

CURRICULUM VITAE

Lorenzo Mortara, PhD
Associate Professor



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Associate Professor since **December 27th, 2018** to present in
General and Clinical Pathology

University Researcher since **November 1st, 2002** to December 2018
in **General and Clinical Pathology**

Immunology and General Pathology Laboratory – Department of
Biotechnology and Life Sciences (DBSV) – University of INSUBRIA
Monte Generoso street #71, 21100 VARESE, IT

Citizenship: Italian

Place and date of birth: Genova, Italy, 31/12/1968

URL for web site: <https://www.uninsubria.it/hpp/lorenzo.mortara>

Education:

05/1999 Ph.D. Immunology, University of Paris 7, Paris, France (with honors). Title:
“Role and detailed characterization of cytotoxic T lymphocytes (CTLs)
induced by a lipopeptide vaccine in the rhesus macaque/SIV model”.

07/1997 Specialization in Allergology and Clinical Immunology, University of
Medicine, Genova, Italy (50/50 with honors).

1994 Qualifying examination for Professional Biologist (Esame di Stato).

04/1993 to 04/1994 Training Biologist for Professional Activity, Genova, Italy.

03/1993 Laurea degree in Biological Sciences (108/110), University of Science, Genova, Italy. Title: “T-lymphocyte response to *Candida albicans* antigenic fraction in healthy individuals and HIV-seropositive patients”.

Awards

04/2002 European Doctor in Biotechnology, from Higher Education in Biotechnology (HEduBT), Supervisor Prof. Franco Celada*, University of Genoa, Italy.

05/1999 Prize Roche, XXVIIth National Conference of Italian Society of Immunology (SI), Udine, Italy, June 16-18, 1999.

11/1997 Prize Associazione Nazionale per la Lotta contro l’AIDS (ANLAIDS), XVth National Congress of Italian Society of Immunology and Immunopathology, Genova, Italy.

 *Bryce CF, Aghion J, Bos P, Celada F, Griffin M, Hull R. European doctorate in Biotechnology: Added value for european academia and industry. *Biochem Mol Biol Educ.* 2004, Sep;32(5):352-7. PMID: 21706754.

Employment

2018-present Associate Professor in General Pathology, University of Insubria, Varese, Italy.

2010-2018 University Researcher and Assistant Professor in General Pathology, University of Insubria, Varese, Italy.

2002-2010 University Researcher, University of Insubria, Varese, Italy.

2002-2003 Fellow ANRS, Unité de Biologie des Rétrovirus, Institut Pasteur, Paris, France.

2000-2001 Fellow AIDS, Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Unit of Viral Immunology, Advanced Biotechnology Center, Genoa, Italy.

1999-2000 Associate Researcher, Wisconsin Regional Primate Research Center, Madison-Wisconsin, WI (USA).

1997-1999 Sidaction Fellow, Laboratoire d’Immunologie des Pathologies Infectieuses et Tumorales, Institut Cochin de Génétique Moléculaire, Paris, France.

1995-1996 European Fellow, Laboratoire d’Immunologie des Pathologies Infectieuses et Tumorales, Institut Cochin de Génétique Moléculaire, Paris, France.

1994-1995 Fellow CNR, Laboratory of Immunology, San Martino Hospital, University of Genoa, Genoa, Italy.

Brief history of his research and university career

Dr. Mortara has conducted experimental research studies from 1995 concerning key aspects of retroviruses (HIV, SIV, vaccines), cancer research and thyroid autoimmunity Graves’ disease and Hashimoto’s disease, and currently continues his studies on cancer immunology and evaluating the immune regulation of some autoimmune diseases, with the addition of his interest in the study of the innate immunological component in ASL pathology.

Since the end of 2002 he has conducted university research in oncoimmunology starting in the Laboratory of General Pathology and Immunology of Prof. Roberto Accolla, Univ. Insubria. In 2011 he moved to the new Laboratory of Prof. Douglas M. Noonan and in the new DBSV Department, Univ. Insubria.

His research habilities concern the study and characterization of innate and adaptive immune responses of the tumor microenvironment and angiogenesis in different types of solid tumors. He has experience in multiparametric flow cytometry, functional lymphocyte cytotoxicity assays, macrophage polarization studies, dendritic cell function assays, endothelial-immune cell interaction assays, and preclinical immune-related tumor models.

He has solid knowledge of cellular onco-immunology, in particular investigating murine and human effector functions of anti-tumor CTL, T helper cells, natural killer cells, tumor-associate macrophages and dendritic and tumor antigen presenting cell activities ex vivo and in vitro and in vivo immunocytokine or gene-based modified tumor preclinical models.

From 1995 to date **Prof. Mortara** has published **106 articles** and **3 book chapters**. With an **h-index of 36**.

Institutional roles / Coordination of Academic activities

2025-2028: Director of the School of Specialization in Clinical Pathology and Clinical Biochemistry for Non-Doctors, Univ. Insubria.

2025-date: Member of the Commisison AIQUA (quality assurance) for the Course of Biotechnology Degree, Bachelor's Degree, Univ. Insubria.

2022-2025: Member of the Commisison AIQUA (quality assurance) for the Course of Biotechnology Degree, Bachelor's Degree, Univ. Insubria.

2019-2022: Member of the Commisison AIQUA research AIQUA-R (quality assurance) for the DBSV Dept, Univ. Insubria.

2018-to date: Member of the Commission Tutor BTEC.

2011-to date: Responsible for the management of special Laboratory toxic waste

2020-2023: Member of the Commission Health Nurse Degree evaluating previous careers.

2021-2022: Member of the Commission AIQUA of Health Nurse Degree.

2018-2021: Member of the Commission AIQUA of Health Nurse Degree.

2018-2021: Member of the steering committee for educational collaboration with stake holder for the Course of Health Nurse Degree.

2018-2023: Tutor for Health Nurse Degree.

2018-2021: Member of the Teaching Commission of Health Nurse Degree.

Teaching staff of various Medical Specialty Schools

School of Specialization in Clinical Pathology and Clinical Biochemistry.

School of Specialization in Plastic, Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery.

School of Specialization in Pathological Anatomy.

School of Specialization in Endocrinology.

School of Specialization in Medical Oncology.

Service activities for students of various degree courses

2018-to present: for BTEC Degree, as Tutor BTEC, meetings with students beyond official teaching hours to help them learn the specific discipline of Immunology and characteristics of hypersensitivity reactions and inflammatory diseases (5 h per year).

2020-to present: for Medicina and Surgical Degree, meetings with students beyond official teaching hours to help them learn the specific discipline of General Pathology, Oncology and the molecular basis of Cancer and Autoimmune diseases (10 h per year).

2020-to present: for Dentistry and Dental Prosthesis degree Degree, meetings with students beyond official teaching hours to help them learn the specific discipline of General Pathology, Oncology and Inflammatory diseases (5 h per year).

2012-2023: for Health Nurse Degree, School of Medicine, as Tutor, meetings with students beyond official teaching hours to help them learn the specific discipline of General Pathology and Clinical Pathology (8 h per year).

2002-present: for Biomedical Laboratory Techniques Degree, School of Medicine, meetings with students beyond official teaching hours to help them learn the specific discipline of Allergology and Clinical Immunology (5 h per year).

Research Activities and qualifications

Concerning Abilitazione Scientifica Nazionale (ASN) 2023-2025, **Prof. Mortara** meets the threshold value requirements for National Committees as Commissioner in General and Clinica Pathology (Oct 2025: Willingness to serve on the selection committee for: Fixed-term Tenure Track Researcher (RTT) from University of Catania).

Qualified for Full Professor in General and Clinical Pathology, from 09/09/2019 to 09/09/2031

ASN Bando D.D. 1532/2016, Settore Concorsuale 06/A2 – Patologia Generale e Patologia Clinica per Prof. Ordinario – (art. 16, comma 1, Legge 240/10).

Qualified for Full Professor in General and Clinical Pathology, from 08/11/2024 to 08/11/2036

ASN 2023/2025 Bando D.D. 1532/2016, Settore Concorsuale 06/A2 – Patologia Generale e Patologia Clinica per Prof. Ordinario – (art. 16, comma 1, Legge 240/10).

Qualified for Associate Professor in General and Clinical Pathology, from 09/04/2018 to 09/04/2030

ASN Bando D.D. 1532/2016, Settore Concorsuale 06/A2 – Patologia Generale e Patologia Clinica per Prof. Associato – (art. 16, comma 1, Legge 240/10).

Qualified for Associate Professor in Applied Biology, from 04/04/2017 to 04/04/2029

ASN Bando D.D. 1532/2016, Settore Concorsuale 05/F1 – Biologia Applicata per Prof. Associato – (art. 16, comma 1, Legge 240/10).

Contract holder for a Junior Research Fellowship for 12 months (2024-2025)

Subject: Research activity contract pursuant to article no. 22 of the law no. 240 of 30 December 2010, at University of Insubria, Department of Biotechnology and Life Sciences, for a post-Doc in Mortara's Laboratory. Research title: **“Targeting of multiple myeloma with therapeutic antibody conjugated with aminobisphosphonate: triggering of antitumor immune response”**.

Contract holder for a Junior Research Fellowship for 12 months (2023-2024)

Subject: Research activity contract pursuant to article no. 22 of the law no. 240 of 30 December 2010, at University of Insubria, Department of Biotechnology and Life Sciences, for a post-Doc in Mortara's Laboratory. Research title: **“Assessment of anti-cancer therapy using immunocytokines and immune checkpoint inhibitors combined with oncosuppressor RNASET2 in immunocompetent mouse models”**.

Holder of a **MIUR National Fund for Basic Research (FFABR) 2017 (Researcher)**.

Collaborator in National and International Projects

2023-2025: 20225AZ22F MIUR PRIN: (LuCamiR) Development of a microRNA-based test for the screening of lung cancer. Component collaborator of the Paola Campomenosi's Unit.

Department of Biotechnology and Life Sciences (2-years), Univ. Insubria, Varese. Scientific coordinator: Prof. Michela Alessandra Denti, University of Trento.

2019-2022: 2017NTK4HY_001 MIUR PRIN: RNASET2 as new player in the modulation of the innate immune system in cancer and autoimmunity: potential diagnostic and therapeutic implications.

Department of Biotechnology and Life Sciences, DBSV (3-years). Scientific coordinator: Prof. D.M. Noonan. Department of Biotechnology and Life Sciences, Univ. Insubria, Varese.

2010-2011: 2009XZEPR_004 MIUR PRIN: Genes and molecules of the immunity of invertebrates. Structure, function, evolutionary precursors and transferability into applied research. Department of Biotechnology and Life Sciences (3-years). Scientific coordinator: Prof. L. Ballarin, Scientific manager: Prof. M.A. De Eguileor, 1-2-2013/1-2-2016. DBSV, Univ. Insubria, Varese.

2008-2010: 2008WXF7KK MIUR PRIN: New strategies of vaccination and immunotherapy against tumors based on the optimal stimulation of CD4+ T helper cells. Department of Clinical and Biological Sciences (2-years), Univ. Insubria, Varese.

2008-2011: 2008-2230 Cariplo Foundation Project 2008: Cellular and molecular basis of retrovirus human diseases: new immunological and biochemist approaches in order to prevent infection and retrovirus replication, relevant for innovative preventive therapeutic strategies. Department of Clinical and Biological Sciences (3-years), Univ. Insubria, Varese.

IN PROGRESS: Submitted Onco-immunology Project, 3 years – BANDO PRIN 2026

Project PI: MONTESI Monica (National Research Council of Italy, CNR, Faenza, RA).

Responsible of Research Unit: Mortara Lorenzo.

Project Title: Engineering Dynamic 3D Osteosarcoma Niches to Investigate Immune Modulation and EV-based Therapeutic Strategies (EDEN).

Consortium partners: 1-CNR ISSMC Faenza, 2-UniTs, 3-UniGe, **4-UnInsubria**, 5-UniBo.

Research project budget request: 205.650 Euro.

IN PROGRESS: Submitted Project Pilot Study, 1 year – BANDO ARISLA (Italian ALS Research Foundation) 2026

Principal Investigatore: Mortara Lorenzo.

Project Title: Targeting the early peripheral innate inflammatory compartment in skeletal muscle to elicit a protective type 2 immune response (InnateIMMU_ProType2).

Research project budget request: 80.000 Euro.

Recent foreign visiting research periods:

2024 July-December: Assistant Researcher, Institute for Research in Biomedicine, IRB, Università della Svizzera Italiana, Bellinzona, Switzerland (Head of Infection and Immunity Lab, Dr. S.F. Gonzalez).

2004 January, 5-30: Post-Doc Researcher, Unité de Régulation des Infections Rétrovirales - Institut Pasteur, Paris, France (Head of Laboratory, Medicine Nobel Prize 2008, Prof. F. Barré-Sinoussi and Dr. Michaela C. Muller-Trutwin).

2002: Post-Doc Researcher, Unité de Régulation des Infections Rétrovirales - Institut Pasteur, Paris, France (Head of Laboratory, Medicine Nobel Prize 2008, Prof. F. Barré-Sinoussi, and Dr. Michaela C. Muller-Trutwin).

Head Researcher for Italian FAR Insubria University Funds

(2026-2028 Mortara), (2025-2027 Mortara), (2024-2026 Mortara), (2023-2025 Mortara), (2022-2024 Mortara), (2021-2023 Mortara), (2020-2022 Mortara), (2019-2021 Mortara), (2018-2020 Mortara), (2017-2019 Mortara), (2016-2018 Mortara), (2014-2016 Mortara), (2010-2012 Mortara), (2008-2010 Mortara), (2007-2009 Mortara).

Partecipation at College of Research Doctorate teachers

2021-to date: Research Doctorate in Experimental and Translational Medicine, University of Insubria.

2013-2018: Research Doctorate in Biotechnology Biosciences and Surgical Technologies, (Curriculum: Biotechnology and Surgical Technologies), University of Insubria.

2011-2016: Research Doctorate in Cellular and Molecular Biology, University of Insubria.

2007-2013: Research Doctorate in Experimental Medicine and Oncology, University of Insubria.

Active partecipation in Research Groups

2024-to present: PhD Research Project DMST in collaboration with Prof. Federico Dheò, Dr. Paolo Capogrosso, Dr. Sara Baldini, Prof. Stefano La Rosa, Francesca Franzi, Graziana Famoso, University of Insubria and ASST Settelaghi Varese Hospital.

Project: Phenotypic and functional characterization of different immune cells and fibroblasts isolated from peripheral blood and tumor tissue in patients with bladder cancer (Lombardy Ethics Committee approved).

2024-to present: Research Project group in collaboration with Alessandro Poggi, Dr. Roberto Benelli, and Prof. Sara Tavella nella Molecular Oncology and Angiogenesis Unit, IRCCS Ospedale Policlinico San Martino, Genova.

Project: Targeting of multiple myeloma with therapeutic antibody conjugated with aminobisphosphonate: triggering of antitumor immune response (Ligurian Ethics Committee approved; Lombardy Ethics Committee in progress).

2024-July to December: Visiting researcher at Infection and Immunity Lab, Head of Group. Santiago F. Gonzalez, PhD, Istituto di Ricerca in Biomedicina, IRB, Bellinzona, CH, and in collaboration with Prof. Dario Neri, Department of Chemistry and Applied Biosciences, Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich, Switzerland.

Project: Investigating innate immune response in skeletal muscle of SOD1 mice, as preclinical model of ALS with the aim to use innovative immunotherapies that employ immunocytokines L19-TNF and L19-IL2.

2023-to present: PhD Research Project DMST in collaboration with Prof. Federico Dheò, Dr. Paolo Capogrosso, Dr. Sara Baldini, Prof. Stefano La Rosa, Francesca Franzi, Graziana Famoso, University of Insubria and ASST Settelaghi Varese Hospital.

Project: Characterization of Natural Killer cells in kidney patients (Lombardy Ethics Committee in progress).

2022-to present: Research Project group in collaboration with Dr. Santiago F. Gonzalez, Kamil Chahine PhD student and Dr. Tommaso Virgilio, PhD, (now at Experimental Animal Center, University of Bern) at Infection and Immunity Lab, IRB, Bellinzona, CH.

Project: Role of VEGFR3 in the lymphangiogenesis in a murine model of lymphoma.

2020-2022: Research Project group in collaboration with Dr. Santiago F. Gonzalez, Kamil Chahine PhD student and Dr. Tommaso Virgilio, PhD, (now at Experimental Animal Center, University of Bern) at Infection and Immunity Lab, IRB, Bellinzona, CH.

Project: Role of sentinel lymph nodes macrophages in the promotion of melanoma metastasis.

2003-2023: Research Project group in collaboration with Dr. L. Zardi, Dr. L. Borsi and Dr. E. Balza, Department of Translational Oncology, Istituto Nazionale per la Ricerca sul Cancro, IRCCS AOU San Martino – IST, Genova, Dr. Dario Neri, Department of Chemistry and Applied Biosciences, Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich, Switzerland, Dr. A. Rubartelli dell'Unità di Cell Biology, Department of Integrated Oncological Therapies, IRCCS AOU San Martino – IST, and Dr. A. Poggi, Molecular Oncology and Angiogenesis Unit, IRCCS AOU San Martino IST.

2004-2012: Research group with Prof. Roberto Accolla, Laboratory of General Pathology and Immunology, Univ. Insubria, Prof. Guido Ferlazzo, Laboratory of Immunology and Biotherapy, Department of Human Pathology, University of Messina, Messina, Dr. Maria Pia Pistillo, Tumor

Epigenetics Unit, IRCCS AOU San Martino-IST, and with Dr. Maria Cristina Mingari, Department of Experimental Medicine, University of Genova.

2002-2011: Research group with Prof. Roberto Accolla, Laboratory of General Pathology and Immunology, Univ. Insubria.

Project: Role of CIITA-induced MHC class II expression in mammary adenocarcinoma cells. Characterization of induced adaptive T helper and cytotoxic T cell responses in the mammary mouse tumor model TS/A.

2004-January (1 month): Research Group at Unité de Biologie de Retrovirus, Pasteur Institut, Paris, France, coordinator Dr. M. Muller-Trutwin, director Prof. Francoise Barré-Sinoussi (Nobel Prize for Medicine and Physiology 2008).

2002-2003: CSS1 "Interaction hôte/virus", at the Unité de Biologie des Retrovirus, Pasteur Institut, coordinator Dr. M. Muller-Trutwin, director Prof. Francoise Barré-Sinoussi (Nobel Prize for Medicine and Physiology 2008) and in collaboration with Dr. Ousmane Diop, Dakar Pasteur Institut, and Dr. Cecile Butor and Dr. Anne Hosmalin, Department d'Immunologie, Hopital Cochin, INSERM U445, Paris, France.

2000-2002: National research at the Human Virology Laboratory, Advanced Biotechnology Center, San Martino Hospital, Genova, director Dr. F. Manca, in collaboration with Prof. F. Indiveri, Centre of Excellence for Biomedical Research, Department of Internal Medicine, University of Genova.

1999-2000: International research at the Laboratory of Immunogenetics, Department of Pathology, Wisconsin Regional Primate Research Center, University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA, director Prof. David I. Watkins.

1995-1999: Action Coordonee N.1, title: Vaccine animal models and immunization vectors. Fondation pour la Recherche Medicale, Hopital Cochin, Institut Cochin de Genetique Moleculaire ICGM, Paris, France.

Other activities

2023-2025: Update of Animal Facility License: Qualification as Project Manager with use of laboratory animals.

Collaboration with the **International Federation of Medical Students' Association (IFMSA) Research Exchange Project** (www.ifmsa.org) 2023-2025.

3rd: Mexican medical student, name: Camila Victoria Serrato Rivera. One-month internship: April 2025. Research Project Title: **"Phenotype and functional characterization of natural killer cells and monocytes in bladder cancer patients and healthy donors"**.

2nd: Brazilian medical student, name: Isabela Araujo. One-month internship: October 2024. Research Project Title: **"Phenotype and functional characterization of natural killer cells in renal cancer patients and healthy donors"**.

1st: Indian medical student, name: Nupur Antil. One-month internship: May 2023. Research Project Title: “**Phenotype and functional characterization of blood natural killer cells in prostate cancer patients**”.

Prof. Mortara regularly conducts evaluations for several journals as Referee, including:

Nature Immunology / Heliyon / Frontiers in Pharmacology / Exploration Target of Antitumor Therapy / Molecular Cancer / Cancer Biotherapy and Radiopharmaceuticals / Cancer Investigation / Oncotarget / Seminars in Immunology / Anti-Cancer Agents in Medicinal Chemistry / Medicinal Research Reviews / International Journal of Immunopathology and Pharmacology / International Journal of Molecular Sciences / Frontiers in Immunology / Molecules / EBioMedicine / Blood / Theranostic / Carcinogenesis / Medicines / Journal Translational Medicine / Translational Cancer Research / Biomedicine & Pharmacotherapy / Marine Drugs / OncoImmunology / Immunobiology / Phytotherapy Research / British Journal of Cancer / Journal of the American Chemical Society / Current Medicinal Chemistry / Biology / International Immunopharmacology / FEBS Letters / OncoTargets and Therapy / Molecular Biology Reports / Scientific Reports / Advanced Science / iScience / Frontiers in Oncology / Frontiers in Cell and Developmental Biology.

Teaching experience

2020-present: Responsible of the Course: General Pathology (Medicine and Surgery Degree), School of Medicine.

2020-present: Responsible of the Course: General Pathology (Dentistry and Dental Prosthesis Degree), School of Medicine.

2016-present: Responsible for the Course: Molecular Bases of Immunology and Pathology, module: Immunology (Biotechnology, Bachelor's Degree).

2002-present: Responsible of the Course: Allergology and Clinical Immunology for Biomedical Laboratory Techniques Degree (Bachelor's Degree), School of Medicine.

2020-2023: Clinical Pathology for Ostetrician Health Degree (Bachelor's Degree), School of Medicine.

2012-2023: Responsible of the Courses: Clinical Pathology for Health Nurse Degree (Bachelor's Degree); General Pathology and Immunology for Health Nurse Degree (Bachelor's Degree).

2014-2018: Lessons (4 hours) as elective teaching for Allergology and Clinical Immunology for Biomedical Laboratory Technician Degree (Bachelor's Degree).

2010-2012: General Pathology and Immunology for Health Nurse Degree (Bachelor's Degree); General Pathology for Ostetrician Health Degree (Bachelor's Degree), School of Medicine.

2010-2011: Health Technique Cardiac Perfusionist Degree (Bachelor's Degree), School of Medicine; Physiopathology of the Immune System, Module Immunology, Biological Science Degree (Master's Degree).

2010-2018: he was appointed as Assistant Professor (Professore Aggregato).

2009-2010: Clinical Pathology for Health Nurse Degree (Bachelor's Degree); General Pathology and Immunology for Health Nurse Degree (Bachelor's Degree); Health Technique Cardiac Perfusionist Degree (Bachelor's Degree), School of Medicine; Physiopathology of the Immune System, Module Immunology, Biological Science Degree, Master's Degree.

2005-2009: Immunology and General Pathology for Health Nurse Degree (Bachelor's Degree), School of Medicine.

Lessons of Physiopathology of the Immune System, Module Immunology, Biological Science Degree, Master's Degree.

2002-2005: Lessons of Immunology, Medicine and Surgical Degree, School of Medicine.

Responsible and participation at Exam Commissions

General Pathology for the Medicine and Surgery Degree

General Pathology for the Dentistry and Prosthodontics Degree

Immunology for the Biotechnology Degree,

Allergology and Clinical Immunology for Biomedical Laboratory Techniques Degree,

General Pathology and Immunology and Clinical Pathology for Health Nurse Degree,

General Pathology and Immunology and Clinical Pathology for Ostetrician Health Degree.

General Pathology and Immunology for Cardiac Perfusionists.

Partecipation at Laurea Exam Commissions

Medicine and Surgery Degree.

Biotechnology Bachelor's Degree.

Biomedical Laboratory Techniques, Bachelor's Degree.

Biomedical Sciences, Master Degree.

Bio-based and Health Industry, Master Degree.

Health Nurse Bachelor's Degree.

Third Misison: Vaccini: una sfida tra scienza e etica sociale. Vaccines: a challenge between science and social ethics. Come funzionano i vaccini. University of Insubria. December 18th 2020 (duration 1h 55 min). <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JPUciUduc0c>. Discussion open to the public with citizenship.

Supervision and training of students for internships, theses, and doctoral studies

2022-present: Supervisor for 13 students (Serena Croci, Giulia Caleffi, Greta Marcolli, Giulia Carabelli, Marta Demuti, Margherita Moretti, Sara Ferraris, Martina Buonpietro, Martina Tamborini, Elisa Broglia, Chiara Destefanis, Annalisa Carabelli, Samantha Zorzella) (Lau

Bachelor's Degree) in Biotechnology Degree, 1 student in BBHI (Sara Ferraris) Master's Degree, 2 students in Science Biology (Viviana Rezza and Cinzia Zambetti) (Bachelor's Degree) and 3 students in Medicine and Surgery (Francesca Orrù, Sara Baldini, Marco Negrato), 2 Medicine students of School of Specialization in Endocrinology (Silvia Lepanto, Gaia Fazzino).

2021-2022: Supervisor for 3 students (Ilaria Mariani, Federica Bon e Fabio Gilio) (Bachelor's Degree) in Biotechnology Degree. Supervisor for 1 student (Luca Lepore) (Bachelor's Degree) in Biomedical Laboratory Techniques Degree. Supervisor for 6 students (Giorgia Spina, Cristian Rubuano, Veronica Vivona, Luisa Esposito, Gaia Lazzarin, Giorgia Maspero) (Bachelor's Degree) in Biotechnology Degree.

2018-2020: Supervisor for 14 students (Eleonora Matteocci, Marco Bulgheroni, Simone Del Motto, Cristina Laccisaglia, Alessandro Aliverti, Alessandra Ponti, Chiara Frigé, Erica Moltoni, Deborah Muraca, Giorgia Aliverti, Gaia Marcolli, Grace Coco, Maddalena Raffanini, Giulia Latino) (Bachelor's Degree) in Biotechnology Degree, and 1 student (Mariana Dodaj) in Master's Degree in in Molecular Industry Biotechnology Degree.

2014-2017: Supervisor of 3 students (Mari De Leo, Ester Chersoni, Ambra Fortunato) (Bachelor's Degree) Degree in Biomedical Laboratory Technician (2014-2016), and of 3 students (Alessandra Musco, Davide Gambino, Annalisa Bosi) in Master's Degree in Biological Sciences.

2024-2027, in progress: Tutor of a PhD student in Experimental and Traslational Medicine Doctorate, DMST (Anna Di Spirito).

XL Cycle. Title of PhD Thesis: Phenotypic and functional characterization of different immune cells and fibroblasts isolated from peripheral blood and tumor tissue in patients with bladder cancer.

2023-2026, in progress: Tutor of a PhD student in Experimental and Traslational Medicine Doctorate, DMST (Giorgia Bilato).

XXXIX Cycle. Title of PhD Thesis: Characterization of Natural Killer cells in kidney patiens.

2021-2024: Tutor of a PhD student in Experimental and Traslational Medicine Doctorate, DMST (Martina Cucchiara).

XXXVII Cycle. Title of PhD Thesis: Phenotype and functional characterization of tumor-associated and tumor-infiltrating NK cells in pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma (PDAC): role of fibrosis.

Date of PhD: January 15, 2024.

2019-2022: Tutor of a PhD student in Biotechnology and Life Sciences (Matteo Gallazzi).

XXXV Cycle. Title of PhD Thesis: Phenotype and functional characterization of circulating and tumor infiltrating naturalkiller cells in patients with prostate cancer.

External Referees: Prof. Andrew Benest (University of Nottingham, Nottingham, UK) and Prof. Domenico Ribatti (University of Bari). Date of PhD: December 19, 2022.

2013-2016: Tutor of a PhD student Silvia Zanellato) in Biotechnology Biosciences and Surgical Technologies Doctorate (Curriculum Biotechnology and Surgical Technologies) (Silvia Zanellato).

XXIX Ciclo. Title of PhD Thesis: Characterization of Natural Killer cells from patients affected by pleural effusions.

External Referees: Prof. Elisabeth Menu (I. Pasteur, Paris) and Prof. Antonio Sica (Humanitas, Rozzano, Milano). Date of Thesis: December 21, 2016.

PUBLICATIONS:

ARTICLES (overall: 106)

1. V. Bruno, A. Di Spirito, A. Poggi, **L. Mortara***, D. Baci*. Natural Killer Cells at the Interface of Tumor Immune Escape and Immunotherapy Resistance in Endometrial Cancer. Accepted In Press. *Front Immunol.* **2026** Jul (IF=7.0)
2. S. Blake, **L. Mortara**, S. Spada. Editorial: Microbiota-immune interactions: a new frontier in cancer treatment optimization. *Front Immunol.* **2026** Jun 3;17:1882251 (IF=7.0)
3. S. F. Randisi, S. Balkhi, **L. Mortara**, E. Marras, M. Molteni, E. Epis, A. Di Spirito, G. Bilato, R. Bombelli, F. Dentali, M.G. Gariboldi, L. Campiotti. Impact of vitamin D plasma levels on in vitro natural killer cell cytotoxicity against non-small cell lung carcinoma in the presence of nivolumab. *Intern Emerg Med.* **2026** Jun;21(4):1441-1450. (IF=3.8)
4. M. Cucchiara, M.T. Palano, C. Rubuano, G. De Antoni, M. Gallazzi, D. Mercatelli, M. Tagliabue, A. Pessi, G. Catalano, M. Gemelli, R. Ricotta, P.F. Ferrucci, G. Nappo, S. Uccella, A. Zerbi, P. Borsotti, G. Garattini, F. Di Leva, N. Baranzini, A. Grimaldi, **L. Mortara**, F. Acquati, P.C. Muti, D. Belotti, A. Resovi, B. Bassani, A. Bruno. The TGF- β R1 inhibitor Galunisertib re-shapes the PDAC-TME by limiting decidual-like natural killer cells polarization. *Cell Death Dis.* **2026** Mar 31;17(1):577. (IF=12.2) (Cited: 1)
5. A. Di Spirito, G. Zuccolotto, A. Tosi, S. Balkhi, A. Rosato, D. Baci*, **L. Mortara***. Evolving frontiers in bladder cancer immunotherapy: integrating BCG, immune checkpoints, viral vectors, nanotechnology, and CAR-based therapies. *Front Cell Dev Biol.* **2025** Dec 4;13:1719978. (IF=3.6) (Cited:)
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82. **L. Mortara**, V. Frangione, P. Castellani, A. De Lerma Barbaro, and R.S. Accolla. Irradiated CIITA-positive mammary adenocarcinoma cells act as a potent antitumor preventive vaccine by inducing tumor-specific CD4+ T cell priming and CD8+ T cell effector functions. *Int Immunol.* **2009**;21(6):655-665. (IF=3.4) (Cited: 26)
83. B. Morandi, **L. Mortara**, P. Carrega, C. Cantoni, G. Costa, R.S. Accolla, S. Ferrini, M.C. Mingari, L. Moretta, and G. Ferlazzo. NK cells provide helper signal for CD8+ T cells by inducing the expression of membrane-bound IL-15 on DCs. *Int Immunol.* **2009**;21(5):599-606. (IF=3.4) (Cited: 47)
84. O.M. Diop, M.J.Y. Ploquin, **L. Mortara**, A. Faye, B. Jacquelin, D. Kunkel, P. Lebon, C. Butor, A. Hosmalin, F. Barré-Sinoussi, M.C. Müller-Trutwin. Plasmacytoid dendritic cell dynamics and alpha IFN production during Simian Immunodeficiency Virus infection with a nonpathogenic outcome. *J. Virol.* **2008**;82(11):5145-5152. (IF=4.1) (Cited: 97)
85. D.M. Noonan, A. De Lerma Barbaro, N. Vannini, **L. Mortara**, A. Albini. Inflammation, inflammatory cells and angiogenesis: decisions and indecisions. *Cancer Metastasis Rev.* **2008**;27(1):31-40. (IF=12.7) (Cited: 232)
86. **L. Mortara**, L. Giuliani, A. De Lerma Barbaro, R.S. Accolla, D.M. Noonan. Experimental therapeutic approaches to adenocarcinoma: The potential of tumor cells engineered to

- express MHC class II molecules combined with naked DNA interleukin-12 gene transfer. *Surgical Oncol.* **2007**;16:33-36. (IF=2.3) (Cited: 5)
87. **L. Mortara**, E. Balza, F. Sassi, P. Castellani, B. Carnemolla, A. De Lerma Barbaro, S. Fossati, G. Tosi, R.S. Accolla, and L. Borsi. Therapy-induced antitumor vaccination by targeting tumor necrosis factor α to tumor vessels in combination with melphalan. *Eur J Immunol.* **2007**;37(12):3381-3392. (IF=4.1) (Cited: 44)
 88. P. Villefroy, F. Letourneur, Z. Coutsinos, **L. Mortara**, C. Beyer, H. Gras-Masse, J.G. Guillet, and I. Bourgault-Villada. SIV escape mutants in rhesus macaques vaccinated with NEF-derived lipopeptides and challenged with pathogenic SIVmac251. *Virol J.* **2006**;3,65. (IF=2.3) (Cited: 5)
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 90. **L. Mortara**, P. Castellani, R. Meazza, G. Tosi, A. De Lerma Barbaro, F.A. Procopio, A. Comes, L. Zardi, S. Ferrini, and R.S. Accolla. CIITA-induced MHC class II expression in mammary adenocarcinoma leads to a Th1 polarization of the tumor microenvironment, tumor rejection and specific antitumor memory. *Clin Cancer Res.* **2006**;12(11 Pt 1):3435-3443. (IF=10.9) (Cited: 86)
 91. E. Balza*, **L. Mortara***, F. Sassi, S. Monteghirfo, B. Carnemolla, P. Castellani, D. Neri, R.S. Accolla, L. Zardi, and L. Borsi. Targeted delivery of TNF- α to tumor vessels induces a therapeutic T cell-mediated immune response that protects the host against syngeneic tumors of different histological origin. *Clin Cancer Res.* **2006**;12(8):2575-2582. (* co-first authors) (IF=10.9) (Cited: 79)
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 94. M. Croce, R. Meazza, A.M. Orenco, L. Radic, B. De Giovanni, C. Gambini, B. Carlini, V. Pistoia, **L. Mortara**, R.S. Accolla, M.V. Corrias, S. Ferrini. Sequential immuno-gene therapy with IL-12- and IL-15-engineered neuroblastoma cells cures metastatic disease in syngeneic mice. *Clin Cancer Res.* **2005**;11(2):735-742. (IF=10.9) (Cited: 31)
 95. C. Kornfeld, M.J.Y. Ploquin, I. Pandrea, V. Poaty-Movangou, A. Faye, R. Onanga, C. Apetrei, P. Rouquet, J. Estaquier, **L. Mortara**, J.F. Desoutter, C. Butor, R. Le Grand, P. Roques, F. Simon, F. Barré-Sinoussi, O.M. Diop, M.C. Müller-Trutwin. Antiinflammatory profiles during primary SIV infection in African green monkeys are associated with protection against AIDS. *J Clin Invest.* **2005**;115(4):1082-1092. (IF=14.3) (Cited: 236)
 96. M.J.Y. Ploquin, O.M. Diop, N. Sol-Foulon, **L. Mortara**, A. Faye, M.A. Soares, E. Nerrienet, R. Le Grand, Y. van Kooyk, A. Amara, O. Schwartz, F. Barré-Sinoussi, and M.C. Müller-Trutwin. DC-SIGN from African green monkeys is expressed in lymph nodes and mediates infection in trans of simian immunodeficiency virus (SIVagm). *J Virol.* **2004**;78(2):798-810. (IF=4.1) (Cited: 22)

97. A. Kunkl, D. Risso, M.P. Terranova, M. Girotto, B. Brando, **L. Mortara**, P.B. Lantieri. Grading of laboratories on CD4+ T lymphocyte evaluations based on acceptable performance boundaries defined by the measurement error. *Cytometry (Clinical Cytometry)*. **2002**;50(2):117-126. (IF=3.0) (Cited: 14)
98. T.M. Allen, **L. Mortara**, B. Mothé, M. Liebl, P. Jing, B. Calore, M. Piekarczyk, R. Ruddersdorf, D.H. O'Connor, D. Fuller, K. Huntsman, X. Wang, J.D. Altman, S. Wolinsky, A. Sette, R. Desrosiers, G. Sutter, D.I. Watkins. Tat-vaccinated macaques do not control SIVmac239 replication. *J Virol*. **2002**;76(8):4108-4112. (IF=4.1) (Cited: 113)
99. G. Li Pira, L. Bottone, D. Fenoglio, P. Terranova, E. Pontali, F. Ivaldi, F. Del Galdo, **L. Mortara**, A. Loregian, G. Palù, A. Kunkl, R. Accolla, R. De Palma, F. Manca. Analysis of the antigen specific T cell repertoires in HIV infection. *Immunol Lett*. **2001**;79(1-2):85-91. (IF=4.2) (Cited: 7)
100. **L. Mortara**, F. Letourneur, P. Villefroy, C. Beyer, H. Gras-Masse, J.G. Guillet, I. Bourgault-Villada. Temporal loss of Nef-epitope CTL recognition following macaque lipopeptide immunization and SIV challenge. *Virology*. **2000**;278(2):551-561. (IF=2.6) (Cited: 30)
101. **L. Mortara**, H. Gras-Masse, C. Rommens, A. Venet, J.G. Guillet, I. Bourgault-Villada. Type 1 CD4+ T-cell help is required for induction of antipeptide multispecific cytotoxic T lymphocytes by a lipopeptide vaccine in rhesus macaques. *J Virol*. **1999**;73(5):4447-4451. (IF=4.1) (Cited: 48)
102. **L. Mortara**, F. Letourneur, H. Gras-Masse, A. Venet, J.G. Guillet, I. Bourgault-Villada. Selection of virus variants and emergence of virus escape mutants after immunization with epitope vaccine. *J Virol*. **1998**;72(2):1403-1410. (IF=4.1) (Cited: 86)
103. A. Kunkl, **L. Mortara**, M.T. Valle, D. Fenoglio, M.P. Terranova, A.M. Megiovanni, A. Alessandrini, G. Mazzarello, V. Del Bono, A. Canessa, D. Bassetti, and F. Manca. Recognition of antigenic clusters of *Candida albicans* by T lymphocytes from human immunodeficiency virus-infected persons. *J Infect Dis*. **1998**;178(2):488-496. (IF=4.1) (Cited: 23)
104. I. Bourgault-Villada, **L. Mortara**, A.M. Aubertin, H. Gras-Masse, J.P. Lévy, J.G. Guillet. Positive role of macaque cytotoxic T lymphocytes during SIV infection: decrease of cellular viremia and increase of asymptomatic clinical period. *FEMS Immunol Med Microbiol*. **1997**;19(1):81-87. (IF=3.1) (Cited: 22)
105. F. Manca, G. Li Pira, D. Fenoglio, M.T. Valle, A. Ferraris, F. Lancia, L. Oppezzi, D. Saverino, **L. Mortara**, A. Kunkl, R. Balderas, J. Arp, G. Dekaban, A.G. Dalgleish, L. Lozzi, A. Theofiloupoulos. Recognition of human T Leukaemia virus (HTLV-I) envelope by human CD4+ T cell lines from HTLV-I seronegative individuals: specificity and clonal heterogeneity. *Blood*. **1995**;85(6):1547-1554. (IF=23.9) (Cited:24)
106. F. Manca, D. Fenoglio, M.T. Valle, G. Li Pira, A. Kunkl, A. Ferraris, D. Saverino, F. Lancia, **L. Mortara**, L. Lozzi, M. Pierres, A.G. Dalgleish, and G. Lewis. Human CD4+ T cell can discriminate the molecular and structural context of T epitopes of HIV gp 120 and HIV p 66. *J AIDS and Hum Retrovirol*. **1995**;9(3):227-237. (IF=2.3) (Cited:23)

Publications:

Book Chapters:

1. D. Gallo, N. Kustrimovic, E. Piantanida, L. Bartalena, B. Patera, **L. Mortara***, M.L. Tanda*. Role of regulatory T cells in pathogenesis and therapeutics of Graves' disease and Graves' orbitopathy. (Chapter 22, pp. 471-484, Elsevier Book: Regulatory T cells and Autoimmune Diseases, Edited by Mitesh Kumar Dwivedi and DeLisa Fairweather). **2024** May.
2. **L. Mortara**, D. Baci, G. Coco, A. Poggi, A. Bruno. The dual role of Natural Killer cells during tumor progression and angiogenesis: Implications for tumor microenvironment-targeted immunotherapies. (Elsevier Book Chapter). Successes and Challenges of NK Immunotherapy: Breaking Tolerance to Cancer Resistance pp. 305-347. **2021** June.
3. **L. Mortara**. Allergie e intolleranze / Allergies and intolerances. Scienze umane in estate. Summer School in humanities – Workshops for students - guidance between Vimercate and Allassio, pp. 170-177. Bellavite Editore, Missaglia (Lc). **2018** September.

Reviewing national and international projects

External Evaluator for the French National Cancer Institute (INCa), Call for Proposals 2024, 2026, Title: "Biological and basic sciences for Cancer research".

External Evaluator for the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF), Call for Consolidator Grants 2024-2026.

External Evaluator for the Israel National Science (INS), Call for Consolidator Grants 2024-2026.

External Evaluator for the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR) under the Singapore Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI), Call for Proposals 2023-2025.

External Evaluator for the French National Cancer Institute (INCa), Call for Proposals 2019, Title: "Biological and basic sciences for Cancer research".

External Evaluator for the Swiss Cancer League, Call for Proposals 2021.

MIUR Referee COFIN Projects 2011-2017,

Referee Albo REPRIS MIUR 2015-2020 (Register for Expert Peer Reviewers for Italian Scientific Evaluation),

Referee for Bando: "Giovani Ricercatori Protagonisti" 2016, University of Florence; and "10 Assegni di ricerca di tipo A" 2017, University of Florence.

Member of scientific societies

2002-to present: Member of the "Società Italiana di Immunologia, Immunologia Clinica e Allergologia", SIICA. 1993-2021: former "Gruppo di Cooperazione in Immunologia", GCI.

2009-to present: Member of the "Società Italiana di Cancerologia", SIC.

2009-to present: Member of the "European Association for Cancer Research", EACR.

1996-2022: Member of the "Society of the French Immunology", SFI.

Oral presentations at National and International Congresses and Seminars (overall: 25)

An invited oral presentation was scheduled by the Congress Committee Prof. B. Bonavida and Prof. A. Jewett, Los Angeles, University of California, UCLA, USA, but canceled due to the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, March 20-21st, 2020: Natural killer cells as key players of tumor progression and angiogenesis: innovative anti-cancer therapies to divert their pro-tumor activities into potent anti-tumor effects. Invited speaker at First International Mini Symposium on "Successes and Challenges of NK Immunotherapy: Breaking Tolerance to Cancer Resistance". Cancelled for COVID-19 Pandemia, March 11, 2020.

Invited Elsevier book chapter, Edited by B. Bonavida and A. Jewett, titled ***“Successes and Challenges of NK Immunotherapy; Breaking Tolerance to cancer Resistance”***, and our contribution chapter 15th, titled: ***The Dual Role of Natural Killer Cells During Tumor Progression and Angiogenesis: Implications for Tumor Microenvironment-targeted Immunotherapies***. L. Mortara, D. Baci, G. Coco, A. Poggi, and A. Bruno (2021).

- 1) Varese, Italy, June 8th 2016: Early triggering of natural killer and dendritic cells during the anti-tumor therapeutic response induced by TNF α tumor delivery and melphalan. School of Doctorate in Biotechnology, Biosciences and Surgical Technologies Seminar: Peripheral cells into mechanisms of immune response and of pathogenesis (inflammatory and neoformation), possible use in the diagnostic/therapeutic area. University of Insubria, Department of Biotechnology and Life Sciences.
- 2) Abano Terme, Padova, Italy, May 25th-28th 2016: Early triggering of natural killer and dendritic cell during antitumor therapeutic response induced by TNF α tumor vessel delivery and melphalan. Xth National Conference of the Italian Society of Immunology, Clinical Immunology and Allergology (SIICA).
- 3) Florence, Italy, May 28th-31st 2014: Natural killer cells infiltrating colo-rectal cancer are switched towards the decidual-like pro-angiogenic CD56brightCD16- NK cell subset. IXth National Conference of the Italian Society of Immunology, Clinical Immunology and Allergology (SIICA).
- 4) Bari, Italy, May 26th-29th 2010: CIITA-driven MHC class II expressing tumor cells of distinct histotype act as a potent antitumor vaccine and as a superior generator of tumor-specific CD4⁺ T lymphocytes for immunotherapy. 7th National Conference of SIICA.
- 5) Milan, Italy, November 23rd-26th 2009: Non-replicating MHC Class II-CIITA-positive mammary adenocarcinoma cells act as an effective anti-tumor-preventive vaccine by inducing long-lasting tumor-specific CD8⁺ T cells and potent CD4⁺ T helper cells. 51st Annual Meeting of the Italian Cancer Society (SIC).
- 6) Paris, France, November 24th 2008: Irradiated CIITA-positive mammary adenocarcinoma cells act as effective tumor cell vaccine inducing both tumor-specific CD4⁺ and CD8⁺ T immune responses and tumor rejection upon challenge. Club of Vaccinology of French Society for Immunology (SFI).
- 7) Geneva, Switzerland, August 27th-31st 2008: Tumor treatment by TNF- α targeted to tumor vessels and melphalan induces strong adaptive immune response, protection from tumor growth and anti-tumor memory. 2008 World Cancer Congress. Union for International Cancer Control (UICC).
- 8) Paris, France, September 6th-9th 2006: Increased frequencies of plasmacytoid dendritic cells in lymph nodes during non-pathogenic SIV infection. 16th European Congress of Immunology and 1st Joint Meeting of European National Societies of Immunology (EFIS).

- 9) Rome, Italy, September 19th-21st 2001: Containment of SIV escape variants in vivo associated with highly macaque multispecific CTL vaccine induction. XVth National Conference of Italian Society of Immunology and Clinic Immunology.
- 10) Madison, Wisconsin (USA), October 27th 2000: Nef and Tat CTL analysis in post-acute SIV-infected rhesus macaques. Immunogenetics Club. Wisconsin Regional Primate Research Center, Laboratory of Immunogenetics, Madison, WI (USA).
- 11) Madison, Wisconsin (USA), June 17th 2000: Study of functional CD8⁺ T responses of five A*01⁺ infected rhesus macaques towards regulatory proteins of SIVmac239. Vaccine Meeting. University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison School (USA).
- 12) Rockville, Maryland (USA), June 9th 2000: Vaccine-induced CTL in the control of SIVmac replication. Henry M. Jackson Foundation, U.S. Military HIV-1 Vaccine Research Program.
- 13) Madison, Wisconsin (USA), April 6th 2000: Anti-SIV cytotoxic T-lymphocytes and their selective pressure for escape mutant viruses. Immunology Meeting. University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison School (USA).
- 14) Madison, Wisconsin (USA), March 3rd 2000: Definition of new MHC class I molecules in chins rhesus macaques. Immunogenetics Club. Wisconsin Regional Primate Research Center, Laboratory of Immunogenetics, Madison, WI (USA).
- 15) Madison, Wisconsin (USA), January 21st 2000: Role of macaque anti-virus T lymphocytes CD8 positive responses in the control of SIV infection. Virology Meeting. Wisconsin Regional Primate Research Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Medical School (USA).
- 16) Madison, Wisconsin (USA), November 3rd 1999: Importance of multispecific CTL in controlling SIVmac infection in rhesus monkeys immunized by a multi-lipopeptidic vaccine. Immunogenetics Club. Wisconsin Regional Primate Research Center, Laboratory of Immunogenetics, Madison, WI (USA).
- 17) Paris, France, July 12th 1999: Interest of the Nef protein as target of multispecific CTL in the finalization of anti-HIV vaccine. Club of Retrovirology, Institut Cochin de Genetique Moleculaire (ICGM), Laboratoire d'Immunologie, Universite Rene Descartes, Cochin Hospital.
- 18) Paris, France, December 2nd-3rd 1998: Induction of macaque multispecific CTL by using lipopeptidic immunization including a promiscuous T helper epitope. 8e Journees de l'Institut Cochin de Genetique Moleculaire (ICGM), Laboratoire de Signalisation, Inflammation, Cochin Hospital.
- 19) Paris, France, December 12th 1997: Induction of macaque multispecific CTL through lipopeptides. Club of Retrovirology, Institut Cochin de Genetique Moleculaire (ICGM), Laboratoire de Genetique des Virus, University Rene Descartes, Cochin Hospital.

- 20) Paris, France, December 3rd-4th 1997: Emergence and selection of virus mutations at the moment of induction of immune response into macaque SIV model. 7e Journees de l'Institut Cochin de Genetique Moleculaire (ICGM), Laboratoire de Signalisation, Inflammation, Cochin Hospital.
- 21) Paris, France, December 3rd-6th 1997: Selection of virus variants and emergence of virus escape mutants by mono-specific CTL induced by lipopeptide vaccine. Dermatologic Days of Paris.
- 22) Genoa, Italy, November 9th-12th 1997: Monospecific CTL induced into rhesus macaques by lipopeptidic immunization select viral variants and mutants. XVth National Congress of Italian Society of Immunology and Immunopathology.
- 23) Paris, France, March 28th 1997: Fine characterization of the T cytotoxic lymphocytes (CTL) induced by lipopeptidique vaccine into macaque rhesus. Club of Retrovirology, Institut Cochin de Genetique Moleculaire (ICGM), Laboratoire de Genetique des Virus, University Rene Descartes, Cochin Hospital.
- 24) Paris, France, December 11th-12th 1996: Optimization of immunization protocols by lipopeptide. 6e Journees de l'Institut Cochin de Genetique Moleculaire (ICGM), Laboratoire de Signalisation, Inflammation, Cochin Hospital.
- 25) Paris, France, February 1st 1996: Utilization of lipopeptides into macaque. Cooperative Action Meeting 1st, Medical Research Foundation, Animal models for vaccination and for immune carriers.

Guest Editor activities

May 2026-to present: Guest Editor for the Special Issue of Frontiers in Immunology (IF=7.0). **Mortara L**, Blake S. Title: Microbiota-immune interactions: a new frontier in cancer treatment optimization. Volume II. Immunology and General Pathology Lab, DBSV, University Insubria, Varese.

April 2024-to 2026: Guest Editor for the Special Issue of Frontiers Immunology (IF=7.0). Blake S, **Mortara L**, Spada S. Title: Microbiota-immune interactions: a new frontier in cancer treatment optimization. Immunology and General Pathology Lab, DBSV, University Insubria, Varese.

April 2023-to 2024: Guest Editor for the Special issue of IJMS (IF=5.6). **Mortara L.**, Gallo D. Title: The Cross-Knit between Immune Cells and Thyroid Function in Autoimmune Thyroid Disorders. Immunology and General Pathology Lab, DBSV, University Insubria, Varese.

Jan 2023-to 2024: Guest Editor for the Special Issue of Frontiers in Pharmacology (IF=5.4). Malekan M., Denko N., **Mortara L.**, Rathinavelu A., Mahdi Parvizi M., Natarajan U. Title: Hypoxia and Angiogenesis in Cancer. Immunology and General Pathology Lab, DBSV, University Insubria, Varese.

Jan 2023-to 2024: Guest Editor for the Special issue of IJMS (IF=5.6). **Mortara L.**, Baci D. Title: New Molecular Research and Perspective: Microbiota and Cancer. Immunology and General Pathology Lab, University Insubria, Varese.

Jan 2022-to 2023: Guest Editor for the Special Issue of Frontiers in Immunology (IF=7.0). **Mortara L.**, Benest A.V., Derosa L., Chouaib S., Ribatti D. Title: The intricate innate immune-cancer cell relationship in the context of tumor angiogenesis, immunity and microbiota: The angiogenic switch in the tumor microenvironment as a key target for immunotherapies. Immunology and General Pathology Lab, University Insubria, Varese.

March 2021-to 2022: Guest Editor for the Special issue of IJMS (IF=5.6). **Mortara L.** Title: Host microbiota and Cancer: from pathogenic mechanisms to therapy. Immunology and General Pathology Lab, DBSV, University of Insubria, Varese.

June 2018-to 2020: Guest Editor for the Special Issue of International Journal of Molecular Sciences, IJMS (IF=5.6). Section: Molecular Pathology, Diagnostics, and Therapeutics. **Mortara L.** Title: Role of Innate Immune Cells in the Tumor Progression and Metastasis. (http://www.mdpi.com/journal/ijms/sections/Pathology_Diagnostics_Therapeutics).

Abstracts at conferences and meetings (overall: 208)

1. A. Di Spirito, S. Baldini, S. Ferraris, M. Negrato, A. Carabelli, S. Zorzella, F. Franzi, G. Famoso, F. Dehò, P. Capogrosso, S. La Rosa, **L. Mortara**. Innate immune alterations in bladder cancer: evidence of NK cell dysfunction and monocyte reprogramming. XVI National Congress of the Italian Society of Immunology, Clinical Immunology and Allergology (SIICA), Brescia (Italy), poster 90, p. 72, June 16-19, **2026**
2. A. Di Spirito, S. Balkhi, R. Bombelli, S. Baldini, F. Franzi, G. Famoso, P. Capogrosso, F. Dehò, **L. Mortara**. Innate Immune Dysregulation in Bladder Cancer, focusing on NK Cells and Proinflammatory Monocytes. ESMO, 361P, London Meeting, UK, December 10-12, **2025**
3. G. Bilato, K. Chahine, T. Virgilio, **L. Mortara**, S.F. González. Role of VEGFR3 in the lymphangiogenesis in a murine model of lymphoma. 65th SIC Società Italiana di Cancerologia, National Meeting, Turin, Italy, December 3-5, **2025**
4. G. Bilato, S. Baldini, M. Cucchiara, R.M. Bombelli, F. Franzi, G. Famoso, S. La Rosa, P. Capogrosso, A. Bruno, **L. Mortara**, F. Dehò. Analysis of circulating and tumor-infiltrating nk cells in renal cancer patients: focus on functional properties and phenotypic characteristics. American Urological Association (AUA) Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA, April 26-29, 2025, The Journal of Urology, Vol. 213, No. 5S, Supplement, Meeting abstract IP16-11, doi.org/10.1097/01.JU.0001110024.72300.75.11, p. e869, May **2025**
5. G. Bilato, M. Cucchiara, M. Gallazzi, R. Bombelli, F. Olmeo, F. Franzi, G. Famoso, S. La Rosa, S. Baldini, P. Capogrosso, F. Dehò, A. Bruno, **L. Mortara**. Phenotype and functional characterization of circulating and tumor-infiltrating NK cells in patients with renal cancer. 64th SIC Società Italiana di Cancerologia, National Meeting, Milan, Italy, September 25-27, **2024**
6. G. Bilato, M. Cucchiara, M. Gallazzi, R. Bombelli, F. Olmeo, F. Franzi, G. Famoso, S. La Rosa, S. Baldini, P. Capogrosso, F. Dehò, A. Bruno, **L. Mortara**. Characterization of circulating and tumor-infiltrating NK cells in patients with renal cancer. 35rd Pezcoller Symposium, Trento, Italy, June 24-25, The Pezcoller Foundation Journal, p. 19, **2024**
7. M.T. Palano, M. Cucchiara, M. Gallazzi, F. Olmeo, C. Cali, G. De Antoni, C. Rubuano, R. Bombelli, N. Baranzini, L. Pulze, A. Grimaldi, G.M. Pirola, A. Naselli, M. Gemelli, R. Ricotta, F. Franzi, S. La Rosa, D. Morelli, P. Capogrosso, F. Dehò, M. Oderda, P. Gontero, M.G. Papotti, I.M. Bonapace, V. Poli, **L. Mortara**, B. Bassani, A. Bruno. Natural Killer cells in prostate cancer patients acquire the decidual-like NK phenotype/function and are re-polarized towards anti-tumor effector cells, via STAT3 chemical inhibition. 35rd Pezcoller Symposium, Trento, Italy, June 24-25, The Pezcoller Foundation Journal, p. 40-41, **2024**
8. M. Cucchiara, M.T. Palano, M. Gallazzi, G. De Antoni, C. Rubuano, M. Tagliabue, M.A. Pessi, G. Catalano, M. Gemelli, E.O. Bucci, R. Ricotta, P. Borsotti, G. Garattini, F. Acquati, **L. Mortara**, D. Belotti, B. Bassani, A. Resovi, A. Bruno. The TGFβR1 inhibitor Galunisertib re-shapes the PDAC-TME by limiting decidual-like natural killer cells polarization. 35rd Pezcoller Symposium, Trento, Italy, June 24-25, The Pezcoller Foundation Journal, p. 24-25, **2024**

9. M. Cucchiara, M. Gallazzi, G. Coco, R. Bombelli, F. Olmeo, F. Franzi, G. Famoso, F. Sessa, P. Capogrosso, F. Dehò, A. Bruno, **L. Mortara**. Circulating and tumor infiltrating natural killer cells in renal cancer patients express the CD9 and CD49a decidual markers and have increased activation of STAT3. XIV National Congress of the Italian Society of Immunology, Clinical Immunology and Allergology (SIICA), Verona (Italy), poster 032, p. 34, 22-25 May **2023**
10. R. Roncoroni, A. De Vito, M. Gallazzi, D. Baci, M. Cucchiara, M.T. Palano, L. Monti, D.M. Noonan, A. Bruno, **L. Mortara**, F. Acquati. The cell-autonomous and non-cell autonomous activities of the alarmin-like RNASET2 protein in prostate cancer models.. 62th SIC, Venice, Italy, November 16-18, **2022**
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18. D. Gallo, F. Pierin, G. Coco, M. Gallazzi, A. Lai, M.L. Tanda, A. Bruno, E. Piantanida, **L. Mortara**. Natural Killer cells as possible mediators of Graves' disease cure. XIIth SIICA National Congress (the Italian Society of Immunology, Clinical Immunology and Allergology). Virtual Congress, May 26-28, **2021**
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