

CURRICULUM VITAE

Name Florence Michèle MALISAN
Birthdate 15/06/1969, Albertville (France)
Nationality French and Italian
Status Married VISCO, 3 children
Address Via Montpellier 1 – 00133 Rome
Building F South, second floor, room 204
+39 06 72596504
Malisan@med.uniroma2.it

Languages French: native proficiency
Italian: bilingual proficiency
English: full professional proficiency

Actual Position

2017 - date Associate Professor (MED/46), Department of Biomedicine and Prevention, University of Rome Tor Vergata
2006 - 2017 Researcher - Assistant Professor (MED/04), Department of Biomedicine and Prevention, University of Rome Tor Vergata

Education

- 1996: PhD in Immunology, with highest Honour -awarded to 10% of the best theses- at the University Claude Bernard of Lyon, in France.
- 1992: Degree in Biological Sciences (Master 2) at the University Claude Bernard of Lyon, in France.
- 1987: High School Diploma in Sciences at Annecy, France.

Awarded fellowships

- 1996-1998: EEC Human Mobility Capital postdoctoral fellowship
- 1999-2001: Postdoctoral Research fellowship from Italian Foundation for Cancer Research (FIRC).

Research experience

- 1992-1996 : PhD, Schering-Plough, France, under the direction of Drs J. Banchereau and H. Martinez-Valdez: "Cellular and molecular biology on human B cells".
- 1993-1994: Visiting PhD student at Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research, Food and Drug Administration, Bethesda, MD, USA, under the direction of Drs E.E. Max e F.C. Mills:
- 1998: Visiting researcher at Department of Molecular Toxicology, Faculty of Biology, University of Konstanz, Germany, under the direction of Prof. P. Nicotera,.
- 2002-2005: Research Associate: Department of Experimental Medicine and Biochemical Sciences, University of Rome "Tor Vergata".

Research activity

The expertise of Prof. Florence Malisan (IF: 244, 39 peer-reviewed papers, H-index-23, Citations >2000, ORCID ID 0000-0002-0213-9407) in molecular and biochemical biology encompasses a wide range of areas including molecular biology, cell biology, glycolipid biology, cell transfection, in vitro gene delivery, gene expression, proteomics, protein analysis and detection by western blot, flow cytometry, immunofluorescence, ELISA.

During the last 15 years she studied the role of the frataxin protein in the genetic disease Friedreich's ataxia (FRDA). Both molecular pathophysiology and novel therapeutic approaches are under investigation (<http://www.labst.org>).

In particular, she studied the role of the phosphorylation of frataxin in FRDA, demonstrating that phosphorylation in Tyrosine 118 by Src kinase promotes the degradation of frataxin through the Ubiquitin-Proteasome system therefore regulating its stability. Importantly, she observed that Src

inhibitors increase frataxin expression in living cells, suggesting their possible use as therapeutics in FRDA (Cherubini et al., *Hum. Mol. Genetics*, 24,4296-305, 2015).

Recently, her research focused on the identification of potential diagnostic and prognostic specific biomarkers of FRDA. She reported that frataxin deficiency in FRDA is indeed associated with reduced levels of antiapoptotic protein HAX-1, a regulator of cardiomyocyte death and survival. She also demonstrated a significant modulation of HAX-1 expression by frataxin levels in AC16 human cardiomyocytes, thus suggesting HAX-1 as a potential biomarker of cardiac disease in FRDA (Tiano F et al., *Hum Mol Genet.*, 29,471-482, 2020).

Since HAX-1 - crucial protein for neurons and cardiomyocytes survival - is a putative biomarker of disease progression, she activated a strong collaboration with Dr. Francesca Amati and Dr. Caterina Mariotti in order to analyse HAX-1 related circulating microRNAs as they represent interesting non-invasive biomarkers that could help clinical practice (Quatrana, A. et al. *Hum Mol Genet.*, 2022 Jan 7; doi: 10.1093/hmg/ddac005. Online ahead of print).

Patents

Methods of treating Friedreich's ataxia using Src inhibitors, assigned serial no. PCT/IB2015/059963, published 30 June 2016, n. WO2016103223 A1.

Grants

-Telethon-AFM (2020): Involvement of protein kinase CK2 in the Friedreich's ataxia, Grant 22974, 12 months, Team leader.

-AFAF (2020): Association Française Ataxie de Friedreich, Study of the physiological variations of microRNAs in Friedreich's ataxia as new biomarkers for cardiomyopathy, 12 months, Co-investigator.

-University Mission Sustainability (2018): HAX-1 splice variants as potential molecular biomarkers for cardiomyopathies. Principal Investigator.

-National Ataxia Foundation (2018): HAX-1 is a biomarker for cardiomyopathies in Friedreich's Ataxia. Principal Investigator.

Teaching

She is in charge of Immunology courses in Degree course in Medicine and Surgery (since 2006 in Italian and 2013 in English), Pharmacy (since 2009), Biomedical Laboratory Techniques and Dietetics (since 2018) for a total of 15 ECTS Credits with 110 hours of lectures (more than 250 students and 21 exam sessions/year) in 2020-2021.

Publications

ORCID ID 0000-0002-0213-9407

39 peer-reviewed papers, Impact factor : 244, H-index-23, Citations > 2000

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/?term=malisan+f&sort=date>