

Chiara Porta

PERSONAL DATA

Place and date of birth: Como, 1976 November 18th

Tel: +39.0321.375883

BIO AND EDUCATION

In 1995 she got her Master degree in “Chemistry” (score: 60/60) at the Technical Institute “Paolo Carcano”, Como.

In 2000 she graduated at the “Medical Biotechnology School” of the University of Milan, (score: 110/110 cum laude).

In 2003, she got the PhD degree in Biotechnology applied at the Medical Sciences, at the University of Milan.

In 2002 she spent 16 months as “visiting researcher” in the “Laboratoire d'Oncologie Virale”, directed by Dr Mounirà Chelbi-Alix, at the Institute André Lwoff, CNRS, Villejuif, France.

Since 2004, her research activity has been mainly focused on the molecular mechanisms underlying the functional link between inflammation and cancer. She worked as Post-Doctoral fellow in the Laboratory of “Molecular Immunology”, directed by Professor Sica at “Istituto di Ricerche Farmacologiche Mario Negri”, then at “Istituto Clinico Humanitas” (2005-2009), and University of Piemonte Orientale (2009-2011). Since December 2011, she holds the position of Assistant Professor of Pathology at the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Piemonte Orientale.

UNIVERSITY CAREER

2011-	Assistant Professor, Università del Piemonte Orientale
2009-2011	Research fellow, Università del Piemonte Orientale
2000-2003	PhD student, Università degli Studi di Milano

UNIVERSITY POSITIONS

2016	Member of the Research Commission of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Piemonte Orientale
2013-	Member of the faculty of the PhD in “Chemistry and Biology”, University of Piemonte Orientale
2012	Member of the faculty of the PhD in “Pharmaceutical and Food Biotechnology”, University of Piemonte Orientale

SCIENTIFIC POSITIONS

2007-	Member of Italian Society of Immunology, Clinical Immunology and Allergology (SIICA)
2011-2014	Member of the Scientific committee of "Milan Meets Immunology"
2011-2013	Member of "European Society of Macrophages and Dendritic Cells"

MAIN FIELDS OF INTEREST

1. Innate immunity
2. Myeloid cells
3. inflammation
4. tumor
5. colorectal cancer

CURRENT ISSUES OF RESEARCH

1. Molecular mechanisms linking inflammation with cancer

Tumor-associated macrophages (TAM) represent the major population of inflammatory cells infiltrating tumors. Despite macrophages can promote anti-tumor immune responses (M1), TAMs often express an alternative (M2) program of activation that, by promoting immunosuppression, angiogenesis and matrix remodeling, it favors tumor growth and progression. Our project aims to investigate the molecular mechanisms underlying the functional reprogramming of TAM in preclinical models of colorectal cancer.

CURRENT FUNDED PROJECTS

PROGRAMME	FUNDED PROJECT
Ricerca finalizzata condotta da giovani ricercatori- (call 2011-2012)	129/GR-2011-02349580 – <u>"The role of Macrophages in primary Biliary Cirrhosis: Novel targets for immune intervention"</u>

TOP FIVE PAPERS

1. Strauss L, Sangaletti S, Consonni FM, Szebeni G, Morlacchi S, Totaro MG, Porta C, Anselmo A, Tartari S, Doni A, Zitelli F, Tripodo C, Colombo MP, Sica A RORC1 regulates tumor-promoting "emergency" granulo/monocytopoiesis. *Cancer Cell*. 2015 Aug 10;28(2):253-69. (IF 23.5)
2. Porta C, Riboldi E, Sica A. Mechanisms linking pathogens-associated inflammation and cancer. *Cancer Lett*. 2011 Jun 28;305(2):250-62. (IF= 5.0)
3. Porta C, Rimoldi M, Raes G, Brys L, Ghezzi P, Di Liberto D, Dieli F, Ghisletti S, Natoli G, De Baetselier P, Mantovani A, Sica A. Tolerance and M2 (alternative) macrophage polarization are related processes orchestrated by p50 nuclear factor kappaB. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A*. 2009 Sep 1;106(35):14978-83. (IF= 9.8)
4. A. Sacconi, T. Schioppa, C. Porta, S. Biswas, M. Nebuloni, L. Vago, B. Bottazzi, M. P. Colombo, A. Mantovani, A. Sica p50 NF- κ B overexpression in Tumor Associated Macrophages inhibits M1 inflammatory responses and antitumor resistance *Cancer Res*. 2006 66(23):11432-40. (IF= 9.3)
5. C. Porta, R. Hadj-Slimane, M. Nejmeddine, M. Pampin, M. Tovey, L. Espert, Sandra Alvarez and M. Chelbi-Alix. Interferons α and γ induce p53-dependent and-independent apoptosis, respectively. *Oncogene* 2005 24(4):605-15 (IF= 8.5)

AWARDS

1. Travel award for attending the European congress of Macrophages and Dendritic cells Society (EMDS 2011)
2. Travel award for attending the International congress of Immunology (ICI 2010)
3. Travel award for attending the International congress of Cytokines (Cytokines 2008)
4. Travel award for attending the International congress of Immunology (ICI 2007)
5. Travel award for attending the nation conference of SIICA (2007)
6. "best poster presentation" award at "Fourth International Conference on Tumor Microenvironment: Progression, Therapy and Prevention" Firenze 2007.
7. Travel award for attending the European congress of Immunology (ECI 2006)
8. 2006 three years fellowship for AIRC (2006-2009)
9. 2000: three years of PhD student fellowship (Università degli Studi di Milano)