

Brain health – A global priority

Stigma is a big barrier to brain health

This should be addressed with education and awareness-raising campaigns. We are committed to reducing stigma on brain health and to normalize discussions about brain health and its associated disorders. We collaborate with the patient advocacy and the medical communities on a series of initiatives.

Brain health is under-prioritized

The patient voice should be empowered, and unmet needs should be addressed. We aspire to see brain health being prioritized in the same way as physical health is, and we work with our partners across the world to make sure more financial and humanistic resources are dedicated to brain health and its associated disorders.

Neuroscience is insufficiently rewarded

Progress requires a more innovation-friendly environment. We need to remove the barriers that are restraining neuroscience innovation and foster an environment that prioritizes research.

At Lundbeck we take a holistic approach to brain health. We see brain health as being fundamental to good health across the life course of individuals. It does not simply imply the absence of a disorder, but also includes the ability for those living with a brain disorder to thrive, and those who don't have a diagnosis to pursue mental health and wellbeing.



Brain disorders directly affect about half of the world's population¹ and cost up to 10% of the world's gross domestic product² (GDP).

It's estimated that 970m people³ have a mental health disorder globally⁴, causing 1 in 5 years lived with disability.

Neurological disorders are a leading cause of disability, the second-leading cause of death globally⁵.

¹ The Lancet (2020) "Global burden of 369 diseases and injuries in 204 countries and territories, 1990-2019: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study." The Lancet, Vol. 396, Issue 10258. Taken from the internet March 2021: [www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(20\)30925-9/fulltext#seccestitle10](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(20)30925-9/fulltext#seccestitle10)

² Markham, Henry (2013) "Seven challenges for neuroscience" Functional Neurology, Volume 28, Issue 3. Taken from the internet July 2022: <https://www.researchgate.net/> (https://www.researchgate.net/publication/258058806_Seven_challenges_for_neuroscience)

³ Smith, Erin, et al. (2020) "A Brain Capital Grand Strategy: toward economic reimagination." Molecular Psychiatry, Issue 26. Taken from the internet August 2021: www.nature.com (<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41380-020-00918-w#Sec1>)

⁴ World Health Organization. Mental health - Stigma and discrimination. Taken from the internet August 2021: www.who.int (<https://www.euro.who.int/en/health-topics/noncommunicable-diseases/mental-health/priority-areas/stigma-and-discrimination>)

⁵ Global Health Metrics (2018) "Global, regional, and national incidence, prevalence, and years lived with disability for 354 diseases and injuries for 195 countries and territories, 1990-2017: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2017." The Lancet, Volume 392, Issue 10159. Taken from the internet December 2020: www.sciencedirect.com (<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0140673618322797?via%3Dihub>)