



Health&BioTech Accelerator — 1st Edition Winning Startups

## 6 WINNING STARTUPS FOR THE FIRST EDITION OF THE HEALTH&BIOTECH ACCELERATOR

It is now kicking-off the piloting phase of the international accelerator in the Healthcare and Biotech space.

Finland, Norway and a lot of Italian excellence among the 6 winning startups of the Health&BioTech Accelerator's first edition. The acceleration program, coordinated by Deloitte Officine Innovazione, sees the collaboration of corporate partners such as MSD Italia, Intesa Sanpaolo RBM Salute and prominent private healthcare providers such as Gruppo San Donato.

*Milan, June 10 2021* – Unveiled the 6 international startups, chosen among over 350 applicants, that will participate in the Health&BioTech Accelerator's program coordinated by Deloitte Officine Innovazione in collaboration with **MSD Italia, Intesa Sanpaolo RBM Salute**, and some of the largest private healthcare providers in the Country such as **Gruppo San Donato**.

The initiative is also supported by the clinical partners **Humanitas** and **Santagostino**, by the **Italian Institute of Technology**, the **University of Milan** and **IFOM** as scientific partners, by the supporting partner **Life Science District** and by **Smau, Digital Innovation Days, Notizie.it, Makinglife** and **InnovUp** as ecosystem partners; while **Panakés Partners, Digital Magics** and **Italian Angels for Growth** are supporting the program as investment partners.

The 6 startups, coming from Norway, Italy and Finland are the result of a long scouting and screening process that began last December. During these months, the mixed team Deloitte Officine Innovazione – corporate partners – investor partners – scientific partners – clinical partners has participated in 12 events across 6 countries and met individually with over 200 of the over 350 startups and scale-ups that applied for the program. Between March and May **3 selection gates have allowed to select the 6 winners that will have access to the acceleration program**. Among the selected startups, 3 are in the Biotech space, ranging from rare diseases to oncology to new vaccines, while the other 3 are active in the Healthtech space and are already on the market in the fields of telemedicine, of wearable devices and of healthcare robotics.

The winning startups will now work together with the corporate partners to develop individual pilot projects. The acceleration phase has several ambitious objectives: among them the definition of regulatory strategies for the commercialization of new drugs, the introduction of robotic exoskeletons for neurological and physical rehabilitation and the use of wearable devices coupled with AI platforms for the telemonitoring of post-discharge patients. All of this also thanks to the cross-contamination between different and complementary approaches and realities.

A few days ago, the startups have begun working on their pilot projects together with the corporate partners, the Deloitte team and the scientific, clinical and financial partners. The whole program is developed in a fully virtual framework which will allow also the international startups to have a full and constant interaction with all the project's partners during the weeks of acceleration.

The program will culminate in the **DemoDay**, next July. During this event the startups will pitch to the innovation ecosystem and to the investors community: it is here that the results of the pilot projects will be unveiled.



**These are the 6 startups selected for the first edition of the Health & BioTech Accelerator:**

**Cardiolyse.** Finnish startup that has developed a “device agnostic” data analytics cloud platform for cardiac telemonitoring, with personalized reports and risk stratification for each patient. In particular, Cardiolyse takes raw data from wearable and portable devices and transforms them into structured and usable information, so that healthcare professionals and doctors can quickly take the most appropriate action towards the client.

**EGC247.** Norwegian startup that has patented the “ECG247 Smart Heart Sensor”, an innovative wireless device for remote cardiac monitoring, specifically for the detection of atrial fibrillation and other cardiac arrhythmias. The device allows continuous monitoring of patients during their daily activities, including sports ones, allowing the detection of cardiac events, even mild ones, and the immediate reporting of them to the patient and the attending physician.

**Kither Biotech.** Italian biopharmaceutical startup that is developing new therapies for rare lung disorders. The company holds the patent for a compound for the treatment of Cystic Fibrosis for which pre-clinical data have shown that, when used in conjunction with currently used drugs, it improves the

therapeutic efficacy and potentially the quality of life of patients. To date, Kither has raised EUR 5.6 million and is about to launch a Series B round to continue further with the development of the molecule and the clinical phases.

**MicroMesh.** Research Project of Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia that is developing a polymeric implant, “uMesh”, for the treatment of glioblastoma multiforme (GBM). The therapeutic implant is a biocompatible and biodegradable network that facilitates the deep permeation of drugs into the tumor site, significantly increasing the efficacy of the therapy, as demonstrated by pre-clinical studies.

**Vaxxit.** Italian biopharmaceutical startup that develops vaccines against HIV, Herpes Simplex Virus (HSV) and M. Tuberculosis (TB), diseases indicated by the WHO among the global health priorities. The startup is currently conducting a clinical study for the validation of an HIV vaccine.

**Wearable Robotics.** Italian startup founded in 2014 as spin-off of the Scuola Superiore Sant’Anna of Pisa that develops and produces different types of robotic exoskeletons for clinical and industrial applications. In particular, it has developed the “ALEXRS” robotic solution, a bilateral exoskeleton for the upper limbs rehabilitation of neurological patients, which is already in use in various centers in Italy and in Europe. Moreover, the possible application of ALEXRS for orthopedic rehabilitation is currently being evaluated.

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