

## MISSION

*Enhance* scientific, cultural and social commitment in order to improve the muscle-skeleton wellness of subjects at risk - children, adults and elderly.

*Support* information activities by promoting cooperation, education and research projects worldwide. Join public and private institutions, organizations, foundations, universities and economic research institutes to support populations at risk. Take part in social, economic and health policies with special regard to nutritional care.

*Promote* research as a way of prevention, committing to the realization of international centres for diagnosis and treatment and always respecting human dignity.



Enjoy movement

## THE FOUNDATION

FIROMMS (Italian Foundation for Research on Osteoporosis and Musculoskeletal Diseases) is the first Italian nonprofit Foundation committed to osteoporosis and musculoskeletal diseases.

The scope of FIROMMS is to establish an International Research Institute in Italy that will be at the forefront of research, diagnosis, prevention and treatment of populations at risk of fractures and thus at risk of losing their independent living, including children, adults and elderly.

The Foundation will also promote and organize satellite centers of research and education that would foster international cooperation to address unmet needs in the area of musculoskeletal health in populations at risk worldwide.

Preventing and treating osteoporosis and other musculoskeletal diseases is an ambitious goal, and FIROMMS is committed to the highest standards in both research and clinical practice, in order to offer the best possible patient care.

Founded in Rome in May 2004, FIROMMS is affiliated with the International Osteoporosis Foundation and it is dedicated to the memory of Prof. Louis Avioli, one of the pioneers of bone metabolism, founding member of the American Society for Bone and Mineral Research.

FIROMMS' dream is to improve musculoskeletal health for all individuals, thus letting people enjoy the freedom of independent living without the burden caused by back pain and fractures.

## OSTEOPOROSIS

Osteoporosis is an increasing health problem worldwide. It affects more than five million people in Italy and it is the underlying cause of bone fractures occurring after age 50. The WHO (World Health Organization) ranks osteoporosis among the most pressing health problems of the last 10 years.

Osteoporosis is a condition of reduced bone mass and disruption of bone microarchitecture, thus leading to skeletal frailty and consequent increase of fracture risk even after simple daily activities, such as raising from sitting, walking, or lifting small weights. Fractures of the spine and hip seriously compromise range of motion and limit independent living.

Unfortunately, osteoporosis frequently goes undiagnosed until a fracture occurs. FIROMMS is wholly devoted to promote prevention, diagnosis and treatment of such a disabling condition.

## MUSCULOSKELETAL DISEASES

The musculoskeletal system can be affected by a wide range of inflammatory, degenerative, infectious, metabolic, endocrinologic and oncologic diseases. Osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, but also osteoporosis as well as traumatic injuries such as those occurring in sport activities, are the most common conditions affecting the musculoskeletal system.

These diseases may affect primarily adults and the elderly, in some cases more women than men, but even children are not spared.

Choosing an effective treatment is key to reduce the consequences of these conditions on musculoskeletal function. Promoting educational campaigns and supporting research efforts in this field should be a priority for resource allocation by governments.



# FIROMMS

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