

Cooperation Profile – Prof. Umberto Volpe’s Research Team

Team Overview

Professor **Umberto Volpe** leads a psychiatry research team at the Università Politecnica delle Marche (UNIVPM) in Italy, where he heads the Clinical Psychiatry Unit in the Department of Experimental and Clinical Medicine (DIMSC) . Dr. **Laura Orsolini** is a key contributor, working in the same department’s Psychiatry Section . The team bridges clinical psychiatric practice with research innovation, and is actively seeking academic and clinical partners for joint projects in EU and international programs (e.g., Horizon Europe) in areas of digital health, youth mental health, and psychiatry.

Research Focus

- **Digital psychiatry** – leveraging technology in psychiatric assessment and care
- **Translational psychopharmacology** – especially for affective (mood) disorders
- **Youth mental health** – depression, social withdrawal, social isolation, loneliness, and non-suicidal self-injury (NSSI)
- **Digital phenotyping & biomarkers** – using smartphone/apps and wearables to identify digital biomarkers for mental health
- **Family psychoeducation** – developing family-based education for severe mental illnesses
- **Novel psychoactive substances (NPS) & addictions** – studying new drug trends and behavioral addictions
- **Neuroinflammation & mood disorders** – investigating inflammatory pathways in depression and other mood disorders
- **Innovative interventions** – e.g. serious games, virtual/augmented reality applications, and telepsychiatry in mental health care

Technology Keywords

Key Technologies: digital psychiatry; digital therapies; digital applications in mental health; electrophysiology; virtual/augmented reality; serious games; brain research; medical research .

International Collaborations

- **Academic Partnerships:** Collaborations with leading institutions worldwide, including *Harvard Medical School* (USA), *Kyushu University* (Japan), *University of Auckland* (New Zealand), *University of Maastricht* (Netherlands), *Heinrich-Heine University* (Germany), and *University of Hertfordshire* (UK) .
- **Professional Networks:** Active roles in international organizations and networks – for example, the team is involved in the WHO-supported **NECPAM** addiction medicine network and holds committee/board positions with the **World Psychiatric Association (WPA)**, **European Psychiatric Association (EPA)**, **International Society of Addiction Medicine (ISAM)**, and the **International Society of Substance Use Professionals (ISSUP)** .

Notable Projects

- **EU-MADNESS** – *European-wide Monitoring, Analysis and Dissemination on Novel/Emerging Psychoactive Substances*
- **EPS/NPS Project** – *Enhancing Police Skills concerning Novel Psychoactive Substances*
- **Save Our Net (S.O.N.)** – EU-funded “**Save Our Net**” project on youth internet safety

Contact Details

- **Prof. Umberto Volpe** – Email: u.volpe@univpm.it
- **Dr. Laura Orsolini** – Email: L.orsolini@staff.univpm.it