

DEPARTMENT STAFF

Academic Staff, Researchers and Grant Recipients

BARUZZI Prof. Agostino, professor of neurology

Institutional positions 2003/2004

Director of the Department of Neurological Sciences, Director of the Postgraduate School of Neurology, Member of the Academic Senate University of Bologna, Member of the Department of Health National Commission for Health Research

Main research topics:

Neuropsychopharmacology; neurological therapy; epilepsies: prognosis and treatment; neurodegenerative diseases: prognosis and treatment

Healthcare activity: (Neurology Clinic):

Director and Chief Health Officer of the Neurology Clinic

MONTAGNA Prof. Pasquale, professor of neurology

Institutional positions 2003/2004

Member of the Presidential Council and Teaching Commission of the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery; Director of the Department's "Centre for the Study and Treatment of Headache and Facial Pain" and the "Centre for the Study and Treatment of Sleep Disorders"

Main research topics:

Sleep-related movement disorders; prion encephalopathy; genetics and pathophysiology of headache

Healthcare activity: (Neurology Clinic):

Director Neurology Ward II; outpatient's clinic at the "Centre for the Study and Treatment of Sleep Disorders".

TASSINARI Prof. Carlo Alberto, professor of neurology; lecturer, Loyola University, Chicago, IL, USA.

Main research topics:

Epilepsy (clinical features, surgical treatment and seizure etiology)

Healthcare activity: ("Bellaria" Hospital, Bologna Primary Care Trust):

Director of the Neurology Unit

AMBROSETTO Prof. Giovanni, associate professor of neurology

Main research topics:

Epilepsies, clinical features and neuropathophysiology; epilepsy and behaviour; epileptic seizures and endocannabinoids

Healthcare activity: (Neurology Clinic):

Outpatients' clinic at the "Centre for the Study and Treatment of Epilepsy"; General Neurology Outpatients' Clinic; Encephalography Laboratory; Neurology Ward I

AMBROSETTO Prof. Paolo, associate professor of neuroradiology

Main research topics:

MR in Marfan's syndrome and neonatal hypoxic-ischaemic encephalopathy; MR spectroscopy in BSE; brain protection during aortic arch replacement.

Healthcare activity: (Neurology Clinic)

Computed Tomography Service

CIRIGNOTTA Prof. Fabio, associate professor of neurology

Institutional positions 2003/2004

Vice-President of the European Sleep Research Society

Main research topics:

Sleep medicine

Healthcare activity: (at S.Orsola-Malpighi Hospital):

Director of the Neurology Unit, S.Orsola-Malpighi Hospital.

CORTELLI Prof. Pietro, associate professor of neurology

Institutional positions 2003/2004

General Secretary of the “European Federation of Autonomic Societies”; Chairman of the Panel on “Autonomic Nervous System” of the European Federation of Neurological Societies; President of the Italian Association for the Study of the Autonomic Nervous System

Main research topics:

Pathophysiology of autonomic nervous system disorders; genetics and pathophysiology of movement disorders; pathophysiology and treatment of headache; prion encephalopathy

Healthcare activity: (Neurology Clinic)

Outpatients' clinic at the “Centre for the Study and Treatment of Headache and Facial Pain”, General Neurology Outpatients' Clinic, Laboratory for the Functional Exploration of the Autonomic Nervous System, Neurology Ward II.

MARTINELLI Prof. Paolo, associate professor of neurology

Institutional positions 2003/2004

Deputy Director of the Department of Neurological Sciences; Executive Member of the Association for Movement Disorders and Parkinson's Disease; Director of the “Interuniversity Centre for Research on Movement Disorders”; Director of the Department's “Centre for the Study and Treatment of Extrapyrarnidal Diseases”

Main research topics:

Clinical features and genetics of Parkinson's disease and tremors; electrophysiological and MR spectroscopy studies in movement disorders

Healthcare activity: (Neurology Clinic):

Director of Neurology Ward I; Electromyography Laboratory; outpatients' clinic at the “Centre for the Study and Treatment of Extrapyrarnidal Diseases”.

PARMEGGIANI Prof. Antonia, associate professor of child neuropsychiatry

Institutional positions 2003/2004:

Member of the Editorial Board of the Journal of Child Neuropsychiatry, the technical-scientific committee of the National Association of the Families of Brain Damaged Children (FA.CE.), the technical-scientific committee of the National Association of Parents of Children with Autism and the technical-scientific committee of the Association of Scientific Research in Child Neuropsychiatry; Director of the Department's “Centre for Research Diagnosis and Treatment of Autism”

Main research topics:

Epilepsies and headache in children; pervasive developmental disorders; learning disorders; mental retardation; movement disorders and rare diseases in children

Healthcare activity: (Neurology Clinic):

Director of the Child Neuropsychiatry ward; Laboratory of Child Neuropsychiatry; Child Neuropsychiatry Outpatients' Clinic; outpatients' clinic at the “Centre for

Research, Diagnosis and Treatment of Autism” and the “Centre for Mental retardation, Language and Learning Disorders”; electroencephalographic and polygraphic reports in children.

TINUPER Prof. Paolo, associate professor of neurology

Institutional positions 2003/2004

Trainer and epileptologist at the European Epilepsy Academy (EUREPA); Member of the Editorial Board of “Epileptic Disorders”; Secretary of the Italian League against Epilepsy; Secretary of the Postgraduate School of Neurology University of Bologna; Director of the Department's “G.M. Corsino Centre for the Study and Treatment of Epilepsy”.

Main research topics:

Neurophysiology of epilepsy, coma, non-epileptic paroxysmal events, prion diseases and degenerative diseases; clinical epileptology

Healthcare activity: (Neurology Clinic):

Neurology Ward II; Electroencephalography Laboratory; Outpatients' clinic at the “G.M. Corsino Centre for the Study and Treatment of Epilepsy”.

ALBANI Dr. Fiorenzo, Permanent Researcher (SSD MED/26 Neurology)

Institutional positions 2003/2004

Scientific Coordinator of the “Gino Galletti” Foundation; Elected member the Council of the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery

Main research topics:

Clinical pharmacology of neurological drugs; methodology of clinical studies; use of computer technologies in research

AVONI Dr. Patrizia, Permanent Researcher (SSD MED 26 Neurology)

Main research topics:

Clinical, prognostic and therapeutic characterization of epilepsies; clinical and etiopathologic characterization of neurological channelopathies; clinical and neuroendocrinological characterization of prion diseases

Healthcare activity: (Neurology Clinic):

Neurology Ward II; Outpatients' clinic at the “Centre for the Study and Treatment of Epilepsy G.M. Corsino; General Neurology Outpatients' Clinic

CARELLI Dr. Valerio, Permanent Researcher (SSD MED/26 Neurology)

Institutional positions 2003/2004

Member of the “Scientific Advisory Board” International Foundation for Optic Nerve Disease

Main research topics:

Hereditary optic neuropathies due to mitochondrial DNA mutations and nuclear genes coding for mitochondrial proteins; mutational analysis of mitochondrial encephalopathies; study of mitochondrial human diseases using transmitochondrial cell models (cybrids); population genetics of mitochondrial DNA variability focusing on the influence of mitochondrial haplogroups on predisposition to neurodegenerative diseases

Healthcare activity: (Neurology Clinic)

Neurology Ward I; Neurogenetics Laboratory; outpatients' clinic at the “Centre for the Study of Neuromuscular Diseases” and the “Centre for the Study of Neurogenetic Diseases”.

CERISOLI Dr. Marziano, Permanent Researcher (SSD MED/26 Neurology)

Main research topics:

Forensic neuropsychiatry; neurotraumatology; neurosonology

Healthcare activity: (Neurology Clinic):

Neurology Ward II

D'ALESSANDRO Dr. Roberto, Permanent Researcher (SSD MED/26 Neurology)

Institutional positions 2003/2004

Member of the Regional Drugs Commission and the Ethical Committee of S.Orsola-Malpighi Hospital; Italian Society of Neurology Delegate in the National Working Group for the definition of guidelines for the surgical treatment of herniated disc.

Main research topics:

Epidemiology of neurological diseases; neurological complications in non-neurological diseases

Healthcare activity: (S.Orsola-Malpighi Hospital)

Neurology Unit; Director of the "Patient Oriented Medicine" Project

GALLASSI Dr. Roberto, Permanent Researcher (SSD MED/26 Neurology)

Institutional positions 2003/2004

President of the Behavioural and Cognitive Neurology Group; Auditor of the Italian Society of Neuropsychology; Director of the Department's "Centre for the Neurological Study of Cerebral Ageing".

Main research topics:

Neuropsychological and clinical study of dementia and mild cognitive impairment; study of mental deterioration in neurological and non-neurological diseases and neuropsychological and amnesia testing focusing on transient global amnesia and amnesic forms of epileptic origin; study of cognitive and disorders and impaired psychomotor performance in sleep disorders and epilepsies; study on the cognitive effects of mood depression.

Healthcare activity: (Neurology Clinic)

Neuropsychology Laboratory; outpatients' clinic at the "Centre for the Neurological Study of Cerebral Ageing".

LIGUORI Dr. Rocco, Permanent Researcher (SSD MED/26 Neurology)

Institutional positions 2003/2004

Secretary of the Italian Society of Clinical Neurophysiology (S.I.N.C.); Director of the Department's "Centre for the Study and Treatment of Neuromuscular Disorders.

Main research topics:

Neurophysiological and histopathological study of muscle and nerve diseases; study of neuromuscular diseases caused by ion channel changes; effect of botulin toxin treatment on skin innervation and the differentiation and quantification of skin autonomic adrenergic and cholinergic nerve fibres; pathogenetic role of muscle sympathetic activity in daytime hypertension and syncope episodes in patients with neuromediated reflex syncope linked to emotional stimuli

Healthcare activity: (Neurology Clinic)

General Neurology Outpatients' Clinic; Laboratory for the Botulin Toxin Treatment of Movement Disorders; Laboratory of Electromyography and Evoked Potentials; Laboratory of Neuromuscular Diseases; Neurology Ward II; outpatients' clinic at the "Centre for the Study and Treatment of Neuromuscular Disorders".

MOCHI Dr. Mirella, Permanent Researcher (SSD MED/03 Medical Genetics)

Main research topics:

Studies on genetic predisposition to neurological diseases; genetics of migraine; search for known mutations in CACNLA1 and KCNA1 ion channels and study of the KCNA1 channel in patients with epilepsy

Healthcare activity: (Neurology Clinic)

Neurogenetics Laboratory

PARCHI Dr. Piero, Permanent Researcher (SSD MED/26 Neurology)

Institutional positions 2003/2004

Member of the Task Force on Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies at the Department of Health; Neuropathological Consultant for the National Register of Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease and Correlated Syndromes at the General Medical Council

Main research topics:

Definition of the spectrum of clinical-pathological phenotypes of human prion disease and study of the molecular mechanisms responsible for such variability; study of the genetic mechanisms regulating individual susceptibility and phenotypic expression in prion diseases; development of rapid sensitive assays for the molecular, strain-specific diagnosis of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease; study on animal models of the physical-chemical features of pathological prion protein extracted from peripheral tissues; study of the strain-specific epidemiology of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease in Italy.

Healthcare activity: (Neurology Clinic)

Neuropathology Laboratory

PIERANGELI Dr. Giulia, Permanent Researcher (SSD MED/26 Neurology)

Main research topics:

Study of circadian rhythms; autonomic control of the cardiovascular system and body temperature in degenerative diseases of the central nervous system; neurophysiological aspects of the autonomic nervous system; headache (genetic, pathophysiological, clinical and therapeutic aspects); study of energy metabolism (headache, Parkinson's disease)

Healthcare activity: (Neurology Clinic):

Outpatients' clinic at the "Centre for the Study and Treatment of headache and Facial Pain"; Laboratory for the Functional Exploration of the Autonomic Nervous System; Neurology Ward I;

PLAZZI Dr. Giuseppe, Permanent Researcher (SSD MED/26 Neurology)

Institutional positions 2003/2004

Head of International Relations of the Italian Association of Sleep Medicine (AIMS); General Medical Council Consultant Rare Diseases Sector for Narcolepsy; Coordinator of the Scientific Committee of the Italian Narcoleptics Association(AIN)

Main research topics:

Sleep-related movement disorders (differential diagnosis parasomnias/epilepsy, REM sleep behaviour disorders); sleep disorders in neurodegenerative diseases (multisystem atrophy and fatal familial insomnia); clinical, polysomnographic, psychophysiological and etiological characterization of narcolepsy

Healthcare activity: (Neurology Clinic)

Neurology Ward II; Outpatients' clinic at the "Centre for the Study and Treatment of Epilepsy" and the "Centre for the Study and Treatment of Sleep Disorders"; Polysomnography and Monitoring of Sleep Disorders Laboratory.

PROVINI Dr. Federica, Researcher (SSD MED/26 Neurology)

Main research topics:

Breathing and movement disorders during sleep

Healthcare activity: (Neurology Clinic)

Neurology Ward II; Polysomnography and Monitoring of Sleep Disorders Laboratory; outpatients' clinic at the "Centre for the Study and Treatment of Sleep Disorders"

SANGIORGI Dr. Simonetta, Permanent Researcher (SSD MED/03 Medical Genetics)

Main research topics:

Molecular analysis of the ASA gene in individuals with Arylsulfatase A deficiency; study of the MecP2 gene in individuals with suspected Rett syndrome; study of genetic polymorphisms predisposing to neurological diseases

Healthcare activity: (Neurology Clinic)

Neurogenetics Laboratory

SANTUCCI Dr. Margherita, Permanent Researcher (SSD MED/39 Child Neuropsychiatry)

Institutional positions 2003/2004

Director of the "Centre for Mental Retardation and Language and Learning Disorders (RI.ME.DI.A.L.)"

Main research topics:

Epilepsy; headache; mental retardation; learning and language disorders; pervasive developmental disorders; movement disorders; neuropsychology

Healthcare activity: (Neurology Clinic)

Child Neuropsychiatry Ward; Child Neuropsychiatry Outpatients' Clinic; Child Neuropsychiatry Laboratory; EEG reports; outpatients' clinic at the "Centre for Mental Retardation and Language and Learning Disorders (RI.ME.DI.A.L.)" and the "Centre for the Research, Diagnosis and Treatment of Autism".

CONTIN Dr. Manuela, Graduate Technician (Doctor of Pharmacy)

Main research topics:

Clinical pharmacology of antiepileptic and antiparkinsonian drugs; development of analytical methods for drugs and endogenous substances mainly of neurological interest; development and validation of devices measuring psychomotor effects

Healthcare activity: (Neurology Clinic)

Clinical Neuropharmacology Laboratory; Department Pharmacy Service

RIVA Dr. Roberto, Graduate Technician (Doctor of Medicine)

Main research topics:

Clinical pharmacology of neurological drugs; pharmacokinetics and metabolism; pharmacodynamics; analysis of drugs and endogenous substances in biological fluids; quantitative measurement of the effects of neurological drugs;

Healthcare activity: (Neurology Clinic)

Chief Health Office; Clinical Neuropharmacology Laboratory

CAPELLARI Dr. Sabrina, Research Assistant since 22/05/00

Main research topics:

Phenotypic characterization of prion diseases associated with *PRNP* gene mutations; search for genetic factors regulating susceptibility to prion diseases and dementia caused by neurodegeneration;

MELETTI Dr. Stefano, Research Assistant since 5/09/00

Main research topics:

Application of neurophysiological and functional imaging techniques in studying patients with epilepsy

NOTARI Dr. Silvio, Research Assistant since 2/01/02

Main research topics:

Development of rapid sensitive assays for the molecular strain-specific diagnosis of Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease; effects of different experimental conditions on the formation of the prion protein fragment resistant to Proteinase K digestion; implications on the molecular classification and strain division of Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease

SCAGLIONE Dr. Cesa Lorella, Research Assistant since 21/11/03

Main research topics:

Parkinson's disease; essential tremor: clinical and genetic aspects; study of monosynaptic and polysynaptic spinal reflexes: clinical, genetic and neuropharmacological aspects

VETRUGNO Dr. Roberto, Research Assistant since 01/03/04

Main research topics:

Sleep medicine: neurophysiology; movement disorders

VIGNATELLI Dr. Luca, Research Assistant since 01/12/03

Main research topics:

Clinical epidemiology of multiple sclerosis, narcolepsy, parasomnias and epilepsy; methodology of systematic and metaanalysis reviews; teaching evidence based medicine and biographical searches on Internet databases

Recipients of grants from the “Consortium for the Management of the Clinic of Mental and Nervous Diseases” undertaking research at the Neurology Clinic:

BISULLI Dr. Francesca, Junior Researcher since 16/04/2003

Main research topics:

Epileptology; sleep medicine

MORREALE Dr. Angela, Junior Researcher since 01/01/1999

Main research topics:

Clinical neuropsychology; dementia; neurodegenerative diseases; cognitive disorders in epilepsy, sleep disorders and movement disorders

POSAR Dr. Annio, Junior Researcher since 1/07/2003

Main research topics:

Neuropsychology and psychodiagnostics; epilepsy; pervasive developmental disorders; mental retardation; learning disorders; language disorders; movement disorders

SCADUTO Dr. Maria Cristina, Junior Researcher since 1/03/1999

Main research topics:

Neuropsychology and psychodiagnostics; epilepsy; pervasive developmental disorders; mental retardation; learning disorders; language disorders; movement disorders

Technical and Administrative Staff

Cat. EP Administration

LA MOTTA Luisa

Cat. EP Health and Social Services

BERTOZZI Nino

Cat. D Administration

CHIUSOLI Elisabetta (Secretary)

PASINI Paola

Cat. D Health and Social Services

BALBONI Monica

FOSCHINI Ezechiel

GUBELLINI Alberto

LUCCHI Monica

POLLINI Antonella

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SANNINO Cira
SOLIERI Laura
SPADONI Mariangela
SUPINO Antonella
TISSELLI Cinzia
TONELLI Giulio
TORRI Roberta
TOSI Marzia
VANDI Stefano
VERNA Giangrazio
VIGNOLI Cristina
VOLTURO Salvatore

Cat. B Technical

ATTIANESE Emilia
Balboni Sergio
CECIO Adriana
MASCIONI Graziano
RENDA Vincenzo