

Cristiana Perrotta, PhD



Position:

Associate Professor of Pharmacology,
Department of Biomedical and Clinical
Sciences, Università degli Studi di Milano,
Milano Italy

Biosketch

Cristiana Perrotta is an Associate Professor of Pharmacology at Department of Biomedical and Clinical Sciences, University of Milan. During her career she has got a PhD in Pharmacology and a postgraduate diploma (specialization) in Medical Pharmacology, enabling her to improve her expertise in basic and clinical pharmacology. As researcher in pharmacology, she has focused her attention on different research fields, such as cancer therapy, immune system modulation and muscle dystrophy treatment. Basically, she started her research some years ago on the role of the sphingolipid metabolizing enzyme, acid sphingomyelinase, as a key determinant of melanoma phenotype, particularly in terms of tumor progression, immune microenvironment programming, paying particular attention to the role of macrophages and dendritic cells, and response to chemotherapy. This research allowed her to publish her results in international peer reviewer journals, where she acted as corresponding author. In the last ten years she has decided to partially shift the focus of her research to the field of muscular dystrophy. This is a very interesting and engaging area of study, where the role of sphingolipids and their metabolizing enzymes has not been investigated yet. In particular, the first part of this research aimed to investigate the functional role of acid sphingomyelinase expressed in muscle and infiltrating macrophages during the progression of Duchenne muscular dystrophy (DMD) as a key to identifying a new target for DMD therapeutic intervention. Currently, she is evaluating the efficacy of drugs/antioxidant molecules that can inhibit acid sphingomyelinase on the progression of DMD and the possibility to use them in combination with other strategy, such as gene therapy. This project has obtained funding from the French Association AFM Telethon (Trampoline Grant 2017 and Research Grant 2020). During the last five years she has got the chance to apply her knowledge in clinical pharmacology by collaborating with groups of pharmacovigilance and pediatrics. This activity enabled her to investigate and understand the possible mechanisms underlying the drug adverse reactions in a special population as children, also applying in this field her knowledge in immunology and cell metabolism.

Positions, Scientific Appointments and Honors

2005-2006 Research fellow at DIBIT Scientific Institute, San Raffaele hospital Milan Italy

2007-2008: Post-doctoral fellowship, Italian Foundation for Cancer Research (FIRC), at the Unit of Cellular Pharmacology, San Raffaele Scientific Institute, Milan

2009-2014 Post graduate student in "Medical Pharmacology" at the Unit of Clinical Pharmacology Dept of Preclinical Sciences, "Luigi Sacco" University Hospital University of Milano

2014-2020: Assistant Professor (Faculty member) of Pharmacology, Dept of Biomedical and Clinical Sciences, University of Milan

2020-present: Associate Professor (Faculty member) of Pharmacology, Dept of Biomedical and Clinical Sciences, University of Milan

Teaching activities

2023-present: Head of Interdepartmental Study Program - Interdepartmental Academic Board for the Bachelor's Degree Program in Developmental Neuropsychomotor Therapy

2010-present: Professor of Pharmacology, School of Medicine, School of in Developmental Neuropsychomotor Therapy, School of Nursing, School of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Technique Università degli Studi di Milano (2 CFU/year).

2006-present: supervisor and co-tutor of undergraduate students (laurea triennale), Master's students and PhD students, Università degli Studi di Milano.

Bibliometrics Indicators

Author of more than 70 scientific papers indexed in Scopus and/or WOS.

H-index: 30 (source: Scopus)

SCOPUS ID: 57201656356

RESEARCHER ID: I-2835-2016

ORCID ID: 0000-0001-6680-4536

Editorial activity

2016-present: member of the Editorial Board of "Pharmacological Research" (Elsevier).

2020-present: member of the Editorial Board of "Cells" (MDPI).

2021-2022: Guest Associate Editor of "Frontiers in Pharmacology" (Frontiers Media SA).

2023-present: Review Editor for Pharmacology of Anti-Cancer Drugs, Frontiers in Pharmacology and Frontiers in Oncology.

Reviewer for international peer reviewed journals:

Reviewer for the Belgian Foundation against Cancer and Czech Science Foundation.