

## PRESS RELEASE

### THE RESEARCH THAT CHANGES THE RULES: CATANIA HOSTS THE CoEHAR NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HARM REDUCTION

- **The event will take place on Wednesday, October 30th at the “G. Rodolico - S. Marco” Polyclinic Auditorium.**
- **The annual results of the research activity will be presented, with a specific focus on modified risk products like e-cigarettes and heated tobacco products.**
- **25 distinguished international speakers will discuss the health benefits and the application of advanced technologies in smoking cessation therapies.**

Catania, October 25, 2024 – A meeting with top experts on the effects of traditional smoking and the outcomes of **the research on harm reduction tools**: this is the focus of the 2024 CoEHAR National Conference. For the first time, the event is part of the *Annual Meeting on Addiction*, held in Catania from October 28th to 31st. The CoEHAR Conference is coordinated by the founder of the research center, Prof. **Riccardo Polosa**, and its Director, Prof. **Giovanni Li Volti**, and is promoted by the **Department of Clinical and Experimental Medicine of the University of Catania**.

*"Every year, Catania becomes the stage for a day entirely dedicated to harm reduction, aimed at showcasing the latest scientific research developments in the field,"* explains Prof. **Giovanni Li Volti**, CoEHAR Director.

CoEHAR members and researchers from some of Italy's leading universities will gather at the “G. Rodolico - S. Marco” Polyclinic Auditorium on Wednesday, October 30th, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., for the annual conference of the Catania-based research center dedicated to presenting the year's anti-smoking research results.

*"Scientific research on harm reduction strategies has reached a critical turning point, where information about new frontiers represented by modified-risk devices can no longer be ignored. This year's gathering with our colleagues from the harm reduction scientific community will allow us to capture the current state of research, **providing even more important answers on the health benefits that modified-risk devices can bring to dental health, vision, and diabetes management.** There will also be a focus on new technologies and the application of artificial intelligence systems in smoking cessation therapies,"* comments Professor **Riccardo Polosa**, the Center's Founder.

The 2024 edition will host 25 distinguished speakers from prestigious research centers and international universities, including the **Moffitt Cancer Center, Dartmouth College, George Washington University, and the Milken Institute School of Public Health**. The presentations will cover a wide range of topics, from oral and visual health benefits to improved conditions for diabetic patients and the application of new technologies and artificial intelligence in smoking cessation therapies. Sicilian journalist Luca Ciliberti will moderate the day's events. Opening remarks will include those from the member of the Social Affairs Committee, Francesco Ciancitto. Among the speakers, many CoEHAR members from the University of Catania and several experts from the national scientific community.