

HIPRA strengthens its role as a biotechnology leader by promoting the ‘Girona Chair: Innovation in Health’

The Chair was created thanks to the collaboration between the University of Girona, Dr. Josep Trueta University Hospital, the Institute of Health Care, HIPRA, Eurecat and Esteve

Girona, 15 October, 2025 – This Tuesday marked the public presentation of the new "Girona Chair: Innovation in Health", a strategic initiative **aimed at promoting applied research, knowledge transfer, specialized training, and collaboration among the academic, healthcare, and biomedical sectors.** The Chair stems from the collaboration of the University of Girona (UdG), Dr. Josep Trueta University Hospital, the Institute of Health Care (IAS), HIPRA, Eurecat, and Esteve, and is directed by Professor Teresa Puig from the UdG Faculty of Medicine.

The event served to **present the Chair’s objectives and first lines of work, highlighting its strategic relevance for the future of health in Girona.** The first to speak was Rector Quim Salvi, who stated, “With the Girona Chair: Innovation in Health, we celebrate not only the birth of a transformative space of knowledge, but also that the UdG now surpasses 50 chairs, consolidating us as the university with the most chairs in Spain. Chairs are a successful model that connects us to the region and allows us to respond to society’s real needs. Health is one of UdG’s strategic pillars, and we have strong programs, research, and collaborations in this field. This new chair completes a virtuous circle and **offers a new perspective based on innovation, transfer, and cooperation among the university, healthcare centers, and companies. We aim to make Girona a clear benchmark in healthcare innovation, and we have the tools to achieve it,** especially with the development of the future Health Campus. We have a duty to stand beside scientific knowledge and progress, and today we celebrate that this chair takes its first strong steps forward.”

The event continued with a roundtable discussion. Representing HIPRA, Mariona Serra, director of GoodGut, stated: “We are proud to be part of this initiative. **For HIPRA, it represents a step forward in positioning Girona and Catalonia on the European map of biotechnology and health innovation. As a company with a strong focus on research and development, we firmly believe in the importance of collaboration between the academic, healthcare, and business worlds to accelerate knowledge transfer, attract talent, and address major global**

health challenges through prevention. The Health Campus and this Chair are clear examples of our shared commitment to building an innovation ecosystem that generates real impact on people's lives.”

Martí Masferrer, Chairman of the IAS Board of Directors, highlighted the current challenges of transferring innovation to the social and healthcare sectors, particularly in the context of an ageing population. Àngels Morales, General Director of Trueta Hospital and IAS, emphasized the vast amount of information and knowledge generated within the healthcare system and the difficulties this poses for the public sector. In this regard, she stressed the importance of initiatives such as this Chair as meeting points that facilitate knowledge transfer.

Dolors Rafart, Director of Esteve's Celrà plant, underlined that innovation is key to transforming scientific knowledge into solutions that improve people's lives, and that Girona offers the ideal environment to make this possible. Finally, Felip Miralles, Director of Health Technologies at Eurecat, emphasized the value of the Chair as a project that brings together universities, companies, and the healthcare system with a global vision, fostering innovation by connecting research, technology, and clinical practice to generate real impact on people's wellbeing.

Finally, the Chair's Director closed the event with a call for collaboration among institutions and companies to foster the future of health innovation.

About HIPRA

HIPRA is a biopharmaceutical and biotechnology company focused on prevention for animal and human health (One Health), offering a wide range of highly innovative vaccines and advanced diagnostic services. With its motto “Building immunity for a healthier world”, HIPRA reaffirms its commitment to contributing solutions that improve global health.

The company has a strong international presence with 40 subsidiaries, 3 R&D centers, and 6 production facilities strategically located in Europe (Spain) and the Americas (Brazil). In addition, its extensive global distribution network maintains commercial links with nearly 100 other countries, thus covering all five continents.

Research and development form the core of HIPRA's expertise. The company allocates more than 15% of its annual turnover to R&D activities focused on creating and applying the latest scientific advances to develop innovative, high-quality vaccines.



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HIPRA offers a broad portfolio of vaccines based on various technological platforms. Its R&D teams work with a wide range of technologies and over 300 pathogens. To further enhance its vaccination expertise, the company also develops medical devices and traceability services for the animal health sector.



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