

Laura Moro

PERSONAL DATA

Birth place: Mortara (PV), Italy
Birth date: September 10, 1963
Home address: Novara, Italy

BIO AND EDUCATION

1983 - 1985 Student in the lab of Immunology, S. Matteo Hospital, University of Pavia, Italy.
1985 Degree in Biology, University of Pavia, Italy.
1986 Qualified as a Professional Biologist.
1986 - 1988 Specialization Course in Genetics and fellow, University of Pavia, Italy.
1989 - 1993 PhD in Cellular and Molecular Biotechnologies, University of Brescia, Italy. Visiting scientist at the Department of Cytochemistry and Cytometry, Leiden University, The Netherlands.
1994 - 1996 Post-Doc fellow, University of Torino, Italy.
1997 Employee at the Medical division of the Young&Rubicam group and Consultant for GISED (Italian group of Epidemiological studies in Dermatology), Milano, Italy.
1998 - 2000 Post-Doc fellow, University of Piemonte Orientale "A. Avogadro", Novara, Italy.
2001 - Present Associate Professor of Applied Biology, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Piemonte Orientale "A. Avogadro", Novara, Italy.
2013 – Eligible to be appointed as full professor in Applied Biology, 05/F1.

UNIVERSITY CAREER

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| 2001-2016 | Associate Professor of Applied Biology, University of Piemonte Orientale |
| 1998-2000 | PostDoc, University of Piemonte Orientale |
| 1994-1996 | PostDoc, University of Turin |

UNIVERSITY POSITIONS

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| 2013-2016 | Member of the Joint Committee of Faculty and Students, University of Piemonte Orientale |
| 2013-2016 | Member of the Board of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Piemonte Orientale |
| 2013-2016 | Member of the Research Committee of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Piemonte Orientale |
| 2009-2011 | Member of the Board of the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Piemonte Orientale |

MAIN FIELDS OF INTEREST

1. Translational research
2. Tumor models
3. Receptors
4. Gene Expression
5. Signal Transduction

CURRENT ISSUES OF RESEARCH

1. Role of the Estrogen Receptor Beta in the progression of malignant pleural mesothelioma and ovarian cancer

Preclinical and clinical data obtained from studies on malignant pleural mesothelioma and ovarian cancer suggest that ERbeta, activated by selective agonists, may constitute a new therapeutic opportunity. The project aims to characterize the functions of ERbeta and to assess the effects of selective agonists as single agents or in combination with chemotherapy.

2. Expression and function of AKT isoforms in the progression of malignant pleural mesothelioma

The project aims to evaluate the expression levels of AKT1, AKT2 and AKT3 in tumor tissues from patients with malignant pleural mesothelioma, correlate their expression with different clinical parameters and characterize the specific function of each AKT isoform.

3. Role of EZH2 - KDM6B in malignant pleural mesothelioma progression

The project aims to characterize the role of different proteins in the control of post-translational modifications of histone H3 in malignant pleural mesothelioma and to evaluate the efficacy of new drugs that target them.

4. TG2 as a potential therapeutic target in malignant pleural mesothelioma

The project aims to characterize the role of TG2 in malignant pleural mesothelioma and to evaluate the effects of its inhibition as a new potential therapeutic approach.

CURRENT FUNDED PROJECTS

| PROGRAMME | FUNDED PROJECT |
|------------------------------|--|
| Karo Bio Research Foundation | Mechanistic characterization of ERbeta in mesothelioma and ovarian cancer |
| Fondazione Buzzi Unicem | Preclinical evaluation of novel therapies for malignant pleural mesothelioma |

TOP FIVE PAPERS

1. **Moro L.**, Venturino M., Bozzo C., Beguinot L., Silengo L., Altruda F., Tarone G. and Defilippi P. Integrin mediated adhesion induces ligand-independent activation of EGF-R: role in MAPK induction and adhesion dependent cell survival. 1998 **EMBO J.**, 17, 22: 6622-6632.
2. **Moro L.**, Dolce L., Cabodi S., Bergatto E., Boeri Erba E., Smeriglio M., Turco E., Retta F.S., Giuffrida G., Venturino M., Godovac-Zimmerman J., Scafer E., Beguinot L., Tacchetti C., Gaggini P., Silengo L., Tarone G., Defilippi P. Integrin-induced EGF receptor activation requires c-Src and p130Cas and leads to phosphorylation of specific EGF receptor tyrosines. 2002 **J Biol Chem.**, 277, 11: 9405-9414.
3. **Moro L.**, Reineri S, Piranda D, Pietrapiana D, Lova P, Bertoni A, Graziani A, Defilippi P, Canobbio I, Torti M, Sinigaglia F. Non-genomic effects of 17{beta}-estradiol in human platelets: potentiation of thrombin-induced aggregation through estrogen receptor {beta} and Src kinase. 2005 **Blood**, 105(1): 115-21.
4. Pinton G., Brunelli E., Murer B., Puntoni R., Puntoni M., Fennell D.A., Gaudino G., Mutti L. and **Moro L.** Estrogen receptor beta affects the prognosis of human malignant mesothelioma. 2009 **Cancer Research**, 1; 69(11): 4598-604.
5. Pinton G., Zonca S., Manente A.G., Cavaletto M., Borroni E., Daga A., Jithesh P.V., Fennell D., Nilsson S. and **Moro L.** SIRT1 at the crossroads of AKT1 and ER β in malignant pleural mesothelioma. 2016 **Oncotarget**, 7(12): 14366-79.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Member of Scientific societies: AIBG, ABCD, IMIG.

2009 - 2013 Councilor of GIME (Italian Group for Mesothelioma studies).

2012 Member of the Committee of the Piedmont Region "Environmental Research and Biomedical regarding the risks arising from exposure to asbestos".

2011 - 2015 Reviewer of research projects: (PRIN (IT), FIRB (IT), MRCG / HRB (IRL), the British Lung Foundation (UK) and the Fondation contre le cancer (BE).

PI of national and international grants.

Author of 42 publications, 36 in international peer reviewed journals and Co-Inventor in the Patent WO / 2015/082643 and WO / 2016/050945 A1.