

PERSONAL INFORMATION **Francesco Di Virgilio**



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M| 03/08/1954| Italian | married with Dorianna Sandonà

Enterprise	University	EPR
<input type="checkbox"/> Management Level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Full professor	<input type="checkbox"/> Research Director and 1st level Technologist / First Researcher and 2nd level Technologist
<input type="checkbox"/> Mid-Management Level	<input type="checkbox"/> Associate Professor	<input type="checkbox"/> Level III Researcher and Technologist
<input type="checkbox"/> Employee / worker level	<input type="checkbox"/> Researcher and Technologist of IV, V, VI and VII level / Technical collaborator	<input type="checkbox"/> Researcher and Technologist of IV, V, VI and VII level / Technical collaborator

WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2006-current **Full Professor of Clinical Pathology**
Department of Medical Sciences, University of Ferrara, Italy
 ▪ Laboratory of Clinical Pathology, "Molecular mechanisms of inflammation".
- 1994-2006 **Full Professor of General Pathology**
Department of Experimental and Diagnostic Medicine, University of Ferrara, Italy
 ▪ Laboratory of Molecular Pathology, "Molecular mechanisms of inflammation".
- 1992-1994 **Associate Professor of General Pathology**
Institute of General Pathology, University of Ferrara, Italy
- 1986-1992 **Associate Professor of Molecular Pathology**
Institute of General Pathology, University of Padova, Italy
 ▪ Laboratory of Pathology and Istopathology "Extracellular ATP and P2 receptors as immunomodulators"
- 1985-1986 **Visiting Fellow Scientist**
Department of Physiology and Cellular Biophysics, Columbia University, New York, USA
 ▪ Laboratory of Cellular Immunology, "Molecular mechanisms of phagocytosis"
- 1984-1985 **Research Assistant**
Institute of General Pathology, University of Padova, Italy
 ▪ Laboratory of Pathology and Istopathology "Signal Transduction in Inflammatory Cells"
- 1982-1984 **Honorary Research Assistant**
Department of Experimental Pathology, University College London, UK
 ▪ Role of cytoplasmic calcium and G-proteins in the activation of inflammatory cells
- 1980-1982 **Medical Officer**
Compulsory Military Service, Italian Army
- 1980-1982 **Research Fellowship**
Institute of General Pathology, University of Padova, Italy
 ▪ Laboratory of Pathology and Istopathology "Cellular Bioenergetics and Intracellular Calcium Homeostasis"

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- 1973-1979 **Medical Degree, University of Padova, Italy**
National Register of Physicians (Padova) # 13475

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue(s) **Italian**
 Other language(s) **English**

Technology Transfer skills

2000-2005 1) Duska Therapeutics Inc (USA) **Member of the Scientific Advisory Boards**
 2010-2014 2) Affectis Pharmaceuticals AG (Germany)
 2016-current 3) Biosceptre Ltd (UK) **Member of the Scientific Advisory Boards**
 2021-2022 4) Axxam SpA (Italy)
 2022-current 5) Breye Therapeutics (Denmark)
 2016-2017 6) Janssen Pharmaceuticals (Belgium)

Consultant

Patents

1995 Method for inducing the acrosome reaction in human and animal spermatozoa.
 US Patent number: 5,474,890.
 1996 Method for inducing the acrosome reaction in human and animal spermatozoa.
 Australian Patent number: 666011.
 2005 Chimeric proteins for measuring ATP concentrations in the pericellular space and related screening method
 European Patent Office number RM2005A000252-SG/IC.
 2006 Method for using phagocytic particles and ATP receptors to deliver antigens to MHC class I receptors to induce immunity against microbial pathogens or tumors or to suppress immunity
 US Patent n. 7,037,500 B1
 2023 Ratiometric probe for the measurement of the extracellular ATP concentration.
 Filed, approval pending.

Higher Education, Administrative & Project Management skills

2001-2012 Chairman of the Center of Excellence for the Study of Inflammation established by the Italian Ministry of Education and Scientific Research at the University of Ferrara, Italy. Field of activity: "Molecular mechanisms of inflammation"
 2005-2023 Director of the Postgraduate School in Clinical Pathology, University of Ferrara, Italy
 2007-2012 Dean for Education, Medical School, University of Ferrara (Italy)
 2008-2012 Departmental Chairman, Department of Experimental and Diagnostic Medicine, University of Ferrara (Italy)
 2011-2015 Deputy Rector for Research and Technology Transfer, University of Ferrara (Italy)
 2016-2022 Director of the PhD Program in Molecular Medicine and Pharmacology, University of Ferrara (Italy)
 2009-2018 Head of the Research Program in Inflammation and Autoimmunity, Laboratory of Clinical Pathology, Ferrara University Hospital

Other skills

2009-current **Committees & Memberships**
 Member of the Committee for Receptor Nomenclature, International Union of Pharmacology (IUPHAR).
 2012-current Member of the Faculty of 1000 (Cell Biology Section).
 2016-current Member of the European Academy of Tumor Immunology
 2016-current Member of the Academia Europea
 2021-current Member of the Sigma Xi Scientific Research Honour Society (USA).
Editorial Boards
 2000-2005 British Journal of Pharmacology

2001-current	Inflammation
2001-2011	Autonomic Neuroscience: basic and clinical
2004-current	Purinergic Signalling
2013-current	American Journal of Physiology-Cell Physiology
2021-current	Current Opinion in Pharmacology. Editor-in-Chief
2019-current	Scientific Reports
2021-current	Signal Transduction and Targeted Therapy

Prizes and awards

Burnstock Lecture	International Meeting "Purines 2014", Bonn, Germany July 2014
Brabraham Distinguished Lecture	Cambridge, UK, April 2018
EFBIO-Biometec Award	Catania, Italy, November 2022
Honorary Member of the Brazilian Purine Club	September 2022

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Projects last 5 years

2022-2025	Cure Alzheimer's Fund (USA) Title: Extracellular ATP is a key factor in promoting Alzheimer's disease neuroinflammation, 350 000 USD.
2023-2026	Ministry of University and Research, PNRR Project Neuroscience "Mnesys", 250 000 euros.
2024-2026	Ministry of University and Research, PNRR National Center for Gene Therapy and RNA Technology, 186 000 euros.
2019-2026	Italian Association for Cancer Research (Italy) Title "Repurposing purinergic signaling for cancer therapy" Investigator Grant 2019 n. IG 22883, 530 000 euros.
2019-2023	Ministry of University and Research, PRIN Projects: The P2X7/NLRP3 inflammasome axis: a novel target for the treatment of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus and its vascular complications. 651000 euros.
2023-2025	Ministry of University and Research, PRIN Projects: Purinergic checkpoints in neuroinflammation and Alzheimer's disease: extracellular ATP and the P2X7 receptor as main drivers of neurodegeneration. 200 000 euros.
2018-2022	Royal Society Exchange Fellowship IES\R3\170196. 12 000 £

Publication Track record **Number publications (PubMed): > 330. Number citations (Scopus): > 36000. H-index (Scopus): 107**

Complete list of publications can be found at the following addresses:

<https://www.scopus.com/results/authorNamesList.uri?name=name&st1=di+virgilio&st2=f&origin=searchauthorlookup>

or

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