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Studi e formazione: Laurea in Scienze Biologiche presso l'Istituto di Malattie infettive, Facoltà di Medicina Veterinaria dell'Università degli Studi di Bologna (1976). Stage presso il Laboratoire d'Ecologie Médicale, Faculté de Médecine, Université de Montpellier, Francia (1978). Diploma al "Basic Course on Malaria and Planning Malaria Control, Thailand/Italy" (1987). Frequenti soggiorni presso la London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Londra, UK (1993–1995).

Incarichi, attività didattica e di esperto OMS: Direzione di Reparto, ISS (1989-in corso). Insegnamento a contratto di "Parassitologia medica", Dipartimento di Scienze, Università di Roma Tre (1996-in corso). Nomina a esperto OMS nel campo della leishmaniosi con missioni in Albania, Arabia Saudita, Bulgaria, Egitto, Etiopia, Georgia, Giordania, Iran, Tunisia e Uzbekistan (1989-in corso).

Recenti progetti scientifici e sintesi delle attività: Progetto Clinvet "Mass rearing of a *Phlebotomus perniciosus* sand fly colony to test experimental topical products intended for canine leishmaniasis control" (2017-in corso); Progetto Eli Lilly Benelux-Elanco Animal Health "Efficacy of a canine leishmaniasis vaccine candidate: duration of immunity study (Challenge Phase)" (2016-2017); Progetto Eli Lilly-Elanco Animal Health "Prophylactic and therapeutic efficacy of a canine leishmaniasis vaccine candidate evaluated by natural challenge in an open-air kennel" (2014-2017); Progetto Europeo FP7 "MuLeVaClin: Clinical Studies on a Multivalent Vaccine for Human Visceral Leishmaniasis" (2013-in corso); Progetto Infectious Disease Research Institute (Seattle, USA) "Screening vaccine candidate(s) efficacy in a hamster model of visceral leishmaniasis using sand fly transmission as *Leishmania infantum* challenge" (2013-2014); Progetto Esteve "Domperidone chemoprophylaxis to protect dogs from progressive canine leishmaniasis: an open-air kennel efficacy study" (2012-2014); Progetto Europeo FP7 "EDENext: Biology and Control of Vector-borne Infections in Europe - *Phlebotomus*-borne Diseases" (2011-2015).

Le principali attività di ricerca sono state rivolte allo studio e al controllo delle leishmaniosi endemiche nel Mediterraneo e Medio Oriente, interessando sia le forme umane che animali nei campi della tassonomia parassitaria, diagnostica, terapia, sorveglianza epidemiologica, metodi di controllo e vaccini.

Pubblicazioni scientifiche: A marzo 2018 le voci bibliografiche edite o in corso di stampa su riviste, testi e monografie internazionali peer-reviewed sono state 238. Secondo *Scopus*, il totale delle citazioni per tutte le pubblicazioni è pari a 7.035 (h-index = 44).

Education: Doctorate in Biological Sciences at the Infectious Diseases Institute, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Bologna (1976). Visiting researcher at the Laboratoire d'Ecologie Médicale, Faculté de Médecine, Université de Montpellier, France (1978). Diploma at the “Basic Course on Malaria and Planning Malaria Control, Thailand/Italy” (1987). Visiting researcher at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London, UK (1993–1995).

Appointments, teaching and WHO expert activities: Direction of Unit, ISS (1989-ongoing). Contract professor of “Medical parasitology”, Department of Sciences, Third University of Rome (1996-ongoing). WHO expert in leishmaniasis with missions in Albania, Bulgaria, Egypt, Ethiopia, Jordan, Georgia, , Iran, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia and Uzbekistan (1989–ongoing).

Recent scientific projects and summary of activities: Clinvet project “Mass rearing of a *Phlebotomus perniciosus* sand fly colony to test experimental topical products intended for canine leishmaniasis control” (2017-ongoing); Eli Lilly Benelux-Elanco Animal Health project “Efficacy of a canine leishmaniasis vaccine candidate: duration of immunity study (Challenge Phase)” (2016-2017); Eli Lilly-Elanco Animal Health project “Prophylactic and therapeutic efficacy of a canine leishmaniasis vaccine candidate evaluated by natural challenge in an open-air kennel” (2014-2017); European project FP7 “MuLeVaClin: Clinical Studies on a Multivalent Vaccine for Human Visceral Leishmaniasis” (2013-ongoing);; Infectious Disease Research Institute (Seattle, USA) project “Screening vaccine candidate(s) efficacy in a hamster model of visceral leishmaniasis using sand fly transmission as *Leishmania infantum* challenge” (2013-2014); Esteve project “Domperidone chemoprophylaxis to protect dogs from progressive canine leishmaniasis: an open-air kennel efficacy study” (2012-2014); European project FP7 “EDENext: Biology and Control of Vector-borne Infections in Europe; *Phlebotomus*-borne Diseases” (2011-2015).

Research activities have been mainly addressed to the study and control of leishmaniasis entities endemic in the Mediterranean and Middle East countries. They include both human and animal forms of the diseases in the fields of parasite taxonomy, diagnostics, therapy, epidemiological surveillance, control methods and vaccines.

Publications: By March 2018 published or in-press papers in peer-reviewed international journals, books or monographs are 238. According to *Scopus*, total citations of all publications are 7.035 (h-index = 44).