



GLOBAL ALLERGY & AIRWAYS
P A T I E N T P L A T F O R M

GAAPP ANNUAL REPORT

2023



Empowering people living with allergies,
airways & atopic diseases around the world

www.gaapp.org

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President and CEO

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT & CEO

TONYA WINDERS



As we close the chapter on another remarkable year, I am filled with pride and gratitude for the collective efforts that have defined our journey. In this year's annual report, you will find not just financial figures, but also **a narrative of community-driven work to effect global change across our four mission pillars.**

Our dedication to drive disease **awareness** is the cornerstone of our success. Together, we navigated challenges, embraced change, and turned obstacles into opportunities. The numbers in this report are a testament to hard work and passion.

Innovation and creativity have been at the forefront of our **education** endeavors. We've not only adapted but thrived in the face of significant change. Moreover, our commitment to pushing boundaries and exploring new horizons in **global advocacy** has positioned us as the leading global patient voice in atopic and airways diseases.

Advancing pragmatic **research** remains at the forefront and our 2023 initiatives have made a meaningful impact. From ensuring patient engagement in clinical trial design to recruitment support to dissemination of data, GAAPP has achieved new heights with more than 30 publications authored this year alone.

As we celebrate our achievements, let us also acknowledge the lessons learned from the highs and lows of 2023. They have fueled our growth and shaped our resilience. In every challenge, we found an opportunity to emerge stronger.

Looking ahead, the road may present new challenges, but with our dedicated community and a shared vision, I am confident that we will continue to reach greater heights. Thank you for your unwavering support.

Together, let's make the coming year even more remarkable as we strive to create a world where patients with allergies, airways, and atopic diseases live better!

All my best,
Tonya Winders
President & CEO

OVERVIEW 2023

REACH, STAFF & MEMBERSHIP

SOCIAL MEDIA

Fans & Followers > Social network

Facebook Page 1.5% 29K

LinkedIn Page 20.5% 2.5K

Twitter % 1.8K

Instagram 31.6% 908

25-34 6.4% 12K

18-24 22% 6.5K

35-44 10.5% 5.2K

65+ 2% 2.1K

45-54 5.8% 1.9K

55-64 4.5% 1.1K

13-17 16.9% 69

34K
Followers

474K
Impressions



WEBSITE

Users

746K

↑ 182.0%*

Engagement rate

71.3%

↑ 59.5%*

Views

1.5M

↑ 325.8%*

New users

737K

↑ 179.5%*



COUNTRY

United States

Brazil

Italy

United Kingdom

Spain

Canada

India

*The percentage represent the increase from 2022

THE GAAPP TEAM



Tonya A. Winders
President & CEO
United States of America



Ruth Tal Singer
Chief Scientific Officer
United States of America



**Víctor Gascón
Moreno**
VP of Awareness and Operations
Austria



Kristen Willard
VP of Education
United States of America



Špela Novak
Member Support
Slovenia

OUR MEMBERS

Membership Growth 2023

“

All our member organizations do great work and make essential changes in their countries in their disease areas. You offer support to patients, their families, and others. But who supports you?

Coming from a small country, volunteering in a "one-man band" all-volunteer atopic association, I had no support until my association joined GAAPP.

It fills my heart knowing I can now be the support many of you have not had for a long time. It is a privilege working with such dedicated, heart-warming, passionate people. I cannot wait to see how all the connections will create a better, healthier world for the one billion people living with these conditions.”



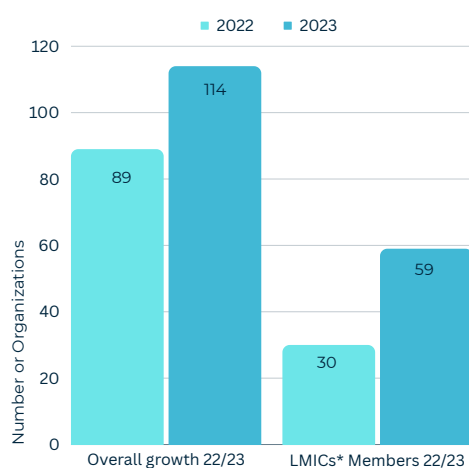
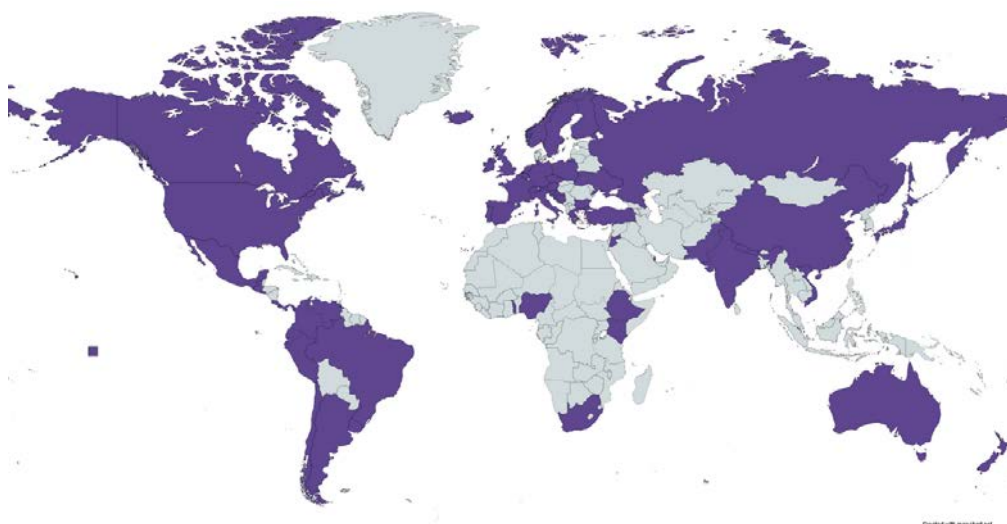
Špela Novak
Member and Event Support
Eastern Europe Alliance Leader

The exponential growth in membership in 2023 has resulted in a welcomed expansion of our team. We are now a team of five dedicated individuals, each an expert in their own field, working tirelessly towards making GAAPP's mission and objectives a reality. With a strengthened team, the organization is poised to reach new heights, ensuring that each member receives the attention and support deserved.

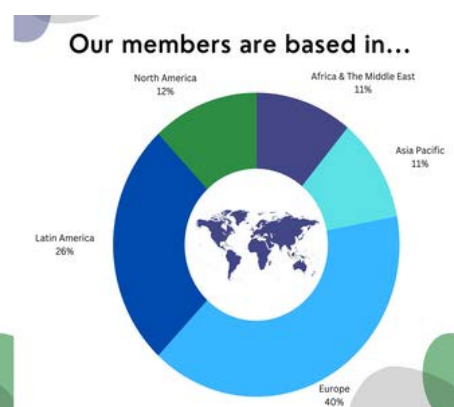
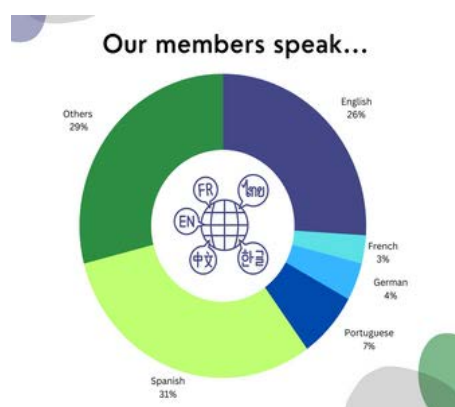
This year, GAAPP recognized the nuanced challenges faced by different regions around the world. Acknowledging the importance of tailored solutions, we established the first two of eight anticipated alliances, **the Eastern Europe Alliance and the SAREAL LATAM Alliance**.

These alliances, strategically formed to address regional challenges more directly and led by a local member organization, exemplify GAAPP's commitment to fostering targeted, impactful change by acknowledging and responding to the unique dynamics in different parts of the world.

GROWING IN MEMBERSHIP WITH A SPECIAL FOCUS ON LOW- TO MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES



*Low and Middle Income Countries



AWARENESS

Shining a light across all continents

“We now reach patients, carers, HCPs, policymakers, and allied industries on all inhabited continents. We work with the help and commitment of our members and through our open policy for collaborating with guideline organizations, other umbrella organizations, and different stakeholders. Through this collaboration, we have streamlined critical awareness and messages to shine a light on people living with asthma, COPD, eczema, urticaria, and type 2 inflammatory and rare conditions. We collaborate to advance the improvement of global health, early diagnosis, timely and adequate access to treatment, and post-discharge maintenance of airways, allergic, and atopic conditions.

I have been working with GAAPP since July 2021, and I can't express how proud we should all be of GAAPP and our member organizations' joint success and exponential growth in awareness. So here is something better than words: numbers!”



Víctor Gascón Moreno
Vice President of Awareness and Operations



> 65% of our members participated in our 5 World Awareness Days (Asthma, Eczema, Urticaria, Lung, and COPD Days)

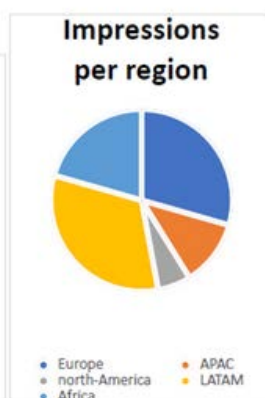
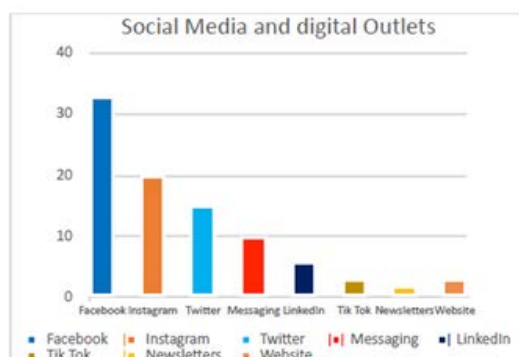


More than **360.000 organic impressions** of our World Awareness Days campaigns globally



Our World Awareness Day assets have been **translated to 12 languages**.

(Bosnian, French, German, Hindi, Italian, Polish, Portuguese, Russian, Serbian, Slovenian, Spanish, and Vietnamese)



Other ways that we drive awareness:

Collaborating with stakeholders, umbrella organizations, scientific societies, and guideline institutions. (e.g., GINA, GOLD, EFA, ELF, FIRS, EAACI, ERS, GA2LEN, IRC, Speak Up Coalition)

Supporting other World Awareness Days. (e.g., PH, CF, NTM Lung Disease, O2, Bronchiectasis, Aspergillosis)

Supporting Members by co-creating resources & providing funding, knowledge, and media support.

Directly financing and supporting events in LMICs while providing seed funding for MOs to expand awareness & advocacy work in new disease areas. (We supported organizations in El Salvador, Colombia, and Bosnia & Herzegovina to expand their scope in asthma, eczema, and urticaria.)



EDUCATION

Empowering through learning

“GAAPP empowers our network of dedicated member organizations to educate the communities they serve and therefore increase our collective impact exponentially. It is an honor to work together to build capacity, expand our knowledge, share best practices and learn from each other, and equip our communities to live better lives with airways, allergy, and atopic conditions.”



Kristen Willard MSc
VP of Education



In 2023, GAAPP completed the **COPD Patient Empowerment: Scientific Evidence and Quality of Life in COPD**. The second phase of our COPD Patient Empowerment project started with the **systematic review and adaptation of the international medical guidelines** for patients to understand them more easily.

GAAPP experts updated our COPD web page with the most up-to-date, evidence-based information on the fundamentals of COPD. This provides our community with information from a trusted global source that approaches this condition from an international perspective — no need to sift through confusing or conflicting information on the web.

Throughout 2024, GAAPP and their experts will review and update the GAAPP web pages for each condition we cover.

Urticaria Shared Decision-Making Tool: We know shared decision-making improves a patient's experience of their care, adherence, and clinical and quality of life outcomes.⁽¹⁾ GAAPP therefore developed the Urticaria Shared Decision Making Aid, which supports a person with urticaria in developing a disease management plan that considers their values, lifestyle, and financial considerations. In 2023, we increased use of this revamped tool and gathered data from respondents.

1- (<https://www.ahrq.gov/health-literacy/professional-training/shared-decision/tool/resource-9.html#>)



Urticaria Coffee Chats: In 2023, the GAAPP team held 12 chronic urticaria coffee chats in English with **simultaneous translations into German and Spanish**. These monthly sessions provided the opportunity for learning, growth, community, and resource sharing. Results from a survey of urticaria-focused member organizations will be used to guide next year's conversations.



GAAPP Academy expansion: Six new GAAPP Academy events were added to the library of capacity-building resources for our member organizations. These new recorded educational sessions have garnered **more than 21,000 views**.

We developed a strategic 2024 educational calendar with two tracks:

- **Member organization topics**
 - Each month, we will amplify tools and tips that support member organizations in maximizing their impact, including strategic planning, use of GAAPP resources in optimizing their operations, improving content creation, and measuring outcomes and demonstrating value.
- **Patient and HCP topics**
 - Our communities can expect education on a variety of essential topics, such as coping with a chronic illness, mental health comorbidities, the importance of immunization, media and source literacy, and understanding clinical trials.

ADVOCACY

Insisting on governments and civil society duties

“GAAPP works with healthcare and governmental organizations – such as WHO, EAACI, ERS, GINA, GOLD, WHO GARD, and IPCRG – to improve patients' lives and reduce the impact of chronic conditions. Serving as an equal partner, we can make dynamic, beneficial changes to health and social policies and global decision-making while exchanging information and best practices with our member organizations. We also strive to improve the accurate, timely diagnosis and quality, equitable care for all.

As a global platform, GAAPP aims to serve as an intermediary among patient organizations, amplifying local voices and encouraging global communication. We also strive to demand global standards — including improved air quality by reducing pollution — that will ultimately improve life for patients and communities. We then employ our first-hand knowledge to support local adaptation and implementation of these global benchmarks.”



Tonya Winders MBA
President and CEO



**INTERNATIONAL
RESPIRATORY
COALITION**

IRC (International Respiratory Coalition):

GAAPP serves on the Global Steering Committee for the International Respiratory Coalition, a global patient advocacy, professional medical societies and industry collaboration to promote lung health and improve respiratory care.



SPEAK Up for COPD

We lead the SPEAK UP for COPD coalition, an advocacy and public policy initiative dedicated to amplifying the patient voice and making COPD a public health priority commensurate with its impact on global communities.



Reasonable and compassionate phase-out of FGAS/PFAS

F-gas regulations are intended to reduce environmental damage related to fluorinated gases found in some respiratory devices. GAAPP and other stakeholders have engaged with the EU Commission to highlight the unintended impacts of this legislation on patient care and educate on ongoing work to innovate next-generation propellants.



**GLOBAL ALLIANCE AGAINST
CHRONIC RESPIRATORY DISEASES**

WHO GARD

GAAPP is a member of the World Health Organization's Global Alliance Against Chronic Respiratory Diseases (GARD), a network of organizations dedicated to addressing the global impact of chronic respiratory diseases, particularly in low- to middle-income countries. Our President, Tonya Winders, was recently named to the GARD Global Steering Committee. **GAAPP is actively working with WHO GARD toward the development and adoption of a broad resolution for lung health.**

RESEARCH

Getting the patient involved in all the stages of research & development

“ I joined GAAPP as Chief Scientific Officer in May 2023, driven by a vision to help the team advance the research pillar of this global community. Our vision is to help coordinate and harmonize our collaborative activities and optimize the inclusion of the patient voice and perspective in the generation of high-quality data.

GAAPP member organizations are uniquely positioned to develop and disseminate culturally appropriate research-related content to a global audience of patients, families, and healthcare providers.

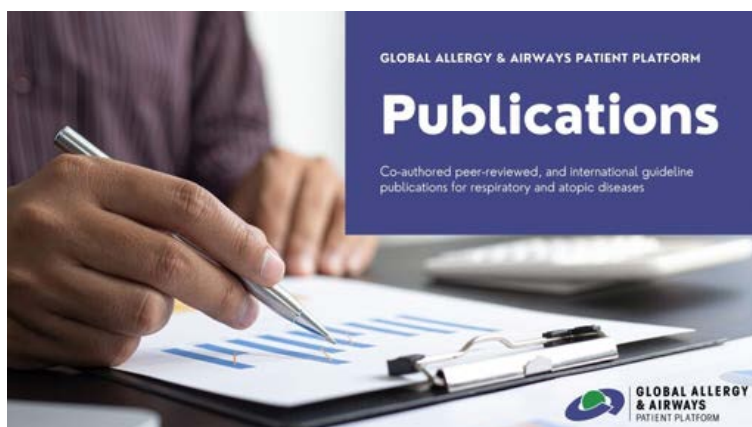
As a growing team of patient advocates, educators, and researchers, GAAPP facilitates partnerships and collaborations between patient advocacy groups, healthcare professionals, researchers, academic institutions, government agencies, and industry leaders.

We strive to empower our member organizations.



Ruth Tal-Singer, PhD
Chief Scientific Officer

- In November 2023, we announced the formation of the **Chronic Airways Assessment (CAAT) Governance Board**. The CAAT is an 8-item modified version of the COPD Assessment Test (CAT) with an introductory sentence adapted to refer more broadly to “chronic airway disease” instead of COPD. It is a patient-completed questionnaire that can be delivered in paper format or digitally. It covers symptoms such as cough, phlegm, chest tightness, and breathlessness, as well as disease impacts, including physical activity, confidence, sleep, and energy. In addition to being a tool for clinical trials, **the CAAT has potential to be used by patients living with multiple lung conditions and providers to have a conversation about health status.**
- We completed a large international **survey of people living with Type 2 inflammation and providers**. **Initial data will be reported in early 2024.**
- We **partnered with member organizations the Brazilian Pulmonary Hypertension and Related Diseases Association (ABRAF) and the ProAR Foundation** (who lead a pilot research and education project called the Shorter Journey program), aiming to offer in-person and/or remote coaching to people in Brazil living with pulmonary hypertension, COPD, pulmonary fibrosis, and asthma. We believe that learnings gleaned from this effort will transform the experience of people living with respiratory diseases in Brazil, the country with the second largest population in the Americas.



- Dissemination of research results and lessons learned remains a top priority for GAAPP. **The team contributed and co-authored more than 30 peer-reviewed publications** and presented at 8 medical conferences in 2023.

CLINICAL AND SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY PANEL

GAAPP has formed a Clinical and Scientific Advisory Panel of external international experts to advise the team on atopic and airways disease medicine, education, and research.

Established in 2023, this esteemed group of multidisciplinary professionals includes researchers, physicians, and allied healthcare professionals. The panel counsels GAAPP on clinical and scientific matters to ensure the application of robust research, advocacy, and education principles and the use of sound content across these foundational pillars.

Learn more about each member of the GAAPP Clinical and Scientific Advisory Panel below:



Ashok Gupta, MD

SMS Medical College

India

[Learn More](#)



Douglas Jones, MD, FAAAAI

The Tanner Clinic in Layton

United States of America

[Learn More](#)



Ghulam Mustafa, MBBS, FCPS, MCPS

Nishtar Medical University, Multan, and Helping Hands Foundation

Pakistan

[Learn More](#)



James Chalmers, MD

University of Dundee

United Kingdom

[Learn More](#)



John Hurst, PhD FRCP FHEA

Professor of Respiratory Medicine, UCL Respiratory, University College London

United Kingdom

[Learn More](#)



Purvi Parikh, MD, FAAAAI, FACP

Allergy & Asthma Associates of Murray Hill

United States of America

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Le Thi Tuyet Lan, MD, PhD

University of Medicine and Pharmacy Hospital Clinic 1

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Marilyn Urrutia-Pereira, MD

Universidade Federal do Pampa

Brazil

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Marilyn Valentin Rostan, MD

Allergy Medical Institute, President Latin American Society of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology (SLAAI)

Uruguay

[Learn More](#)



Robert Wise, MD

Johns Hopkins University

United States of America

[Learn More](#)



Sally Schoessler

Project Manager, School Health Consultant

United States of America

[Learn More](#)

[More information on this link](#)

ANNUAL GAAPP EVENTS

GLOBAL RESPIRATORY SUMMIT 2023



The 2023 Global Respiratory Summit was held in a hybrid format (virtually and in person) on Friday, 8 September 2023, in Milan (Italy). The GRS provides the platform for organizations to raise their voices for urgent issues, share best practices, and come together with respiratory advocacy organizations. **Approximately 60 members joined.**

In 2024, it will be renamed to "GAAPP Summit" to better represent our growing number of MOs working in the atopic and allergic conditions community."

SCIENTIFIC MEETING + AGM



The 2023 Annual Scientific Meeting was conducted in a hybrid format (live streaming and in-person) in Le Méridien Hamburg, Germany, on 8 June 2023, before the EAACI Conference.

After the scientific meeting, GAAPP hosted its Annual General Meeting. **More than 25 members joined.**

SAREAL 2023



As part of the A16 ALAT Congress, GAAPP and Latin Health Leaders conducted the second SAREAL event to bring together **more than 20 Latin American Patient Advocacy Groups working on airways, allergic and atopic diseases.** SAREAL 2023 was a 2-day summit on August 11 and 12, 2023, in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic.

OUR BOARD MEMBERS

2023 GAAPP BOARD

GAAPP's Board is representative of all regions of the world with large and small groups, all with a common purpose: empowering the patient and supporting the patient voice so decision-makers in both government and industry will be mindful of patient needs, desires, and rights.



Tonya A. Winders

President
United States of America



Kristine Whorlow

AM
Vice President
Australia



Migdalia Denis

Secretary
United States of America



Dr. Ashok Gupta

Treasurer
India



Ugochukwu Nwagor

Vice-secretary
Nigeria



Dr. Vũ Trần Thiên Quân

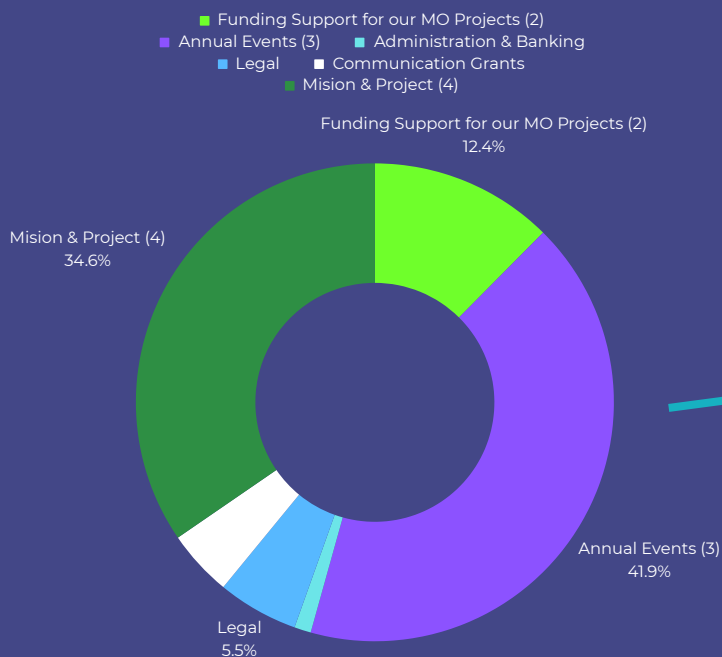
Vice-treasurer
Vietnam

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

For a detailed report, please visit our website:
<https://gaapp.org/about/history-transparency/>



■ **2023 FUNDRAISING & INCOME*** **1,032,659 €** this amount was used as follows:



>90% OF OUR BUDGET WAS SPENT ON OUR MAIN MISSION & PROJECTS
 (NOT INCLUDING SUPPORT TO OUR MEMBERS)

(2) - GAAPP exceeded its project support funding for our MOs, totaling 138,000€ from the initial total budget of 100.000€

(3) Annual Events are part of the primary mission and project but are separated only for reference. This includes events like SAREAL and travel bursaries to members.

(4) Includes staff costs

Note of compliance: No single funding partner contributed to more than the 25% of our total budget.

GAAPP CORPORATE COUNCIL

We wholeheartedly thank our partners for their ongoing commitment to support GAAPP's mission, vision, and our members.

AstraZeneca

GSK

Roche

Chiesi

MSD

sanofi

REGENERON

Thank you to the following partners who provided critical project support:

NOVARTIS

AMGEN

Celldex therapeutics

MORE INFORMATION

Any questions? Do you need more details or specific reports? Contact us!

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THANK YOU!

The GAAPP Team