



## Press Release

### **GAROFALO HEALTH CARE S.P.A.: STANDARD ETHICS RAISES SUSTAINABILITY RATING SPECIFIC ESG OBJECTIVES, INNOVATION AND STRUCTURED GOVERNANCE BRING THE OUTLOOK TO INVESTMENT GRADE LEVEL EE+ ("VERY STRONG")**

**Rome, September 20, 2023** - Garofalo Health Care S.p.A. ("**GHC**") announces that Standard Ethics Ltd. ("**Standard Ethics**"), an independent extra-financial sustainability rating agency, today raised its long-term ESG rating to Investment Grade "EE+" ("Very Strong") from the previous "EE" ("Strong"). The short-term rating is confirmed at the current "EE" ("Strong") level, also Investment Grade.

For GHC, covered by the Standard Ethics rating starting from October 2020, this is the second upgrade in terms of ESG rating in the last 3 years.

At the basis of the rating increase, Standard Ethics highlighted "*GHC's constant focus on innovation and the progressive strengthening of its ESG system with the identification of medium and long-term objectives (especially of an environmental nature) aligned with voluntary indications from the UN, OECD and EU*". Standard Ethics also appreciated the Group's sustainability governance, "*structured and supported by an adequate guidance, control and ESG Risk Management system*".

Also highlighted by Standard Ethics are the long-term incentive plan, linked to sustainability ratings and energy and environmental performance, and the behaviours implemented "*to better protect the interests of minority shareholders, such as the waiver of the majority vote by the controlling shareholder*".

**Alessandro Maria Rinaldi, Chairman of the Board of Directors of GHC**, commented: "*The increase in our outlook to EE+ (Very Strong) reflects Garofalo Health Care's factual and ongoing commitment to corporate ethics, social responsibility and long-term sustainability, also inherent in the DNA of our healthcare facilities. We are proud to be recognized as a Group that is committed to promoting sustainable practices and contributing to the well-being of society. We will continue to work on our "patient centered" model to maintain and improve the highest ESG standards in our industry. I also want to underline the supervisory role of our internal Control, Risk and Sustainability Committee, chaired by Franca Brusco and assisted by our CSO manager, Mimmo Nesi, who contributed significantly to achieve the result.*"

Please remember that the rating assigned by Standard Ethics represents an independent evaluation that expresses the level of adherence to the institutional and international indications of a voluntary nature on sustainability (and related aspects of governance) coming from the United Nations (UN), the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the European Union (EU). For further details on the sustainability rating methodology adopted by Standard Ethics, please refer to the website [www.standardethics.eu](http://www.standardethics.eu).



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### **The GHC Group**

The GHC Group, listed on the Euronext STAR segment of the Italian Stock Exchange, is an Italian accredited private healthcare leader operating through 33 healthcare clinics demonstrating excellence, located in Italy's strongest regions and offering a comprehensive range of services covering all areas of healthcare thanks to diversified specialties, the use of cutting-edge technologies and highly-qualified personnel. The Group in fact operates across eight regions in Northern and Central Italy (Piedmont, Lombardy, Veneto, Friuli-Venezia Giulia, Emilia Romagna, Liguria, Tuscany and Lazio), covering in the hospital sector acute admissions, long-term care, post-acute rehabilitations and outpatient services (the "Hospital Sector"), and in the social services and dependency care sector covering residential admissions and district outpatient services (the "Dependency Care Sector").

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### **FOR FURTHER DETAILS:**

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