



## Ornella Barra

*Executive Vice President of Walgreens Boots Alliance and President and Chief Executive of Global Wholesale and International Retail*



Born in Italy, in Chiavari near Genoa, now of Monegasque nationality, Ornella graduated from the **University of Genoa** with a **degree in pharmacy** and embarked on a career in the healthcare sector. She started out as a pharmacist, first managing and then setting up her own pharmacy. In 1984 she founded the pharmaceutical wholesaler **Di Pharma**, which was taken over in 1986 by **Alleanza Salute Italia**.

Ornella was appointed Managing Director and later **Chairman of Alleanza Salute Italia**, which would soon become Italy's leading pharmaceutical wholesaler operating nationwide. In 1990, she joined **the Board of Alliance Santé**, an international pharmaceutical company. Ornella was personally involved in establishing this company, following a series of acquisitions in France, Spain, Portugal, Greece and Morocco.

In 1997, Ornella was appointed as board member and Executive Director of **Alliance UniChem Plc.** after a merger between UniChem and Alliance Santé. In 2006, Alliance UniChem Plc and the **Boots Group PLC**, then merged, forming **Alliance Boots plc**, a FTSE 100 company on the London Stock Exchange. Ornella was appointed as Board member and Wholesale & Commercial Affairs Director of the new group, which was subsequently acquired and privatised by AB Acquisitions Limited (Stefano Pessina and Kohlberg Kravis Roberts) in June 2007. At that point, Ornella was Chief Executive, Pharmaceutical Wholesale Division of Alliance Boots and Chairman of the social responsibilities committee. In September 2013, Ornella became Chief Executive, Wholesale and Brands of Alliance Boots, whereby she continued to oversee the Pharmaceutical Wholesale Division, International Health & Beauty and Brands and the Group's corporate social responsibility agenda.

Ornella's current role, following the merger between Alliance Boots and Walgreens in December 2014, is **Executive Vice President of Walgreens Boots Alliance** and **Chief Executive of Global Wholesale and International Retail**. It includes the following areas of responsibility:

- **Pharmaceutical Wholesale Division**, which mainly operates under the Alliance Healthcare brand and supplies medicines to more than 140,000\*\* pharmacies, doctors, health centers and hospitals each year from 302\* distribution centers in 12\* countries.
- **International Retail**, which includes retail businesses outside the USA, the UK and Republic of Ireland. International Retail is part of the **Retail Pharmacy International Division** of **Walgreens Boots Alliance**.

In addition, Ornella is responsible for:

- **Corporate social responsibility** activities across Walgreens Boots Alliance. In this role, she is pivotal in building a strong platform for developing and implementing a strong CSR agenda across the Company.
- The **Global Pharmacy function** and **Global Manufacturers Relations**, which respectively help Walgreens Boots Alliance to take advantage of the rapid changes in the global health and pharma market, and to develop the relationship with pharma companies around the world.
- **Global Communications and Corporate Affairs**, covering divisional, business and brand communications, alongside financial communications, crisis management, philanthropy and government relations.
- The Company's **IT** function.

\* As at 31 August 2015 excluding equity method investments

\*\*For 12 months ended 31 August 2015 excluding equity method investments

In December 2014, Ornella received the **Special Jury Prize** from ‘**Les Trophées de l’Eco Monaco**’, annual awards organized by the Chamber of Economic Development in Monaco and regional newspaper **Nice-Matin**.

In September 2015, **Fortune** magazine published its annual rankings of “**The 25 Most Powerful Women in Business**” for Europe, Middle East and Africa, in which Ornella was featured in fifth position, moving up three places since 2014. Ornella has been ranked in the top 15 of the list every year since 2010.

**Walgreens Boots Alliance** is the first global pharmacy-led, health and wellbeing enterprise. The Company was created through the combination of Walgreens and Alliance Boots in December 2014, bringing together two leading companies with iconic brands, complementary geographic footprints, shared values and a heritage of trusted health care services through pharmaceutical wholesaling and community pharmacy care, dating back more than 100 years.

The Company employs more than 370,000<sup>o</sup> people and has a presence in more than 25<sup>o</sup> countries; it is the largest retail pharmacy, health and daily living destination in the USA and Europe. Including its equity method investments, Walgreens Boots Alliance is a global leader in pharmacy-led, health and wellbeing retail with over 13,100<sup>o</sup> stores in 11<sup>o</sup> countries. The Company includes one of the largest global pharmaceutical wholesale and distribution networks with over 350<sup>o</sup> distribution centers delivering to more than 200,000<sup>x</sup> pharmacies, doctors, health centers and hospitals each year in 19<sup>o</sup> countries. In addition, Walgreens Boots Alliance is one of the world’s largest purchasers of prescription drugs and many other health and wellbeing products.

Walgreens Boots Alliance has a long-term partnership with **AmerisourceBergen**, one of North America’s largest pharmaceutical services companies. This relationship enables the companies to benefit from greater scale and global opportunities and work together on programs to improve service levels and efficiencies. In **January 2015**, Ornella was appointed to the **Board of Directors** of AmerisourceBergen.

### **The role of the pharmacy in Ornella Barra's career**

Throughout her career, Ornella has been greatly committed to the support and development of the pharmacist profession. She was also instrumental to the creation of the **European Pharmacists Forum (EPF)** in 1999. Ten countries are now represented within the Forum: UK, France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, the Czech Republic, the Netherlands, Turkey, Switzerland and Germany. The main aim of the EPF is to facilitate the ongoing exchange of ideas between pharmacists and dialogue with the public authorities and manufacturers and to promote the idea of a “community pharmacy”.

A committed believer in the importance of education for the pharmacist profession, Ornella is an **Honorary Professor** at the **University of Nottingham School of Pharmacy**. As a lecturer, she teaches students on the four-year pharmacy degree course (MPharm). Ornella also advises the University of Nottingham on the development of the MPharm degree course itself.

In late 2012, Ornella was awarded a **Doctor of Science honorary degree** from the University of Nottingham to recognise her support of the pharmacy profession and her commitment to the University.

She also sponsors a five-year degree course in pharmacy at the **University of Rome Tor Vergata**. The course is taught in English and is run in association with the School of Pharmacy at the University of Nottingham.

### **Community involvement**

Ornella is chair of the **Walgreens Boots Alliance Corporate Social Responsibility Meeting**. In this role, she oversees all corporate social responsibility activities across the Company and will be pivotal in building a strong platform for this agenda to thrive across Walgreen Boots Alliance.

Previously, Ornella chaired the **Alliance Boots Social Responsibilities Committee**, where she furthered the pace and scope of the Group's commitment to CSR. Among other initiatives, Ornella was heavily involved in Alliance Boots charity partnership with **Macmillan Cancer Support** in the UK and the Group's pan-European partnership with the European Organisation for Research and Treatment of Cancer **Cancer Research Fund (EORTC Cancer Research Fund)**.

As Chairman, she was personally involved in deciding the Group's policies on the environment, health and safety, diversity and equal opportunities, interethnic relations, disabled employment, charity and ethics.

During the year 2013/14, Alliance Boots made community contributions totalling £5.4 million, comprising cash and non-cash donations such as employee time, in kind donations and management costs. A large part of this contribution was in the form of pharmacy-related projects, as well as towards partnerships with not-for-profit organisations across many countries. Among these it is worth noting those with Macmillan Cancer Support in the UK, and with Brussels-based EORTC.

Along with her colleagues, Ornella was committed to improving the sustainability of Alliance Boots products and services. For the Botanics range, for example, the Group works closely with **the Royal Botanic Gardens (Kew Gardens) in London**, using plant ingredients instead of mineral ingredients wherever possible.

In September 2014, Ornella was appointed as the first **International Ambassador for Business in the Community (BITC)**, having already been for some years a member of BITC International leadership team. BITC is an international association based in London and dedicated to corporate social responsibility, and also one of 'The Prince's Charities', a group of not-for-profit organisations of which HRH The Prince of Wales is President.

### **External organisations**

Between 2003 and 2009, Ornella held the office of President of the **Italian Pharmaceutical Wholesalers Association (ADF)**, of which she is currently vice president.

Ornella sits on the board of directors of the **International Federation of Pharmaceutical Wholesalers (IFPW)**, of which she was named Chairman in October 2014. The main aim of the IFPW is to support its members and stakeholders and improve global access to pharmaceutical products in terms of safety, efficiency and continuity. In 2002 Ornella received the William L. Ford prize from the IFPW for her vital contribution to the development of the healthcare sector.

Ornella is also a member of the board of **ECR Europe (Efficient Consumer Response)**. The mission of ECR Europe is to foster a shared vision, working together to deliver a comprehensive, fast and convenient response to the consumer's expectations. ECR aims to stimulate demand, manage the supply chain efficiently, and take decisions based on reliable information and guarantee respect for the competition.

In April 2013, Ornella Barra has been appointed to the **Board of Directors of Generali**, one of the most significant players in the global insurance and financial products market.