

## Chiesi wins big at HSJ Partnership Awards with Leicestershire Take AIR Inhaler Recycling Scheme

- The Take AIR Inhaler Recycling Scheme won both the 'Best Pharmaceutical Partnership with the NHS' and 'Environmental Sustainability Project of the Year' categories at the HSJ Partnership Awards 2023
- Judges praised the pilot scheme, calling it "a brilliant example of a partnership model between the health service and industry"

Manchester, UK, 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023 - Chiesi, the international research-focused biopharmaceutical and healthcare group, is pleased to announce it has won two HSJ Partnership Awards for its Leicestershire Take AIR (Action for Inhaler Recycling) Scheme. In collaboration with Leicestershire and Rutland Local Pharmaceutical Committee (LPC) and University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust, Chiesi's first-of-its-kind inhaler recycling pilot was awarded 'Best Pharmaceutical Partnership with the NHS' and 'Environmental Sustainability Project of the Year' at the 2023 ceremony. Take AIR was described by judges as "a brilliant example of a partnership model between the health service and industry", who noted that they "look forward to seeing this project scale further so more citizens can benefit".

*"We are absolutely delighted to have received these awards from an organisation as prestigious as HSJ,"* said **Harriet Lewis, Market Access and Public Affairs Director, Chiesi UK**. *"Chiesi set up and funded the Take AIR scheme because we share the NHS's ambition to reach net zero emissions, and winning these awards shows the positive impact collaboration between NHS and industry can have in meeting these shared goals. On behalf of everybody at Chiesi, I'm incredibly proud to see the Take AIR team's hard work gaining the recognition it deserves and looking forward to seeing the lessons learned from the scheme informing wider healthcare sustainability initiatives."*

Take AIR is the first and only scheme to allow people to dispose of and recycle empty, unwanted, or out-of-date inhalers through the post. Set up as a pilot scheme in Leicestershire in February 2021, Take AIR was initially rolled out across community pharmacies and later extended to hospitals in the region due to demand from NHS stakeholders. To date, over 52,000 inhalers have been recycled through the scheme, with 305 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e captured and prevented from being released into the atmosphere.<sup>1</sup> What's more, 100% of patients who responded to a feedback survey said Take AIR was easy to use, while 99% believed it should be rolled out nationally.<sup>2</sup>

*"It's been an absolute privilege supporting Chiesi's pilot postal inhaler recycling scheme alongside Leicestershire and Rutland LPC, and these award wins provide fantastic recognition of the whole team's dedication,"* said **Dr Anna Murphy, Consultant Respiratory Pharmacist, University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust**. *"The positive response Take AIR has received from patients and healthcare professionals across Leicestershire is remarkable, and demonstrates a wider commitment to doing their bit for the environment and making respiratory care more sustainable."*

For more information about Take AIR, please visit: <https://www.chiesi.uk.com/environmental-responsibility>.

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**About Chiesi Group**

Chiesi is an international, research-focused biopharmaceuticals group that develops and markets innovative therapeutic solutions in respiratory health, rare diseases, and specialty care. The company's mission is to improve people's quality of life and act responsibly towards both the community and the environment.

By changing its legal status to a Benefit Corporation in Italy, the US, and France, Chiesi's commitment to create shared value for society as a whole is legally binding and central to company-wide decision-making. As a certified B Corp since 2019, we're part of a global community of businesses that meet high standards of social and environmental impact. The company aims to reach Net-Zero greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions by 2035.

With over 85 years of experience, Chiesi is headquartered in Parma (Italy), operates in 31 countries, and counts more than 6,500 employees. The Group's research and development centre in Parma works alongside 6 other important R&D hubs in France, the US, Canada, China, the UK, and Sweden. For more information, please visit [www.chiesi.uk.com](http://www.chiesi.uk.com).

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**References**

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<sup>1</sup> Chiesi UK. Take AIR UK Inhaler Recycling Pilot Scheme Update. [Data on file]

<sup>2</sup> Chiesi UK. Take AIR Patient Feedback Questionnaire. [Data on file].