# The experience of the *Italian Global Burden of Disease Initiative*



#### Lorenzo Monasta

Coordinator of the Italian GBD Initiative

Clinical Epidemiology and Public Health Research Unit Institute for Maternal and Child Health – IRCCS "Burlo Garofolo", Trieste, ITALY





### From the first estimates ... to the Italian network

• First Italian collaborators, involved in the GBD in 2007/2008, for CKD (Mario Negri Institute, Bergamo) and Otitis Media (Burlo Garofolo MCHInstitute, Trieste)





- Eleven Italians were involved in the first capstone papers published in 2012 in The Lancet (GBD 2010) (6 @ IRCCS Mario Negri, 4 @ IRCCS Burlo Garofolo, 1 @ Italian Group for Epidemiologic Research in Dermatology – GISED)
- At the GBD Technical Workshop in 2015, we discussed with IHME the possibility of bringing together the Italian GBD collaborators (12 at that time).
- 2016: First meeting of Italian GBD collaborators.



## Why? GBD Potential



#### Planning and prevention:

- Most complex and comprehensive effort ever to collect, organize, weight evidence and elaborate models at the global level.
- Offers a unique and coherent link among incidence, prevalence, burden, disability, early mortality, life expectancy, attributable risk, socio-demographic index, health system performance, sustainable development goals.
- Time trends and geographic comparisons.

#### Research:

- Verify hypotheses, stimulated by unicity of the interconnection system.
- Identify and react to lack or shortage of original data in specific areas.
- Identify and try to solve weaknesses in VR data and other current data.



## Objectives and strategies





Share experiences, to strengthen the exchange with IHME.



**Spread results** generated by GBD, and sustain their use as **instruments for planning** in Italy, looking at the experiences of other Countries.



With IHME, further **consolidate the sharing of data and information** that can be fed back to the system to generate increasingly better estimates.



In agreement with IHME, **undertake the subnational process** for Italy (for 19 Regions and two Autonomous Provinces), thus allowing to **analyze geographic inequalities** (reflecting economic and social inequalities).



In November 2018, IHME agreed to generate subnational estimates for Italy



Jan 2020, we went through the phase of revision of preliminary subnational estimates, based on GBD 2019

Official subnational estimates will be released in 2021 (GBD 2020)



### Who we are now (Oct 2020)

# More than 70 collaborators from more than 20 research institutes.

istituto di Ricovero e cura a carattere scientifico Burlo Garofolo di Tries

REGIONE AUTONOMA FRIULI VENEZIA GIUL

- Research Institutes/IRCCS (4)
- Regional Health Authorities (4)
- National Research Centers (National Institute of Health-ISS, National Research Council-CNR, National Institute for Insurance against Accidents at Work-INAIL, National Institute of Statistics-ISTAT)
- University & University Departments (9)
- Provincial Health Authorities (3)



## Core groups

- Cancers
- Cardiovascular Diseases
- Neurological Disorders
- Dermatological Diseases
- Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health
- Occupational Health
- Mental Health
- Musculoskeletal Diseases
- Diabetes I & II
- Chronic Kidney Disease



 Health Economics and HAQ Index

#### Risk factors

- Smoke and Alcohol
- Overweight and obesity
- Nutritional risk factors
- Environmental exposures & shocks



## What to expect from the network, and from GBD collaborators members of the network

- Increase our understanding of GBD methods.
- Devote time to the revision of estimates and articles.
- Verify sources used.
- Provide data that could improve estimates.
- Be familiar with the GBD tools to visualize and extract estimates.
- Produce articles from GBD estimates.
- Involve the national and regional levels (Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Toscana, Emilia Romagna, Sicilia, Piemonte, Lombardia, Umbria, Lazio, Campania, Puglia)



## Positives and Negatives I

#### +/- Bottom-up approach:

- Lack of political mandate
- but free from institutional and political ties

#### +/- Large group of collaborators

- + Starting to have contacts with national partners who are already **GBD** users
- + GBD estimates started being part of the national epidemiological lexicon
- + The WHO Europe European Burden of Disease Network (EBoDN) and the COST Action CA18218 European Burden of Disease Network



## Positives and Negatives II

- Difficult to **explain GBD project** as an **open collaboration** where more collaboration and sharing implies more **ownership** and **better quality** estimates. Some institutions are still skeptical.
- Sometimes difficult to reach institutional data.
- Difficult to have <u>all GBD collaborators participate actively</u> and with sufficient knowledge of the GBD processes.
- Difficult to **review preliminary sub-national estimates**, finding the right approach or a **set of "core indicators"** on which to base the evaluation.



## In the meanwhile... apart from Covid-19

## THE LANCET Public Health

Global Burden of Disease Study 2017

Italy's health performance, 1990-2017: findings from the

Articles

Lancet Public Health 2019: 4: e645-57

**Published Online** November 20, 2019 https://doi.org/10.1016/ 52468-2667(19)30189-6

© The European Society of

DOI: 10.1177/2047487320949414

Article reuse guidelines

Cardiology 2020

\$SAGE

GBD 2017 Italy Collaborators\*

European Journal of Preventive Cardiology

Trends in cardiovascular diseases burden and vascular risk factors in Italy: The Global Burden of Disease study 1990-2017

Paolo A Cortesi<sup>1</sup>, Carla Fornari<sup>1</sup>, Fabiana Madotto<sup>2</sup>, on behalf of the GBD 2017 Italy Cardiovascular **Diseases Collaborators** 

Sara Conti<sup>1</sup>, Mohsen Naghavi<sup>3</sup>, Boris Bikbov<sup>4</sup>, Paul S Briant<sup>5</sup>, Valeria Caso<sup>6</sup>, Giacomo Crotti<sup>1</sup>, Catherine Johnson<sup>5</sup>, Minh Nguyen<sup>5</sup>, Luigi Palmieri<sup>7</sup>, Norberto Perico<sup>4</sup>, Francesco Profili<sup>8</sup>, Giuseppe Remuzzi<sup>9</sup>, Gregory A Roth<sup>10</sup>, Eugenio Traini<sup>11</sup>, Fabio Voller<sup>8</sup>, Simon Yadgir<sup>5</sup>, Giampiero Mazzaglia<sup>1</sup>, Lorenzo Monasta<sup>1</sup> Simona Giampaoli<sup>7</sup>, Lorenzo G Mantovani<sup>1,2</sup>,

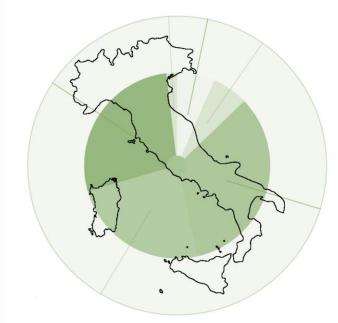
- Setting up a Core group of Regions.
- Need to learn from Countries that have embarked on similar paths

Plus other articles:



- in revision on Cancers (IRCCS Mario Negri),
- final draft Neurologic Disorders (IRCCS Besta),
- And others in the pipeline:
  - Mortality in adolescents,
  - Mental health in adolescents,
  - Redistribution of causes of death,
  - Diabetes Type II and socio-economic inequalities,
  - Air pollution impact on health





#### ITALIAN GBD INITIATIVE



