

Bionews launches on-demand research platform Brio to make patient listening a repeatable reality in rare disease

Pharma, biotech, and agency teams can bring research questions to Bionews' established rare disease communities, with findings delivered within weeks.

PENSACOLA, FL, UNITED STATES, September 15, 2026 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [Bionews](#) today

“

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Marcella Debidda, PhD

launched [Brio](#), an on-demand research platform built to make listening to rare disease patients a standing practice in pharmaceutical research.

Rare disease populations are small and geographically dispersed, putting them beyond the reach of many traditional research approaches. Bionews brings these populations together around shared experiences, information, and connection, creating an environment where industry research can take place on an ongoing basis. Brio brings industry research into that existing

community environment, rather than assembling a new research audience for each study.

Bionews builds Brio reports using a proprietary methodology it calls narrative ecology, shaped by more than a decade of building and supporting rare disease communities and by an editorial standard of elevating the human side of rare. Narrative ecology treats study design and rigor, community relationship, and patient storytelling as a single practice, with research experts responsible for all three.

“A research response never exists in isolation. It sits within years of experience with a condition: the language people use, the tradeoffs they make, what they worry about, and what has changed over time,” said Marcella Debidda, PhD, President, Patient Insights & Clinical Solutions, Bionews. “Narrative ecology gives us a way to bring that context into the research rather than stripping it away. The result is not just a better understanding of what patients say, but why it matters.”

Brio is available now by annual subscription. Demonstrations are available at brio.bionews.com/demo. Debidda will present "What Rare Disease Patients Say When Someone

Actually Asks Them" during the Bionews spotlight session at Fierce Pharma Week in Philadelphia on Wednesday, September 16, at 3:00 p.m., walking through recent research projects to show how narrative ecology works in practice.

About Brio

Brio is an on-demand research platform that enables pharma, biotech, and agency teams to conduct research within established, condition-specific rare disease communities through an annual subscription, with findings delivered within weeks. Studies are built on narrative ecology, a Bionews methodology that brings together rigorous study design, community relationship, and patient storytelling, with a dedicated research expert guiding every engagement from question design through insight delivery.

About Bionews

Bionews is a leading rare disease news and insights network that reaches more than one million patients and caregivers each month across more than 50 condition-specific communities. More than half of the Bionews team lives with a rare condition or cares for someone who does, grounding every story, insight, and initiative in real, lived experience. Through news coverage, patient perspectives, research-driven insights, and interactive forums, Bionews is dedicated to helping patients and caregivers make informed decisions at critical clinical moments by delivering accurate, empathetic, and accessible information.

Mackenzie Morgan

Bionews

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