began following the “heat emergency” of the summer of 2003, which hit Rome and indeed all Europe very badly. It addresses the need to prevent the negative effects of critical events - especially summer heat waves, cold winters, flu epidemics, and falls - using a “light” and “active” monitoring strategy in conjunction with existing social networks and in addition to the traditional answers such as home care, residential care, and other measures.

In ten years more than 9,000 over 75s have been contacted and 11,000 people have been involved in local networks. Currently, the programme looks after 4,000 elderly residents in three districts of the historic centre (Trastevere, Testaccio, and Esquilino) and there are plans to expand to the Monti and Borgo/Prati districts. Elderly people involved are contacted and put on a telephone-monitoring database maintained by neighbourhood operators and volunteers who provide local services and see to their various needs. There have been around 280,000 interventions so far, of which 250,000 were phone calls and 30,000 home visits and specific social services interventions, with an average of 28,000 interventions per year or 2,300 per month. The costs are significantly less than those of more traditional services (0.30 Euros per elderly person per day). Entertainment activities and district parties happen periodically.

The constant monitoring of individual cases achieves positive results in terms of damage prevention and reduction of social and health spending in particular as regards inappropriate admissions and home care.

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San Gallicano Hospital - Sala Benedetto XIII,  
Via San Gallicano 25/A, Rome  
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