

## **BIOGRAPHY**

In 1991, I had my Master Degree in Biological Science at the University "Sapienza" of Rome, Italy, followed by a PhD in Genetic and Molecular Biology in 1996. In 1987-1990, I have worked as undergraduate student at the Dept. of Genetic and Molecular Biology of the same University and then, from 1991 to 1995, in the Dept. of Biochemistry of the Merck Research Laboratories/IRBM P. Angeletti, Pomezia, Italy. Since 1996, I am a Research Scientist at IDI-IRCCS, Rome, Italy. At the beginning of my scientific career, I have contributed to the characterization of HCV NS3 protease. At IDI-IRCCS, I focused my researches on dermal endothelial cells, studying their physiological and pathological role in the skin with special attention to expression and function of growth factors of the VEGF family. I have also investigated on tumor angiogenesis with special regards to cutaneous melanoma. In recent years, I have addressed my studies towards the understanding of the role of dermal endothelial cells in the inflammatory processes and in cell-to-cell cross talks with leukocytes. I have authored more than 40 scientific papers and book chapters. I own the intellectual property of three international patents. I have been a teacher at University courses, a tutor for Master Degree and PhD students, and in 1994 I received the National Certification as Associate Professor for the sections 05/E2, Molecular Biology, and 05/F1, Applied Biology.