

**EPA GAINING EXPERIENCE PROGRAMME REPORT**

On the observership visit at the **Department of Mental and Physical Health and Preventive Medicine**  
of the **University of Campania Luigi Vanvitelli**

Realised from **June 5<sup>th</sup> to June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

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**REPORT:**

It has been an honor to spend three weeks with the Department of Mental and Physical Health and Preventive Medicine of the University of Campania "Luigi Vanvitelli", as part of the EPA Gaining Experience Program.

I received a warm welcome by the members of the department. Special thanks to Prof. Silvana Galderisi, Prof. Mario Maj, Prof. Armida Mucci and to my supervisor, Prof. Paola Bucci, for the kindness and depth of understanding, and for all the valuable possibilities shown to me.

A huge thank you to the great organization in various research teams. During my time, I was able to learn an array of techniques including hair analysis, neurocognitive tests, use of electronic instruments such as tablets in patient management, and various clinical rating scales including those to assess the risk to develop psychosis, such as the Comprehensive Assessment of At-Risk Mental States (CAARMS). I was able to appreciate the neuropsychological, neurophysiological and biochemical laboratories and to get involved in clinical research protocols, including the European projects "Prediction of illness course and outcome in patients with a first episode of psychosis (PSYSCAN-FEP cohort) and "Prediction of transition, illness course, and outcomes in patients at clinical high risk of psychosis" (PSYSCAN-Clinical High Risk Cohort as well as the European Long-acting Antipsychotics in Schizophrenia Trial (EULAST), and the Italian Network for the Research on Psychoses (INRP).

The caliber of research is of the highest, with particular attention to major psychoses, both in terms of psychopharmacological treatment and aspects of functional behavior, outcome and biopsychosocial and epidemiological aspects of Psychopathology.

I hope that the EPA Gaining Experience Programme will continue to create a strong community of European psychiatrists. The experience during the EPA program has been more than perfect in every respect with gaining new research skills, leadership, networking, and a glimpse within the international scientific community.