

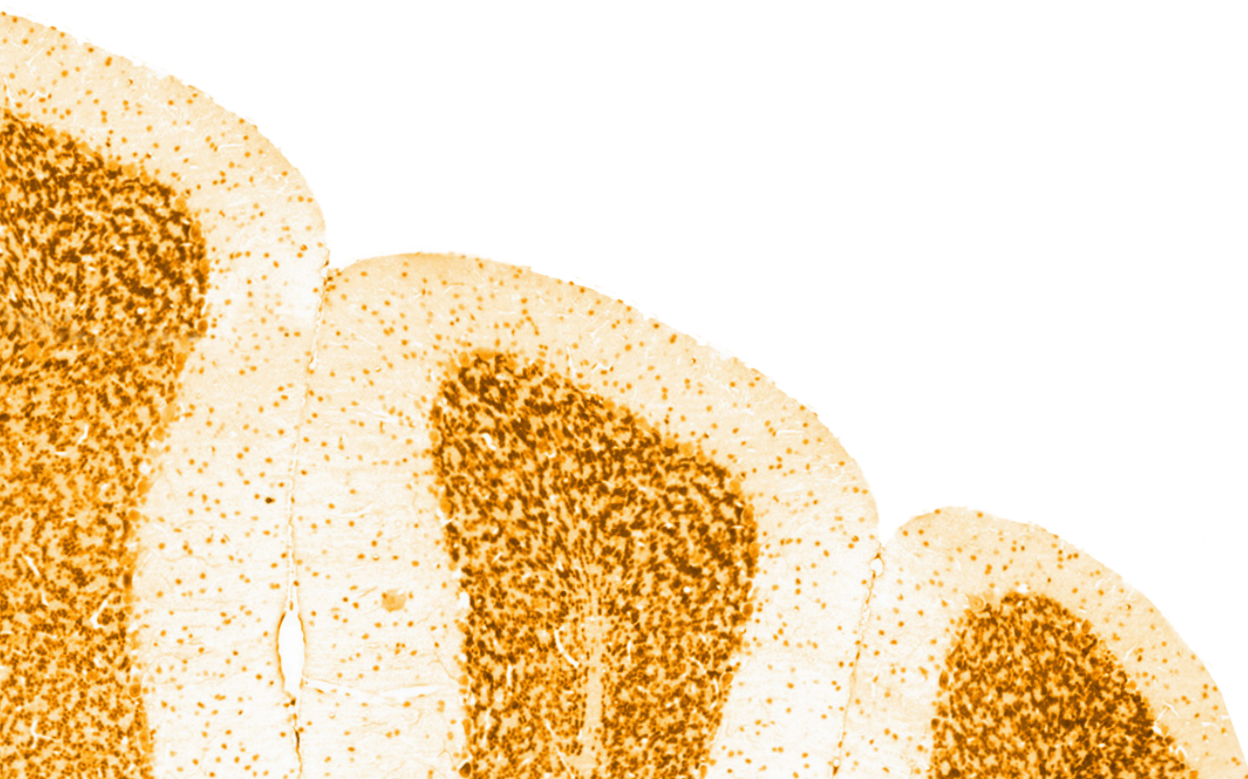
Global position paper 2026

Brain health as a public health and societal priority



Geo Lei,
living with migraine

This position paper outlines why brain health must be strengthened as a public health and societal priority, and what is needed to ensure that people living with brain disorders can achieve better outcomes. It describes Lundbeck's commitment to advancing brain health globally and highlights the policy conditions that best support prevention, early detection, integrated care, and equitable access.



Why brain health matters

There is no health without brain health. The brain governs every aspect of human life from cognition and communication to movement, emotional regulation, and social interaction.

Good brain health enables people to live life to their fullest potential, whether they live with a brain disorder or not¹.

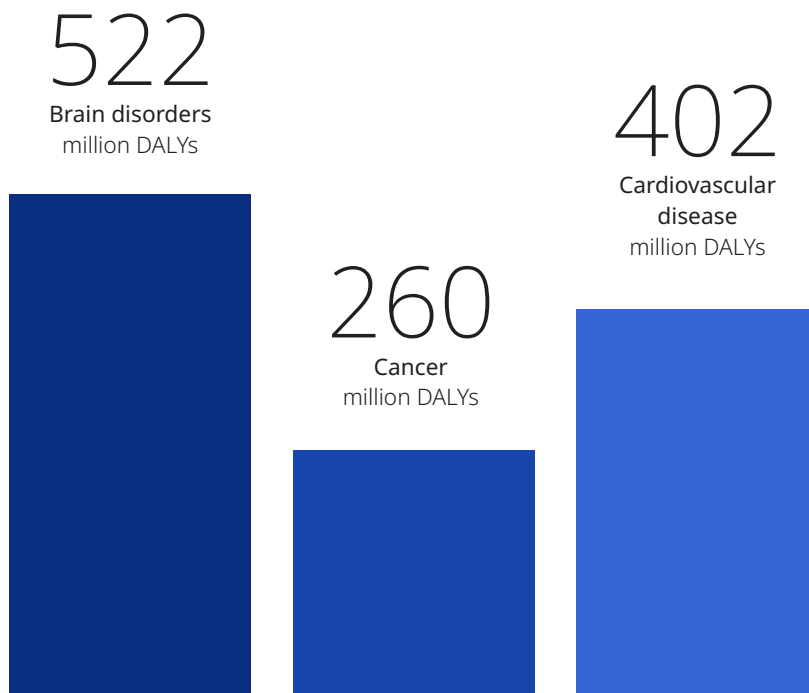
Brain disorders directly affect around half of the world's population² and account for 522 million disability-adjusted life years (DALYs), exceeding the burden associated with cancer (260 million) and cardiovascular disease (402 million)³.

Headache disorders alone account for 45.5 million DALYs, and major depressive disorder for 47.5 million DALYs³. Almost half of all rare disorders are neurological, and 90% of rare childhood disorders have major neurological effects such as developmental delays or seizures⁴.

As the world's population ages and socio-economic pressures grow, the number of people living with brain disorders is expected to increase substantially over the coming decades.

Global burden of disease projections estimate that neurological disorders will increase by more than 40% between 2020 and 2050, driven largely by demographic change⁵. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that brain disorders cost the global economy around USD 5 trillion annually, a figure expected to reach USD 16 trillion by 2030⁶.

Early diagnosis, coordinated care pathways, and access to effective treatments can substantially improve quality of life, support workforce participation, and help reduce the long-term societal costs of brain disorders⁷.



Brain disorders account for 522 million disability-adjusted life years.

Lundbeck's commitment

Lundbeck is one of the few global pharmaceutical companies solely dedicated to advancing brain health.

For more than 70 years, we have applied our scientific expertise in neuroscience to develop transformative therapies for psychiatric, neurological, and neuro-rare brain disorders. Our purpose is clear: advancing brain health to transform the lives of people living with brain disorders.

Our neuroscience heritage includes landmark contributions to treatments for depression, schizophrenia, Alzheimer's disease, and migraine. Today, we continue

to expand this legacy by addressing complex and underserved disorders such as severe epileptic disorders, atypical parkinsonian disorders, and neurodegenerative disorders.

Over the past five years, the proportion of neuro-rare and neuro-specialty programs in our research pipeline has increased from 40% to nearly 90%⁸, reflecting our long-term commitment to areas of greatest unmet medical need.



Maria,
living with schizophrenia

Partnerships and collaboration

Partnerships and collaboration are essential to advancing brain health. No single organization can reduce the burden of brain disorders or strengthen brain health on their own.

Progress requires coordinated action across global institutions, governments, healthcare providers, patient organizations, scientific communities, and industry. Lundbeck therefore engages in partnerships that support awareness, prevention, early identification, integrated care, and access to effective treatments, all of which are necessary to improve outcomes for people living with brain disorders.

Our approach to collaboration spans multiple levels. At the global level, we contribute to frameworks that set shared priorities and mobilize governments, such as the WHO Intersectoral Global Action Plan (IGAP). Regionally and nationally, we work with partners that help translate these principles into practical strategies,

including multi-stakeholder forums that strengthen governance, coordination of care and system capacity. In parallel, we support a strong and connected civil society and patient advocacy community, recognizing the essential role that people with lived experience play in shaping policy, advancing awareness, and driving societal change.

The following examples illustrate how global policy frameworks, national implementation efforts, and patient-centered advocacy partnerships together contribute to a stronger international brain health ecosystem. These collaborations help reduce fragmentation, support the development of more resilient and inclusive health systems, and ensure that brain health receives the priority it requires across societies.



Lundbeck in action

Elevating brain health on the global stage

Lundbeck collaborates with the European Brain Council (EBC) and international partners to strengthen brain health as a global priority. Through high-level engagement with the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), EBC has helped position brain health within multilateral discussions on non-communicable diseases, healthy ageing, and sustainable development¹¹.

By contributing scientific insights and participating in these global dialogues, Lundbeck contributes to increasing political visibility, encouraging coordinated international action, and integrating brain health into global health, economic, and development agendas. This work complements the WHO IGAP framework and helps ensure that brain health is recognized as a shared international responsibility.

Lundbeck in action

From global framework to national implementation



The WHO IGAP provides the first coordinated global framework for strengthening brain health across prevention, diagnosis, treatment, care, and inclusion⁹.

It calls on all countries worldwide to elevate brain health within national strategies, build integrated care pathways, and strengthen collaboration across sectors⁹.

Lundbeck supports the goals of WHO IGAP and contributes to initiatives that translate global priorities into local action. One example is the establishment of the Danish Brain Council in 2024, a multi stakeholder forum of hospitals, scientific societies, patient organizations, and the life-science sector¹⁰.

Together, the Council developed a set of recommendations for a Danish Brain Health Plan, aligning national priorities with the guiding principles of WHO IGAP. Lundbeck contributed scientific input and supported the process, while that both the process and outcome remained fully independent.

This collaboration demonstrates how global policy frameworks can inspire structured national action that strengthens brain health systems in practice.

Lundbeck in action

Strengthening the global brain health advocacy community



For more than a decade, Lundbeck has organized the #1Voice Summit, an annual global forum bringing together patient advocacy organizations across neurology, psychiatry, and broader brain health¹².

The #1VoiceSummit fosters collaboration among national and international advocacy groups, supports peer-to-peer learning, and builds collective capacity to advocate for better brain health.

Through workshops, expert dialogues, and shared learning, the

#1VoiceSummit fosters a strong and connected global advocacy ecosystem in brain health. This reflects Lundbeck's commitment to supporting an independent, diverse, and empowered patient community, which plays a vital role in raising awareness, reducing stigma, and driving societal progress in brain health.

From science to societal value

Advancing brain health is not only a public health priority; it is essential to economic resilience and social cohesion. Healthy brains enable learning, creativity, innovation, and active participation in society.

Lundbeck contributes across the full value chain, from early research to global supply and patient access, continuously reinvesting in neuroscience. Through collaborations with patient organizations, policymakers, international bodies, and scientific partners, we help elevate brain health, reduce stigma, improve awareness, and support equitable access to diagnosis and treatment.

This continuous cycle, from science to care and onward to improved daily functioning and societal participation, is central to societies facing demographic change, rising mental health needs, and increasing pressure on healthcare systems.



Lundbeck remains committed to advancing brain health through



Scientific excellence and continued investment in neuroscience



Partnerships that support brain health awareness, prevention and access



Advocacy for integrated, life course approaches to care



Strengthening international and national frameworks that prioritize brain health



Policy priorities for brain health

Brain health underpins every aspect of human well-being, learning, social participation, and economic resilience. Yet, policy responses remain fragmented across neurological care, mental health, social systems, and wider public health. As the burden of brain disorders continues to rise, countries need coherent and integrated approaches that reflect the true impact of brain health on individuals, communities, and societies.

The following policy priorities outline key actions for governments and partners to strengthen leadership, system capacity, and equitable access so that people living with brain disorders can achieve better outcomes throughout their lives.



Leadership and governance

Why this matters:

Brain health must be prioritized as a foundation for public health, sustainable economies, and social inclusion. Effective governance ensures coherence across sectors and alignment with international frameworks such as the WHO IGAP.

Lundbeck recommends that governments:

1. Integrate brain health into national and regional health strategies, aligning with the WHO IGAP objectives.
2. Establish national Brain Councils or similar multi-stakeholder platforms to coordinate across healthcare, research, and civil society.
3. Ensure cross-ministerial leadership that links brain health with education, labor, and social policy to support long-term societal well-being.



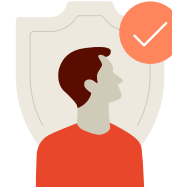
Healthcare system capacity

Why this matters:

Many countries face shortages of specialists, delayed diagnoses, and fragmented care pathways for people with brain disorders. Investing in prevention, early detection, and coordinated care models improves outcomes for patients and reduces societal costs⁷.

Lundbeck recommends that governments:

1. Invest in early detection and timely diagnosis to prevent disease progression and improve patient outcomes.
2. Strengthen multidisciplinary and cross-sectoral care pathways connecting hospitals, primary care, and community services.
3. Expand workforce capacity in neurology, psychiatry, and related disciplines through education, training, and retention initiatives.



Access and education

Why this matters:

Stigma, limited awareness, and unequal access to care continue to affect millions of people living with brain disorders¹³. Inclusive policies are essential to reduce discrimination, empower patients, and ensure equitable access to effective treatments.

Lundbeck recommends that governments:

1. Implement national awareness and destigmatization campaigns in schools, workplaces, and communities to promote understanding and inclusion.
2. Support patient empowerment through access to information, peer networks, and active involvement in policy and care decisions.
3. Ensure equitable and timely access to approved, evidence-based treatments for neurological and psychiatric conditions.

Lundbeck is a biopharmaceutical company focusing exclusively on brain health. With more than 70 years of experience in neuroscience, we are committed to improving the lives of people with neurological and psychiatric disorders.

Brain disorders affect a large part of the world's population, and the effects are felt throughout society. With the rapidly improving understanding of the biology of the brain, we hold ourselves accountable for advancing brain health by curiously exploring new opportunities for treatments.

As a focused innovator, we strive for our research and development programs to tackle some of the most complex neurological challenges. We develop transformative medicines targeting people for whom there are few or no treatments available, expanding into neuro-specialty and

neuro-rare from our strong legacy within psychiatry and neurology.

We are committed to fighting stigma and we act to improve health equity. We strive to create long term value for our shareholders by making a positive contribution to patients, their families and society as a whole.

Lundbeck has more than 5,000 employees in more than 20 countries and our products are available in more than 80 countries. For additional information, we encourage you to visit our corporate site www.lundbeck.com and connect with us via LinkedIn.

Notes

1. World Health Organization. Brain Health. Accessed August 2025.
2. Data manually taken from Global Burden of Disease Study 2019 (GBD 2019) Data Resources using the GHD x tool by the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, University of Washington.
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4. The Lancet Neurology (2022). Rare diseases: maintaining momentum. Volume 21, Issue 3, 203.
5. GBD 2019 Disease and Injury Forecasting Collaborators (2022). Forecasting life expectancy, years of life lost, and all-cause and cause-specific mortality to 2050. The Lancet, 400: 815-839.
6. A. Moose, et al. (2024). Brain gain: How improving brain health benefits the economy. World Economic Forum.
7. O. Nail-Beatty, et al. (2024). Brain health is essential for smooth economic transitions: towards socio-economic sustainability, productivity and well-being. Brain Communications, Volume 6, Issue 6, 2024.
8. Lundbeck (2024). The Lundbeck Story Pitch. Internal Document.
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12. Lundbeck (2025). Lundbeck Annual Report 2024.
13. European Federation for Neurological Associations (2020). Survey on stigma and neurological disorders. Accessed August 2025.

