



XLI Annual School 2022

**Startup companies for  
accessible medical devices:  
the IBD case study**

Alan Fabbri

Bressanone  
13/09/2022



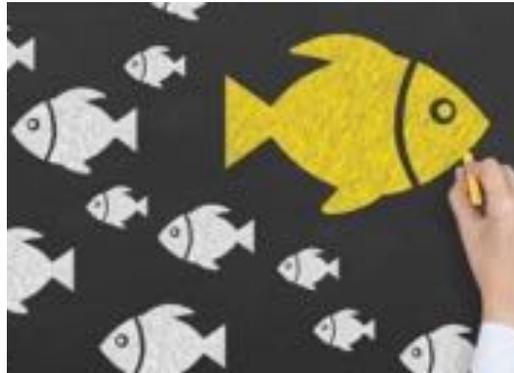
If a solution is not affordable  
**it's not a solution**

DEVI PRASAD SHETTY

Cardio Surgeon

ibd

# Outline



**Reverse Innovation**



**Our Team**



**My Dial**



**Biorespira**

# Reverse Innovation overturns the way to think about medical devices design



Opposite of “glocalization”



Creates new markets in developed countries



Needs of emerging markets



«From value for money to value for many»  
(Vijay Govindarajan)

# Reverse Innovation pillars



**Affordability**



**Robustness**



**Ease to use**



**Flexibility**

# IBD was founded in 2014 as a startup and it is currently an innovative SME



Conceived in London and **founded in Italy in 2014**



Development and certification of an innovative **device for hemodialysis**



Development, certification and market launch of an innovative **device for ventilation**



**EN ISO 13485** and **EN ISO 9001** certified



**Team with +15 years** in medical device R&D



**More than 1 M€** by BA and grants

# Founders



**Co-Founder, CEO, CFO**

## **Corrado Ghidini**

- Doctor of Medicine (M.D), Doctor of Dentistry (DDS) specialized in Internal Medicine, University of Bologna, 1981-93.
- Executive MBA at Imperial College London, 2013 - 2015.
- Entrepreneur for over 20 years in the biomedical field.

**Co-Founder, COO, R&D Manager**

## **Andrea Visotti**

- Biomedical Engineer, specialized in artificial organs and biomechanics, University of Bologna, 2007-2012.
- 10 years of experience in the design of low-cost medical devices.
- He has filed 5 patents for industrial invention as inventor.



# Team: R&D & Regulatory



## Scientific Manager

### Claudia Perazzini

- Biomedical Engineer, University of Bologna, 2003-2010.
- Researcher at the Interdepartmental Center for Industrial Research (ICIR-HST) of the University of Bologna, 2011-16.
- 8 years of experience in dialysis, both in industrial research and technical design.



## R&D Specialist

### Alan Fabbri

- Biomedical Engineer, University of Bologna, 2006-2013.
- PhD Student, University of Bologna, 2014-2017;  
Postdoctoral Researcher, UMC Utrecht, 2018-2021.
- 8 years of experience in research and development of medical products.



## CE Regulatory & Quality Manager

### Debora Drudi

- Biomedical Engineer, University of Bologna, 2008-2016.
- 5 years of experience in the biomedical regulatory environment.
- She has led IBD to obtain the EN ISO 13485 and EN ISO 9001 certifications with the TUV Sud Body.



## FDA Regulatory & Quality Manager

### Silvia Scarpellini

- Biomedical Engineer, University of Bologna, 2007-2012.
- 8 years of experience in the international biomedical regulatory field (USA, Canada, Australia, China, Brazil ..)
- She is working on the preparation of the technical documentation for obtaining the FDA marking.

# Our goal is to overcome the hurdles to reach the unmet needs



**Needs**



**State of the art**



**Hurdles**



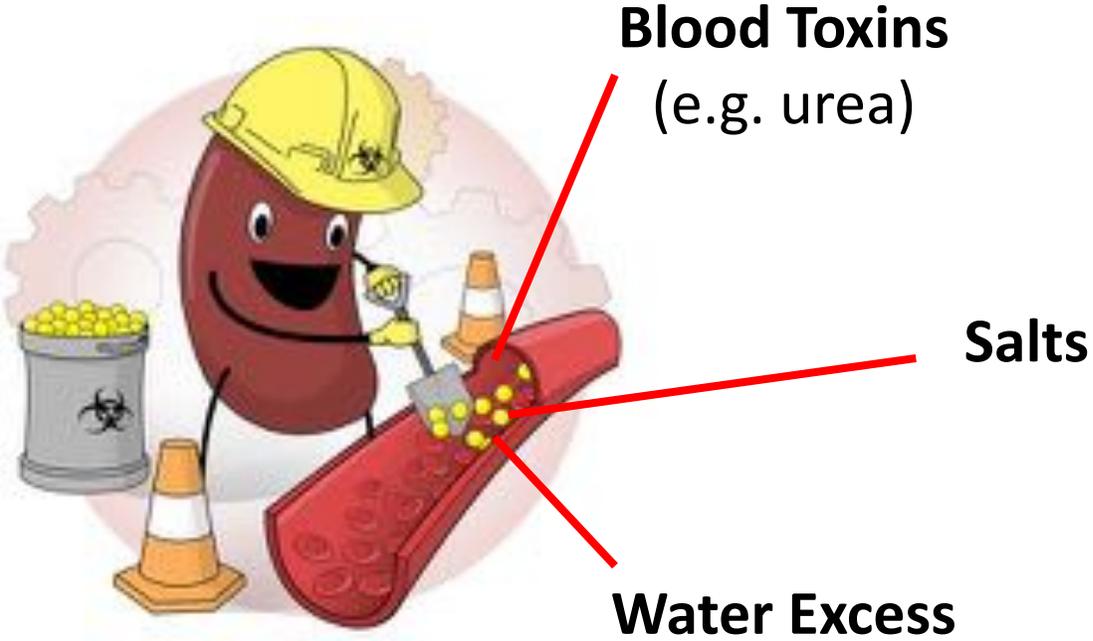
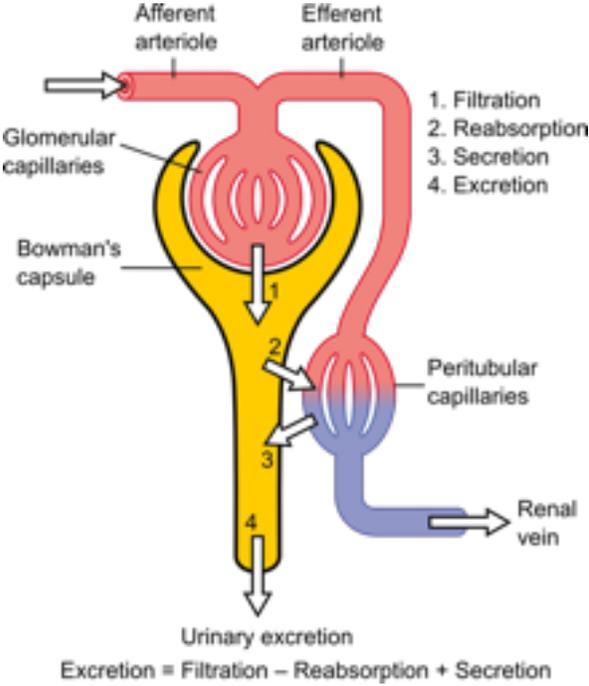
**Solution**

# My Dial

An affordable  
system for  
home hemodialysis

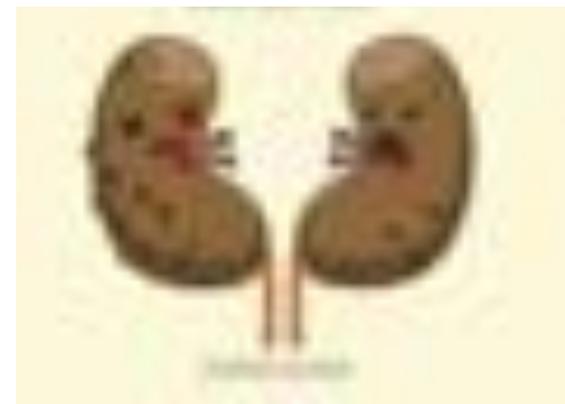
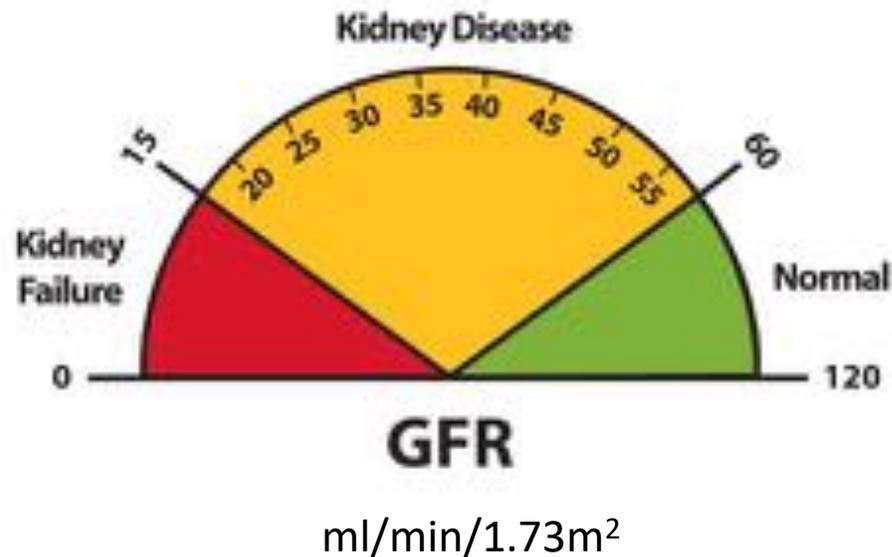


# Kidneys filter our blood from waste resulting from metabolism



From (left) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glomerular\\_filtration\\_rate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glomerular_filtration_rate)  
(right) <https://smillustration.com/functions-of-the-kidneys>

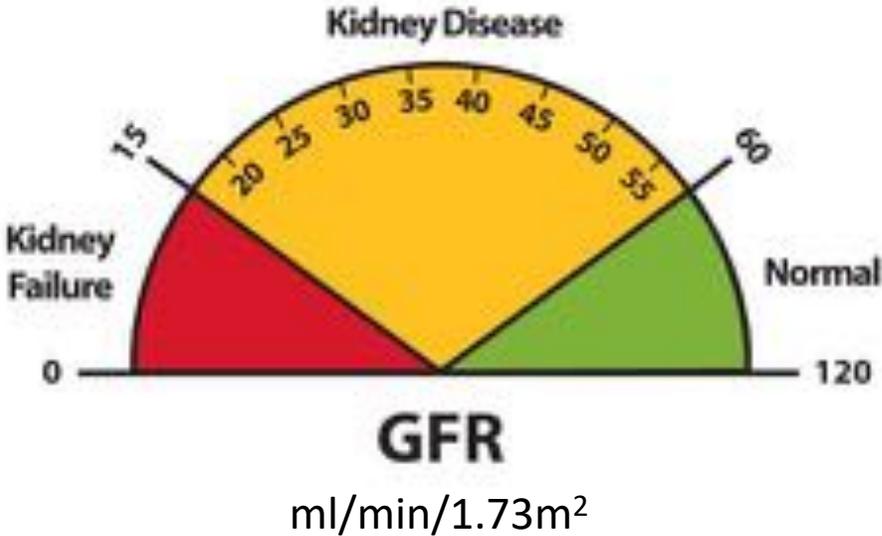
# Glomerular Filtration Rate (GFR) shows how well our kidneys are filtering our blood



# GFR determines the stage of kidney disease

What are the stages of chronic kidney disease (CKD)?

| Stage | Description  | eGFR         | Kidney Function  |
|-------|--|--------------|--|
| 1     | Possible kidney damage (e.g., protein in the urine) with <b>normal</b> kidney function | 90 or above  |  90-100%         |
| 2     | Kidney damage with <b>mild</b> loss of kidney function                                 | 60-89        |  60-89%          |
| 3a    | <b>Mild to moderate</b> loss of kidney function  | 45-59        |  45-59%          |
| 3b    | <b>Moderate to severe</b> loss of kidney function                                      | 30-44        |  30-44%          |
| 4     | <b>Severe</b> loss of kidney function  | 15-29        |  15-29%        |
| 5     | <b>Kidney failure</b>  | Less than 15 |  Less than 15% |

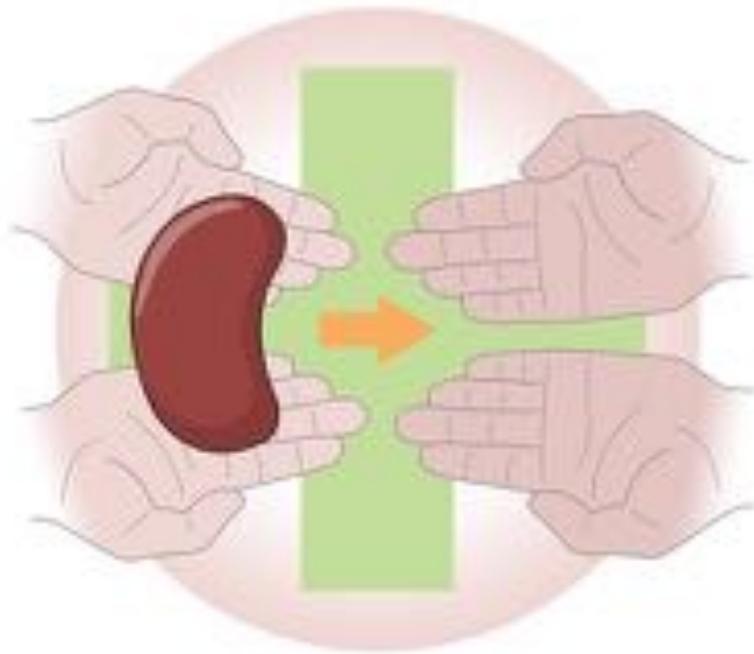


Adapted From: (left) [https://www.kidney.org/sites/default/files/01-10-8374\\_jcb\\_patflyer\\_egfr6.pdf](https://www.kidney.org/sites/default/files/01-10-8374_jcb_patflyer_egfr6.pdf)  
 (right) <https://www.niddk.nih.gov/health-information/professionals/advanced-search/explain-kidney-test-results>

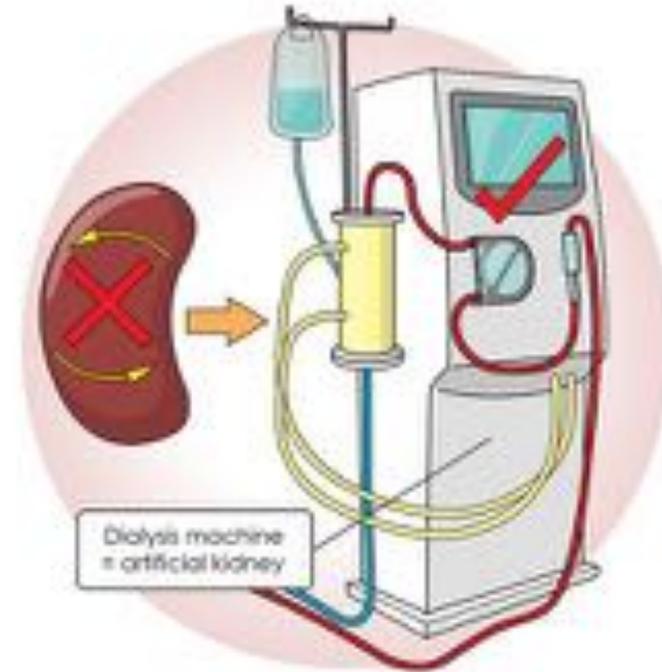
# Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) is a silent killer



# Renal Replacement Therapy (RRT) is the only option to treat end stage renal disease

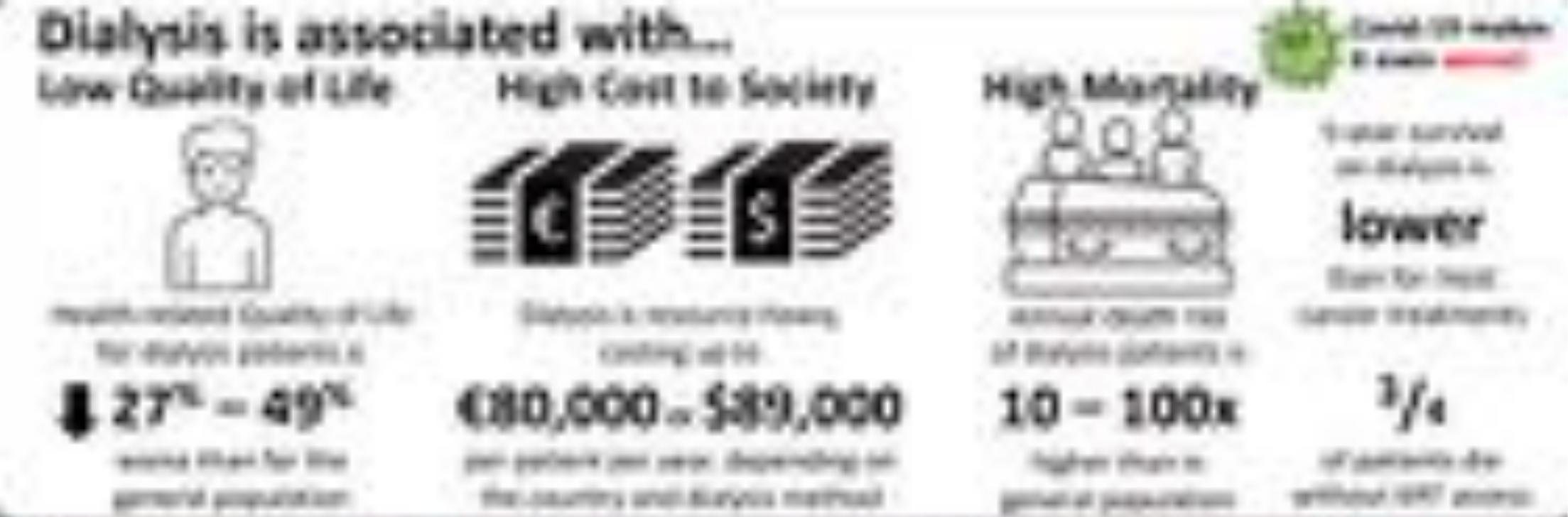


**Kidney transplantation**



**Dialysis**

# Dialysis has a huge impact in quality of patient's life (and her/his family)



Adapted from: [https://ekha.eu/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/AAKP-EKPF-and-EKHA-Infographic\\_World-Kidney-Day-2022-1.pdf](https://ekha.eu/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/AAKP-EKPF-and-EKHA-Infographic_World-Kidney-Day-2022-1.pdf)

# Home hemodialysis is a powerful tool to improve patient's quality of life but it's still a small market

## Global dialysis market

**\$ 91 billions**  
in 2025

**\$ 118 billions**  
in 2025

## Global hemodialysis market

**\$ 72 billion**  
in 2020

**\$ 100 billion**  
in 2025

## Global home hemodialysis market

~ 514 millions \$ in 2020

~ 2 billions \$ in 2025

Source: Allied Market Research



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Why home  
hemodialysis is  
so promising but  
still not popular?

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# Current home hemodialysis is not affordable



High cost per session

Expensive blood lines  
Expensive hydraulic circuits



High impact on environment

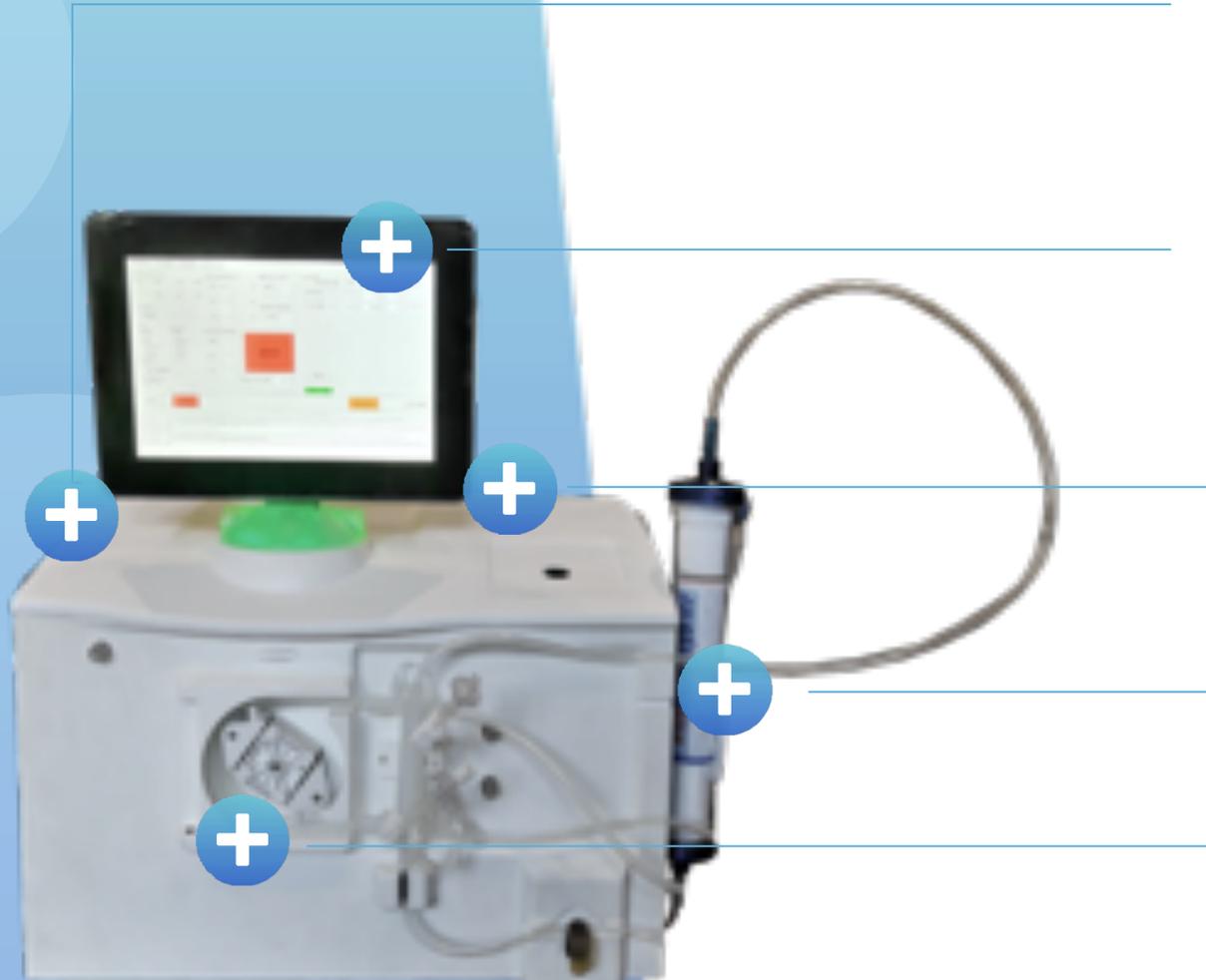
Blood lines and hydraulic  
Circuits are disposable



Big changes in home environment

Current machines need to set a  
new domestic layout

# My Dial aims to reduce by 70% the cost of therapy



## Easy to install and use

Designed **without bulky equipment** or structural changes. It does not requires professionals skills.

## Touch-screen monitor

With intuitive interface

## Designed for home setting

**Compact and light-weight**

(Size: 40 x 38 x 32 cm / Weight: 18 kg)

## Innovative disposable

**Customized**, low-cost and easy to connect

## Bicarbonate dialysis therapy

Easily adaptable to different metabolic and depurative needs of the patient.

Dialysate flow up **to 500 ml /min**

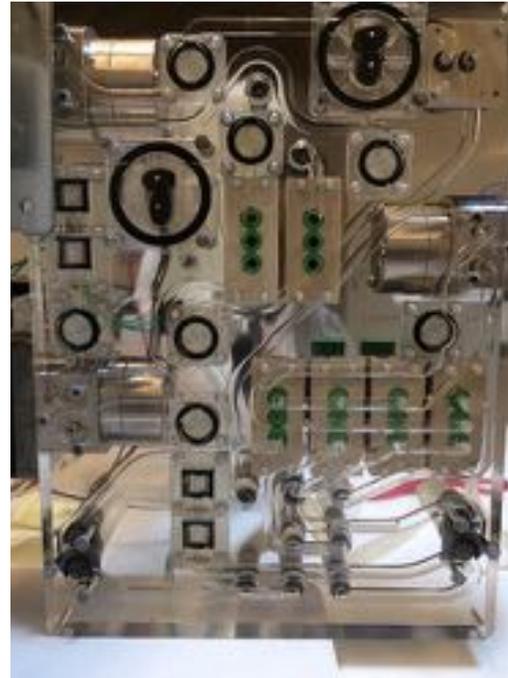
# The manifold system leads to compact size and simplifies the assembly

State of the art



Inside of a hospital  
Dialysis machine

My Dial



A4 size hydraulic system  
Patented of My Dial

**Compact and reusable**

**Integrates sensors and  
pumps**

**Simplifies manufacturing**

# A custom and low cost blood line lowers the cost of the therapy

State of the art



+ High usability  
- High cost

My Dial



+ Simplified Blood line  
+ Standard filters and concentrates

# My Dial is currently CE marked (MDD) but needs to be optimized for the industrialization



## Next steps

Upgrade to the European  
Medical Device Regulation (MDR)

Pilot Medical Trial

Optimization for mass production

# Biorespira

High Flow generator  
to alleviate the  
burden on ICUs



# Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS) is a major complication of COVID-19



**Thickening of walls  
+  
Fluid in the alveoli**

**Reduced gas exchange**

**High intubation rate  
High mortality**

# Non Invasive Ventilation (NIV) is a first line approach in less ill patients with ARDS



Nasal Cannulae



Face Mask



Helmet

High Flow Oxygen Therapy (HFOT)

Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP)

# Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) improves oxygenation and reduces intubation rate



Helmet is the best option  
in case of COVID19



Venturi/ Blender



Intensive care unit ventilators

# Venturi systems and blenders need high demand of oxygen



Venturi/ Blender

- + Cheap
- + Out of ICUs
- No closed loop control of flow and  $\text{FiO}_2$
- No accurate  $\text{FiO}_2$
- High demand of  $\text{O}_2$

# Intensive care unit ventilators should be employed for severe ARDS cases



An ICU ventilator

- Expensive
- Prone to CO<sub>2</sub> rebreathing in CPAP mode

**Reduce O<sub>2</sub> consumption, relief ICU burden and stop spreading out of SARS-cov2 is crucial**



# Biorespira is a high flow generator with a built in turbine that monitors patients parameters



For **adult patients** (>40 Kg) that breath spontaneously

Built in **turbine** allows: a fine control of flow  
an efficient O2 delivery



**Patient parameters:** SpO2  
Pulse rate  
Respiratory rate



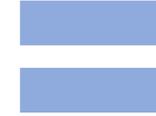
# Biorespira delivers both HFOT and CPAP with STANDARD patient interfaces



Humidifier



Nasal  
Cannulae



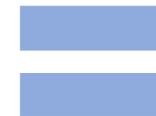
HFOT



PEEP valve

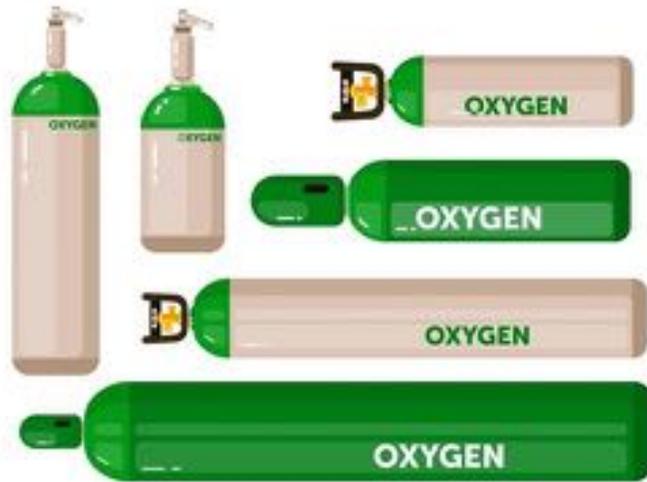


Helmet/Face Mask



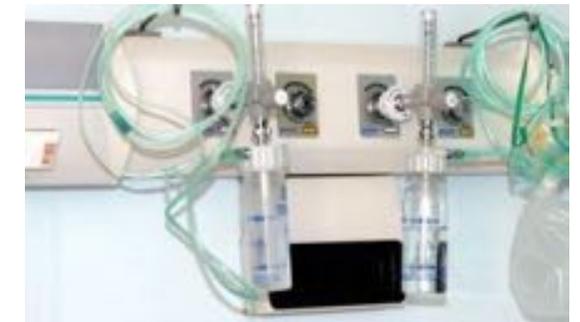
CPAP

# Biorespira works with O<sub>2</sub> tanks, O<sub>2</sub> concentrators and hospital O<sub>2</sub> system



O<sub>2</sub> Tanks

O<sub>2</sub> concentrator



Hospital O<sub>2</sub> system



Good for homecare

CE

**Biorespira is CE  
marked (MDD) and  
currently on the  
market**



# Take home messages



## Reverse Innovation

Affordability

Flexibility

Few and cheap disposable



## My Dial

Home hemodialysis can be game changing but still not affordable

IBD wants to unlock its potential



## Biorespira

Flexible and Efficient

Enhances semi intensive care units

Easy to use

For hospital and homecare



Questions?

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