

The “Big Week” of Personalized Medicine at Montevideo: An EULAC PerMed series event.

[EULAC PerMed](#), European Project funded by Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Program, organized the Great Week of Personalized Medicine in Montevideo, Uruguay, last December 9 – 13. The events were hosted by the Agency for Research and Innovation in Uruguay, ANII, partner of EULAC PerMed.

With the ambition of strengthening global efforts for the development and implementation of personalized medicine and foster cooperation between Europe and the Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) region, three events took place.

The [2nd Summer School “Health Technology Assessment \(HTA\) Research & PerMed”](#) where 40 participants from EU and LAC countries learned skills regarding HTA and its relevance on PerMed through several talks on Psychiatry; Oncology screening, diagnostic and therapy; E-rare Diseases; Clinical Trials; Genomics and the interesting vision of an Oncology Patient Association from Uruguay. Among the participants, six students have been granted with a scholarship to attend on a competitive basis and with a geographic balance.



The Summer School was followed by a [Stakeholder Workshop](#) (December 11-12) inaugurated by the Uruguayan Minister of Health Dr. Jorge Bassó, where more than 70 people coming from Ministries of Health, Ministries of Science and Technology, R&I funding organizations, research centers and private companies covering 13 LAC countries, together with the members of the [EULAC-PerMed consortium](#), participated in this workshop. The participants had the opportunity to learn about different Personalized Medicine (PM) activities in Latin America and the Caribbean region, analyse and discuss the opportunities and challenges

for the development of PM in the region as well as the best options to strengthen the collaboration with Europe in this area. Several funding agencies from LAC countries were also able to directly discuss with the [ICPerMed Secretariat](#) (represented in the meeting by some of the ICPerMed partners) through bilateral meetings their options for participating in future activities of the [ICPerMed consortium](#), as part of the Science and policy dialogue activities foreseen in the EULAC-PerMed project.

Finally, a [Technical Workshop entitle “Innovative methodologies for data use and management in Personalised Medicine research”](#) took place on December 12-13. Its 75 attendants included speakers and participants from Guatemala, Chile, Uruguay, Argentina, Italy, Brazil, Peru, Netherlands, Spain, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia and members of the EULAC PerMed consortium.

The methodologies presented covered a broad range of applications in LAC and EU, ranging from the use of interoperability of data from multiomics studies, cohort integration, patient stratification through machine learning, optimization of diagnosis through medical imaging, text mining of patient records and more. Discussions focused on opportunities and recommendations for strengthening the EU – LAC collaboration for PerMed research. The workshop also provided a great opportunity for networking amongst the researchers.



An EULAC PerMed delegation was received by the President of the Republic of Uruguay, Dr. Tabaré Vázquez, who expressed his thanks to the consortium for the Personalized Medicine week events and exposed the country's interest in following these initiatives closely.