

CARATTERIZZAZIONE GENETICA, MOLECOLARE E CLINICA DEI PAZIENTI AFFETTI DA MALATTIE AUTOINFIAMMATORIE

Fellow:

❖ Dr. I. Touitou, Università di Montpellier

DIPLOMAS:	1976	Baccalauréat D, mention very good (Nice)
	1983	Master of Human Biology, option Genetics (Lyon)
	1983	Medical degree (Nice)
	1990	PhD degree in Sciences, option Molecular Biology (Montpellier)
	1996	Authorization to conduct independent research (Montpellier)

CLINICAL RESPONSABILITIES AND TEACHING:

- 1996-2005 - Associate Professor of Genetics at the University of Medicine, Montpellier
- Since 2005 - Professor of Genetics at the University of Medicine, Montpellier
- Genetic diagnosis of autoinflammatory diseases
- Genetic teaching in the medical cursus and in various masters
- Head of the medical unit for auto-inflammatory diseases

❖ Dr. Antonio Lanzavecchia, Istituto di Ricerche in Biomedicina (Svizzera)

In the past 20 years he has contributed to the fields of antigen presentation, T-cell epitope identification, dendritic cell biology, innate immunity, mechanisms of T cell priming and differentiation, characterization of memory T and B cells. In recent years his research has focused on the cellular basis of immunological memory. He has identified two subsets of human memory T cells (central memory and effector memory cells), with distinct migratory capacity and effector function and proposed that central memory T cells represent intermediates of the T cell differentiation process which persist as "memory stem cells". He has also characterized the mechanisms of T cell priming by dendritic cells and proposed a progressive T cell differentiation model, which has been tested and validated in several experimental conditions.

❖ Prof Mariapia Abbracchio, Università di Milano

Mariapia Abbracchio received her Ph.D. in Pharmacy "summa cum laude" in 1979, her degree in Experimental Toxicology in 1984 (score: 70/70) from the University of Milan, and her Research Doctorate degree in Experimental Medicine in 1988 from the Ministry of Education, Rome, Italy. In 1980-1981, she was a "post-doctoral fellow" in the Department of Pharmacology of the University of Texas at Houston (USA), and in 1992-1993 she was "Honorary Research Fellow" at the University College London (UK) in the laboratory of Prof. G. Burnstock, the scientist who actually discovered purinergic transmission, with whom she is still actively collaborating. "Researcher" in 1990, Associate Professor in 1998, since 2002 she is a Full Professor of pharmacology at the University of Milan (School of Pharmacy). She has been involved for almost 2 decades in studying the pathophysiological roles of extracellular nucleosides and nucleotides, with special focus on regulation of cell differentiation, growth and death, in the nervous system and on the role of these compounds and their receptors in inflammatory neurodegenerative events. In 1994, together with Prof. G. Burnstock, she proposed the currently utilized nomenclature for receptors responding to extracellular nucleotides (Abbracchio MP & Burnstock G: "Purinoreceptors: are there families of P2X and P2Y purinoreceptors?" *Pharmacol Ther.* 64(3):445-75, 1994), a proposal which was later accepted by the IUPHAR (International Union of Pharmacology) Subcommittee for Purinoreceptor Nomenclature

and Classification (Fredholm BB et al.: “Nomenclature and classification of purinoceptors”, *Pharmacol Rev.* 46(2):143-56, 1994) and is now utilized by all scientists in the field. She is author or co-author of approx. 100 full scientific publications on international refereed journals with impact factor (total IF: 430) and of approx. 30 monographies in the field of cellular and molecular pharmacology and toxicology, which have been the object of more than 4,300 citations. She has been one of the founders (and from 1992-2000 Councillor and Secretary) of the Purine Club, a non-profit scientific association gathering the Italian and foreign researchers interested to the pathophysiology of purines and pyrimidines. As a scientific secretary of the Club, she has organized several international congresses in the field. She has received several research grants as either principal scientist or national coordinator from national (CNR, MURST, Telethon, CARIPO) and international research agencies (European Commission: "participant" in the BIOMED1 program, and "partner" in a shared-cost project in the BIOMED2 program). From 1994 she has been collaborating with (and from 2000 she is an official member of) the IUPHAR Subcommittee for P2Y Receptor Nomenclature and Classification. In 2003 she has been nominated by the European Committee an "independent expert" for the evaluation of research grant applications for the Sixth Framework Programme. She also acts as a referee for research grant applications for the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR), and as an “expert” for CIVR (Comitato di Indirizzo per la Valutazione della Ricerca) of MIUR for the evaluation of research products. Recent awards include the recognition as a 'Highly Cited scientist ' in Pharmacology and Toxicology by the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI Web of Knowledge, Science Citation Index). Mariapia Abbraccio is one the 63 most cited Italian scientists in 21 different categories of disciplines, and one of the 250 most cited pharmacologists in the world.

❖ **Prof. Stefano Bombardieri, Università di Pisa**

June 1969 - June 1970	Fellow of Medicine (Rheumatology) at the Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York, NY.
July - December 1970	Fellow of Rheumatology at the Hospital for Special Surgery, New York Hospital, Cornell Medical College, New York, NY.
1971 - 1972	Fellow at the Department of Microbiology, Istituto Superiore della Sanità, Rome, Italy.
Nov. 1973 - Nov. 1974	Researcher in clinical immunology, CNR Clinical Physiology Laboratory, Pisa, Italy.
Dec. 1974 - Nov. 1982	Assistant (Assistant Professor and Registrar) at the Institute of Medical Pathology I, Università di Pisa.
as of Nov. 1982	Associate Professor of Clinical Immunology, Università di Pisa.
as of Nov. 1989	Chief, Clinical Immunology Unit, Università di Pisa, Italy.
as of Oct. 1st, 2000	Professor of Rheumatology, chief of the Rheumatology Unit , University of Pisa.
as of September 2004	President of the Italian Society of Rheumatology.

Specialisations: Infectious Diseases (1971); Internal Medicine (1976); Rheumatology (1978).