










<p><b>Maria Cristina Sini</b> CNR Researcher Level III since 01/07/2019</p>											
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<p> March 14, 2000 Academic Degree “Biological Sciences” University of Sassari (Italy)  January 26, 2006 PhD “Biochemistry, Biology and Molecular Biotechnology” University of Sassari (Italy)</p>	<p> <a href="https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2796-6166">https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2796-6166</a>  Web of Science Researcher ID: AAY-3030-2020 SCOPUS Author-ID 6603705830</p>										
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### Major research interests

- Extensive background in biological sciences combined with a strong practical work experience in basic research, translational medicine mainly focused on oncology studies.
- Application of new technologies such as next generation sequencing (NGS) Thermo-fisher and Illumina platforms; droplet-based digital PCR (ddPCR) and protocols to study circulating tumour DNA (ctDNA) [since 2017]
- Germline analysis in familial cancer patients [since 2012]
- Somatic analysis and biological studies on molecular pathways involved in pathogenesis of malignant melanoma; Molecular characterization of lung adenocarcinomas, ovarian carcinomas and somatic breast cancers [since 2012]
- Immunohistochemical and immunocytochemical detection of specific proteins in melanoma tissues and primary - metastatic melanoma cell lines [2008-2011]
- Genetic and molecular analysis of some oncogenes, to define specific role in tumorigenesis [2005 - 2007]
- Molecular and cytogenetic studies on molecular pathways involved in development and progression of cancer (malignant melanoma, endometrial/breast cancer) [2000 - 2004]

### Previous appointments

Researcher (permanent position) in the National Research Council (CNR) at the Institute of Biomolecular Chemistry (ICB), Sassari, Italy [since 01-07-2019 ]

Post-doctoral fellowship in the National Research Council (CNR) at the Unit of Cancer Genetics of Institute of Biomolecular Chemistry (ICB), Sassari [January 2011 - July 2019]

Researcher (temporary position) in the National Research Council (CNR) at the Institute of Biomolecular Chemistry (ICB), Sassari, Italy [December 2010 - November 2010]

MASTER COURSE, “Management of the Melanoma patient: from research to therapy”, Italian Melanoma Intergroup (IMI). Alghero, Italy [October 1-2, 2010]

Winner of the Advanced Training Program of the Sardinia Region "Master and Back" as principal investigator [June 2010 - December 2010]

Project researcher of Unit of cancer genetics, Institute of Molecular Biochemistry - National Research Council (CNR) in Alghero [May 2009 - January 2010]

Project researcher of Unit of cancer genetics, Institute of Molecular Biochemistry - National Research Council (CNR) in Alghero [April 2007 - September 2008]

Winner of a National Research Grant from the Italian Melanoma Intergroup (IMI) as principal investigator [January 2007 - December 2007]

MASTER COURSE, "Management of the Melanoma patient", Italian Melanoma Intergroup (IMI). Alghero, Italy [October 19-20, 2006]

Project researcher of Unit of cancer genetics, Institute of Molecular Biochemistry - National Research Council (CNR) in Alghero (funding of the University of Sassari (Italy) [July 2006 - September 2006]

Project researcher of Unit of cancer genetics, Institute of Molecular Biochemistry - National Research Council (CNR) in Alghero (funding of the University of Sassari (Italy) [April 2006 - June 2006]

January 26, 2006: PhD in Biochemistry, Biology and Molecular Biotechnologies, University of Sassari (Italy) PhD thesis: "Study of molecular and pathogenetic mechanisms of tumours by cytogenetic analysis: application and results in Malignant Melanoma".

Post-degree fellowship at the laboratory of Dr. Giuseppe Palmieri, Institute of Institute of Molecular Biochemistry - National Research Council (CNR) in Alghero [July 2005 to November 2005]

Post-degree fellowship at the laboratory of Dr. Giuseppe Palmieri, Institute of Institute of Molecular Biochemistry - National Research Council (CNR) in Alghero [December 2004 to March 2005]

Project researcher at the laboratory of Dr. Giuseppe Palmieri, Institute of Molecular Biochemistry - National Research Council (CNR) in Alghero (funding of the University of Sassari (Italy) [May 2003 to April 2004]

Project researcher at the laboratory of Dr. Giuseppe Palmieri, Institute Molecular Biochemistry - National Research Council (CNR) in Alghero (funding of the University of Sassari (Italy)[ May 2001 to February 2003]

Post-degree Internship at the Institute of Molecular Genetic - National Research Council in Alghero (Director: Dr. Mario Pirastu) [September 2000 to March 2001]

Post-degree Internship at the Centre of Clinical Genetics - University of Sassari (Italy) [March 2000 to September 2000]

March 14, 2000: Graduation in Biological Sciences (final marks: 110/110 e lode); Degree thesis ""Evaluation of the genotoxic effect of nickel, chloride and sulphate salts on cultured human lymphocytes""

## **Publications**

Author of 54 peer reviewed original articles, reviews, book chapters, editorials and several abstracts  
Complete list of published research papers is available on Scopus and Web of Science websites:

<https://www.scopus.com/authid/detail.uri?authorId=6603705830>

<https://biblioproxy.cnr.it:3009/wos/author/record/633791,44078218>

## **Honours and Awards**

First Place, Poster Session (2007) "Melanoma present and Future". Sini MC et al: Sequential accumulation of molecular alteration at the chromosome 9p21 during development and progression of Melanoma. XIII National Congress IMI (Italian Melanoma Intergroup) (Padova, 2007)

Member of EPigenetic Immune-oncology Consortium AIRC (EPICA).Funding project: Epigenetic modeling/remodeling of cancer metastases and tumour immune contexture to improve efficacy of immunotherapy - Id. 21073 Associazione Italiana Ricerca sul Cancro (AIRC) - Programma di ricerca 5 per Mille [since 2018]

Member of the International Consortium ENIGMA (Evidence-based Network for the Interpretation of Germline Mutant Alleles) and working group Clinical Working Group - Tumour Institute Milano IRCCS- ENIGMA [since 31/05/2017]

Coinvestigator of international group project: NICEST (Network of Italian Collaborators to Enigma studies and Trials). [May 2017 - October 2018]

Member of the IMI scientific committee (Italian Melanoma Intergroup). [membership 64Q/2015 del 06/07/2015 to date]

### **Research Projects/ Funding**

Coinvestigator of project "Epigenetic modeling/remodeling of cancer metastases and tumour immune contexture to improve efficacy of immunotherapy". Annualità 2018-2026- Id.21073 Associazione Italiana Ricerca sul Cancro (AIRC) - Programma di ricerca 5 per Mille 2018 "Metastatic disease: the key unmet need in oncology" [since January 2018]

Principal Investigator of project granted by national institutions: Advanced Training Program of the Sardinia Region "Master and Back" "Epidemiological study on eating and behavioral habits related to increased cancer incidence as well as on family history of cancer". Avviso Pubblico 2009- P.O.R. FSE 2007-2013 - prot. n. 6142 del 09/04/2010 Regione Autonoma Sardegna [June 2010 - December 2010]

Principal Investigator of projects granted by national institutions: Italian Melanoma Intergroup (IMI): "Molecular mechanisms involved in neoplastic transformation and progression". "Genetic and Molecular Analysis in Malignant Melanoma". Attestato IMI Protoc. N. 117/07; Napoli, 22/01/2007

More...

### **Clinical trials**

Sequential Combo-Immuno and Target Therapy (SECOMBIT) Study. Secondary ID: 2014-004842-92  
NCT ID: NCT02631447

BeyPro2 EudraCT Number: 2017-003038-98. Sponsor: IMI – Italian Melanoma Intergroup

CARAMEL Clinical, dermoscopic, histological characteristics and mutational status on multigenic panels of primary melanoma in metastatic phase patients. Type / funding: Multicentre study IMI (Italian Melanoma Intergroup) [since January 2018]

Sassari, October 06, 2021

*Flavia Cusi*