Milena Casula CNR Researcher Level III since 01/07/2019 to date		Place and date of birth: Olbia (OT) 26/07/1973
CNR – Institute of Biomolecular Chemistry (ICB) National Research Council (CNR) Traversa La Crucca, 3 - Baldinca Li Punti 07100 Sassari, ITALY		casulam@yahoo.it in milena.casula@cnr.it in milena.casulam@pec.it in milena.casula73 in 3421596475
1999 Academic Degree "Biology" University of Sassari (Italy) 2008 PhD "Biochemistry, Biology and Molecular Biotechnology" University of Sassari (Italy)		https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5079-9864 Web of Science Researcher ID: AAA-7461-2019 Scopus Author ID: 7003794527
SCIENCE Citing A	ublications 70	

Major research interests

- Extensive background in biological sciences combined with a strong practical work experience in basic research, mainly focused on oncology studies.
- Application of new technologies such as droplet-based digital PCR (ddPCR) and next generation sequencing (NGS) protocols to study circulating tumor DNA (ctDNA) [2012 to date]
- Genetic analysis at **germline level** in familial cancer patients [2012 to date]
- Molecular and biological studies at **somatic level** on mechanisms and genes involved in pathogenesis of malignant melanoma as well as colorectal, lung, and endometrial carcinomas [2012 to date]
- Immunohistochemical detection and quantification of Wnt/β-catenin proteins in rat lung tissues in ventilator induced lung injury (VILI) [2008-2011]
- Genetic and molecular analysis of some oncogenes, for definition of their role in tumorigenesis [2004 -2007]
- Molecular and biological studies on mechanisms and genes involved in development and progression of different types of cancer (mainly, malignant melanoma) [1998 - 2003]

Previous appointments

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

Post-doctoral fellowship at the Unit of Cancer Genetics Institute of Biomolecular Chemistry (ICB) - National Research Council (CNR) in Sassari [October 2013 30/06/2019]

Post-doctoral fellowship at Agris Sardegna (December 2011 to May 2013)

Post-doctoral fellowship at the Unidad de Investigación del Hospital General Universitario de Gran Canaria, Doctor Negrín, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain., [September 2008 to December 2010].

February 6, 2008: PhD in Biochemistry, Biology and Molecular Biotechnologies, PhD thesis: "Definition of the Role of Fanconi Genes in Melanoma Cell Lines"

Pre-doctoral fellowship at the Unit of Cancer Genetics, Institute of Biomolecular Chemistry - CNR in Alghero [December 2002 to August 2008]

Post-degree fellowship at the laboratory of Dr. Giuseppe Palmieri, Institute of Molecular Genetics - National Research Council (CNR) in Alghero [January 2001 to November 2002]

Post-degree researcher in the Department of Biomedical Sciences, Experimental and Clinical Microbiology, University of Sassari [January 2000 to December 2000]

November 18, 1999: Graduation in Biology (final marks: 110/110); Degree thesis "Genetic Instability of Microsatellites in Endometrial Cancer"

Pre-degree Internship at the Institute of Molecular Genetics - National Research Council in Alghero (Director: Dr. Mario Pirastu) [September 1998 to November 1999]

Publications

Author of 70 peer reviewed original articles, reviews, editorials and 83 abstracts
Complete list of published research papers is available on Scopus and Web of Science websites: https://www.scopus.com/authid/detail.uri?authorld=7003794527
https://biblioproxy.cnr.it:3009/wos/author/record/782016,41504487

Honors and Awards

First Place, Poster Session (2019) "Mutation screening at germline and somatic levels in patients with multiple primary melanomas" National Congress IMI (Intergruppo Melanoma Italiano) XXV (Bologna)

National Scientific Qualification (ASN) (2018) as Associate Professor (AP) in clinical biochemistry and molecular biology (05/E3) (Call 2018) from 05/04/2018 to 05/04/2027 (art. 16, comma 1, Legge 240/10) First Place, Poster Session (2018) "Germline mutations in Italian patients with multiple primary melanomas: a next generation sequencing approach" National Congress IMI (Intergruppo Melanoma Italiano) XXIV (Bari)

Scientific paper prize (2012) "Common variants of TLR1 associate with organ dysfunction and sustained proinflammatory responses during sepsis" PLoS One 2010, 5:10-13759 Hospital Universitario Nuestra Señora de Candelaria (HUNSC)

Research Projects/ Funding

Principal Investigator of projects granted by national and international institutions (e.g., *Regione Autonoma della Sardegna* [Rif. 1460/ARL del 09/09/2013 (PRR-MAB-A2013-17646)] *Centro de Investigación Biomédica en Red de Enfermedades Respiratorias (CIBERES)* [N°35 2008 0022 33395 del 02/09/2008]

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 – Intergruppo Melanoma Italiano

05 ottobre 2021

M. Benfaml