It may seem incredible, but this disease - in 50% of cases chronic and incurable - is almost completely ignored in our country today. Some doctors around the whole nation, have been doing their best for years in order to try and change things.

Many people live with disbelief a paradoxical situation that sees them alone with their illness. The ones who among them are lucky enough to be followed by earnest doctors, see them fighting against lack of resources and of general sensitivity, in order to pursue their profession properly.

Founded in 2011, ACSI ONLUS is the only national association giving help and supporting people with sarcoidosis. It is made of people with sarcoidosis, of their families, of doctors devoted to defeat this disease and of common people and citizens showing a strong determination to change things.
Sarcoidosis is an inflammatory disease that can affect various organs, but mainly lungs and lymph glands (lymph nodes).

Patients with sarcoidosis are afflicted by abnormal nodules, called granulomas, that consist of inflammatory tissue (typical of this disease) appearing in affected organs in varying degrees. The disease can arise in very different ways and severity, according to the organs affected and seriousness of inflammation.

Sarcoidosis occurs mainly in adults, being very rare in children and elderly people and affects both sexes, perhaps a bit more females than males. Some ethnic groups (e.g. African Americans) are more affected than others, demonstrating a likely genetic predisposition, that has not been proved yet.

For further information: http://sarcoidosi.org/cose-la-sarcoidosi/

The real number of people with sarcoidosis has never been estimated in Italy, but it is supposed to be much bigger than you think.

In some cases it seems not to be diagnosed properly and in others diagnosis arrives rather late, allowing the disease to progress undisturbed. Certainly sarcoidosis is much more widespread than you think and its severity and its impact on the patient’s quality of life are usually undervalued.

Few specialized centres study and treat sarcoidosis in Italy and the situation is seriously varied from region to region, both from a social and from a strictly clinical point of view.

People affected by Sarcoidosis may have a significantly disabled quality of life, eventually losing their job, their economic stability, their personal and familiar serenity.

ACSI - Amici Contro la Sarcoidosi Italia ONLUS is the Italian no profit Association for people suffering from Sarcoidosis.

Our main aims:

- assisting people with sarcoidosis (and similar diseases), through the arrangement of social welfare services, medical and nursing care, remote psychological assistance;

- training of medical and paramedical professionals specialized in caring for patients and their families;

- promoting knowledge of this disease among health staff, patients, involved families, public administration, by means of educational tools (e.g. accredited courses for continuing professional training) and the most appropriate information;

- helping patients in dealing with the government to carry out practices related to their medical condition;

- promoting and encouraging research on sarcoidosis in Italy and worldwide.