



Partner Profile:

The University of Messina, founded in 1548, is one of three Universities in Sicily and one of the oldest Universities in Italy, with 10 faculties, 21 Departments, around 700 professors (including Associate and Full professors) and about 25,000 students. The pharmacoepidemiology research group within the Department of Clinical and Experimental Medicine of University of Messina (UNIME) specialises in observational studies using retrospectively healthcare databases or through prospective assessment of clinical data provided by research networks of general practitioners.

Website: www.unime.it

Role in the ADVANCE Project:

UNIME will contribute to event and exposure data harmonization as well as interpretation of heterogeneity in risks and benefits when using multiple data sources.

Key People:

Gianluca Trifirò. Gianluca Trifirò is MD, with a Post-graduation degree in clinical pharmacology taken at University of Messina, and Master of Science in Clinical Epidemiology and PhD in pharmacoepidemiology obtained at Erasmus Medical Center in Rotterdam. He works currently as Clinical Pharmacologist and Assistant Professor in Pharmacology at University of Messina and he is expert in pharmacovigilance at Italian Drug Agency and Sicilian Regional Department of Health. His main research activities concern the coordination and conduct of international and national multi-database studies aimed at evaluating the prescribing pattern and the benefit-risk profile of medicines in clinical practice. In particular, in the context of FP7-funded projects “EU-ADR” and “ARITMO” he led several tasks for harmonization of event data extraction and data analyses when using multiple general practice and claims databases.

He is currently the scientific responsible for the management of the Caserta Local Health Agency record linkage database which integrates both electronic medical records from general practitioners and administrative databases covering a population of around one million persons from Southern Italy. This database has been extensively used in the past for pharmacoepidemiology research as documented by more than 20 publications on peer-reviewed international journals.
