

# JAN. 24 RETINA READ RISK NEWSLETTER - Retrospective of the Retina Read Risk Project

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# A reminder on the Retina Read Risk project!

Nearly two years ago, the Retina Read Risk project was officially launched. It is running for a 3-year period with the goal of establishing a screening process that is both safer for patients and less time-consuming for the medical staff. Today is a great opportunity for an overview of what has been done since February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

This project has been conducted as a multidisciplinary endeavor in which the patient and the care giver perceptions are at the core of the initiative. The consortium includes a great variety of players of the innovation ecosystem: research laboratories, hospitals, a patient association, a telecom provider, a solution integrator, a specialist in the launch of health start-ups and a foundation recognized as being of public interest for the support of applied medical research. They all have the same objective: improve and personalize the monitoring of diabetic patients through E-health systems.

To this end, the consortium has accomplished important steps:

## The finalization of the prototype, hardware and software

A prototype has been developed to answer the clinical needs and requirements. This has been designed to address the problems met with the standard screening of diabetic retinopathy, with referent stakeholders of the telecom field to avoid technological issues and ease the deployment of the solution into the network. A patient association was at the heart of the development by addressing the patient perception, so that the solution met their expectations: to create an efficient screening method.

## The launch of a clinical trial

A clinical trial has been launched in Spain and it allowed for more than 2817 screenings in Spain so far. This clinical trial will allow the system to extend the knowledge of the Artificial Intelligence (AI), and to prove of its effectiveness and reliability. Retina Read Risk already detected retinopathy in 307 at-risk patients and addressed 171 patients for further testing. Thanks to clinicians and diabetic patients included in the study, the consortium will prepare the next steps that are required to make the system available for medical use.

## The creation of the spin-off RetinaReadRisk

A spin-off has been created to embody the will of the consortium. Its main role will be to access the market and promote usability of the solution. The spin-off will be the stakeholder that takes on the legacy of the Retina Read Risk project and continues to develop this kind of new service for a better patient care. It will be the main point of contact for the consortium in the developing and reaching the market.

During this time, the project has been presented in many symposiums for specialists in the field. For example, during the "54 Congrés de la Societat Catalana d'Oftalmologia", Dr. Pere Romero-Aroca presented the project during his talk about the state of the art of AI developed for ophthalmology.

Fig. 1: Dr. Pere Romero-Aroca at the 54 congrés de la Societat Catalana d'Oftalmologia



**The whole Retina Read Risk team wishes you a happy and very productive year 2024!**

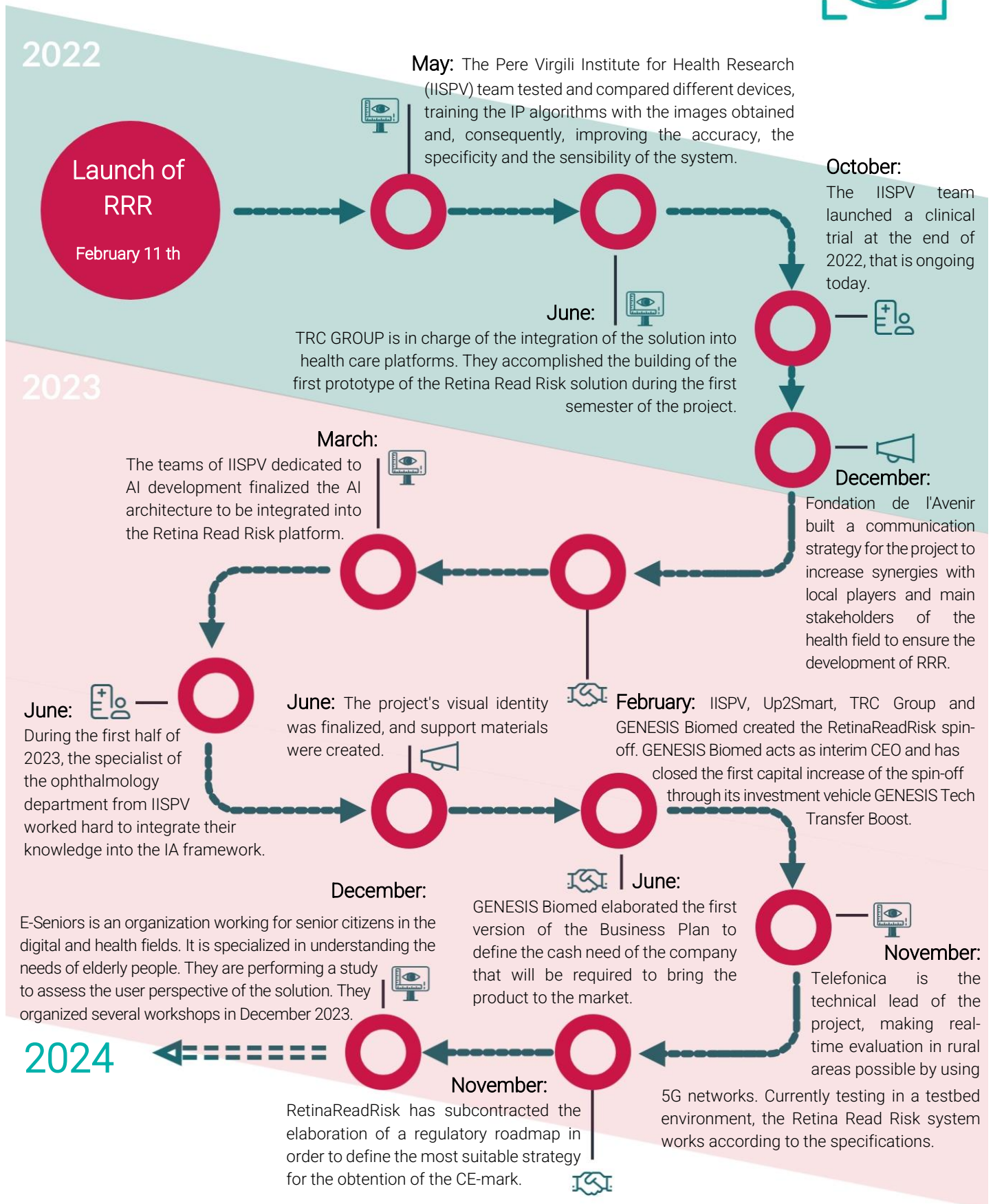
To stay in touch with the Retina Read Risk project, please subscribe to the [newsletter](#).

You can contact us at this email: [contact@retinareadrisk.eu](mailto:contact@retinareadrisk.eu)

# RETINA READ RISK



## OVERVIEW OF THE LAST TWO YEARS OF DEVELOPMENT





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## The Consortium of Retina Read Risk project



### About RetinaReadRisk

RetinaReadRisk is the spin-off created within the framework of the European project Retina Read Risk, and founded by Institut d'Investigació Sanitària Pere Virgili (IISPV), GENESIS Biomed, UP2Smart and Grupo TRC last February, it aims to bring a solution to facilitate screening of diabetic retinopathy. The creation of the company emerged from a project supported by EIT Health, an aspect that also gives it an international projection. The new spin-off RetinaReadRisk benefits from more than 10 years of work from researchers and hopes to attract private and public funding in the next 2-3 years to be able to finalize the development of the product and commercialize the solution developed during Retina Read Risk project.

For more information visit: <https://retinareadrisk.eu/>

### About the Institut d'Investigació Sanitària Pere Virgili (IISPV)



The IISPV is a biomedical research institute placed in the province of Tarragona (Catalonia, Spain) that combines clinical and basic research in order to accelerate the translation of knowledge to the benefit of patients. Founded in 2005, the institute integrates the Hospital Universitari de Tarragona Joan XIII, the Hospital de Tortosa Verge de la Cinta, the Hospital Universitari Sant Joan de Reus, the Hospital Universitari Institut Pere Mata and the Universitat Rovira i Virgili, in order to bring together and manage biomedical research and innovation in the territory. The IISPV aims to be a national and international reference centre in biomedical research and translation, at the service of the population, linking the health centres to the community.

For more information visit: <https://www.iispv.cat/en/>

### About the Institut Català de la Salut (ICS)



The Catalan Institute of Health (ICS) is the largest public health services company of Catalonia with a staff of over 53,031 professionals, that provides health care to nearly six million people across the country. As a reference entity of the public health system, the aim of ICS is to improve people's health and quality of life, through the provision of innovative and excellent health services, regarding both the promotion of health and the treatment of diseases, from the most prevalent to the most complex ones. ICS structure includes 953 primary care centres and local consultancy, 8 Hospitals and 7 research institutes, including IISPV as a one of them. Our organization mission states to be a model that, through its structure and participants, responds to projects of strategic relevance to the ICS, guaranteeing the capacity and sufficient knowledge to execute them in short terms and obtaining fast returns in the form of results and value for the organization. ICS' vision would become a reference and reliable model for all management structures, corporate and territorial, and ICS professionals to promote innovative projects, advise on their approach and relate, if necessary, external agents that collaborate in its deployment and / or provide resources. Since mid-2021 till mid-November 2023, Mr Francesc

Iglesias, responsible of the Research and Innovation support office of ICS, has been the chairman of the Governing Board of EIT Health Spain, being actually the vicechair of the EIT Health Spain foundation and Chair of INNOLIFE.

For more information visit: <http://ics.gencat.cat/es/inici/index.htm>

### About Telefonica

Telefónica is one of the world leaders integrated operator in the telecommunication sector, providing communication, information and entertainment solutions, with operations in 12 countries in Europe and Latin American. As of the end of 2021, Telefónica's total number of customers amounted more than 369 million and 103,000 professionals. Telefónica spends more 4,600 million euros each year on technological innovation, including more than 950 million euros on R&D of new products, services and management systems and improvement of existing ones. In the health sector, Telefonica is working in several areas like Telemedicine, geo-localised transport of living tissue between hospitals, assisted surgery operations with 5G and VR, etc.



For more information visit: <https://www.telefonica.com/en/>

### About the Grupo TRC

Grupo TRC has over 30 years of experience working hand in hand with groups of hospitals, developing applications to optimize and integrate all activities and processes of a health center in a unified platform.



The experience in the integration of advanced telecommunications systems, in the deployment of voice operator and connectivity services and in the development of customized software, both public and private sectors, national and international, are the guarantee of the commitment to the quality of our deployments, solutions and services.

For more information visit: <https://www.grupotrc.com/>

### About GENESIS Biomed

GENESIS Biomed is a consultancy firm in the biomedical healthcare sector specialized in providing consulting services in the genesis and first phases of lifecycle of biomedical spin-off and start-up companies, entrepreneurs, and research centers.

Based in its expertise GENESIS Biomed helps entrepreneurs and researchers to shape their business plan and supports them in the private fundraising process. GENESIS Biomed has raised >68,5 M€ in the last years in 20 rounds.

GENESIS Biomed expertise domains are biopharmaceutical, biotechnological, medical devices, in vitro diagnostic, nutraceutical and cosmetic. With more than 20 years of expertise in the healthcare sector, GENESIS Biomed is born in May 2017, and it is located in the Barcelona Science Park, and also with company sites in Madrid center and at La Marina in Valencia.

For more information visit: <https://genesis-biomed.com/>

### About E-seniors

E-Seniors is a French non-profit association, founded in 2004 by Monique EPSTEIN. E-Seniors aims at fighting against e-exclusion by providing access to and training in ICT to seniors and/or disabled



people. Its main objectives are bridging and shrinking the digital gap between generations, caring for elders by fighting against senior isolation, and opening new horizons for efficient use of free time. Besides teaching “basic computer skills”, E-Seniors has opened more thematically oriented workshops for “advanced” students, dealing with, for example, digital images and sounds, interactive messaging and chat, “writing memories”, and meetings dealing with the fight against e-exclusion. Through its work for elderly people and with them, the association tries as well to enhance awareness of the importance of ICT solutions in everyday life.

For more information visit: [https://www.e-seniors.asso.fr/en\\_main.htm](https://www.e-seniors.asso.fr/en_main.htm)

### About Fondation de l'Avenir



**Fondation de l'Avenir**

*Accélérons la recherche en santé*

The Fondation de l'Avenir aims to support and promote applied medical research for the benefit of patients. Created in 1987 by the Mutualité, it has been recognized as a public utility since 1988. Today, the Foundation is the link between the mutualist movement and public health actors. The Fondation de l'Avenir can count on more than 43,000 donors and 40 partners from the social and solidarity economy, all of whom are mobilized to advance medical progress. The Foundation has financed more than 1,300 projects since its creation, including many world firsts. It is managed by an Executive Board, chaired by Marion LELOUVIER, under the control of a Supervisory Board, chaired by Daniel HAVIS.

For more information visit: <https://www.fondationdelavenir.org/>

### About EIT Health



EIT Health is a network of best-in-class health innovators with approximately 130 partners and is supported by the [European Institute of Innovation and Technology \(EIT\)](#), a body of the European Union. We collaborate across borders to deliver new solutions that can enable European citizens to live longer, healthier lives.

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As Europeans tackle the challenge of increasing chronic diseases and multi-morbidity, and seek to realise the opportunities that technology offers to move beyond conventional approaches to treatment, prevention and healthy lifestyles, we need thought leaders, innovators and efficient ways to bring innovative healthcare solutions to market. EIT Health addresses these needs. We connect all relevant healthcare players across European borders – making sure to include all sides of the “knowledge triangle”, so that innovation can happen at the intersection of research, education and business for the benefit of citizens.

*EIT Health: Together for healthy lives in Europe.*

For more information visit: [www.eithealth.eu](http://www.eithealth.eu).

### Disclaimer

The Retina Read Risk project is funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the EIT. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.



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