

Irene Cassaniti

Place and date of birth: Catania 09/10/1989.

Education

November 2014: Exam for Biology Licence (Biologo senior)

October 2014: Master degree (110/110 cum laude) in Biology at University of Pavia, Italy.

June 2012: Bachelor degree (110/110 cum laude) in Biology at University of Catania, Italy.

June 2008: High school scientific diploma at Liceo Scientifico Leonardo, Giarre (CT), Italy.

Research Experience

From January 2016 to date: research contract at Molecular Virology Unit (Head Prof. Fausto Baldanti) at IRCCS Policlinico San Matteo, Pavia, working on characterization of memory T cell response to Herpesviruses in transplanted patients and to Papillomaviruses in patients affected by oral squamous cell carcinoma

From September 2015 to December 2015: Contract for the evaluation of polymorphism Q80K NS3 mutation of HCV (Department of Clinical, Surgical, Diagnostic and Pediatric Sciences of University of Pavia).

From January 2015 to August 2015: research fellow as graduated student at Molecular Virology Unit, working in molecular and immunological fields of virological diagnosis.

From January 2014 to October 2014: research trainer as student at Molecular Virology Unit at IRCCS Policlinico San Matteo, Pavia (Head Prof. Fausto Baldanti), working at the master degree project about the evaluation of T-cell memory response to Hepatitis B vaccine.

Technical skills

Cell cultures, peripheral blood mononuclear cells isolation and manipulation, neutralization assays, ELISA and ELISpot assays, DNA and RNA extraction, PCR and Sanger sequencing, Flow cytometry, use of statistical programs for data analysis (GraphPad 5.0).

Social skills

Work alone or in team, respecting deadlines and goals; study design and writing of paper and projects. Good ability in oral presentations. Good level of written and spoken English. Good level of informatics skills.

Publications

Fornara C, **Cassaniti I**, Zavattoni M, Furione M, Adzasehoun KMG, De Silvestri A, Comolli G, Baldanti F. **Human Cytomegalovirus-Specific Memory CD4+ T-Cell Response and Its Correlation With Virus Transmission to the Fetus in Pregnant Women With Primary Infection.** Clin Infect Dis. 2017 Oct 30;65(10):1659-1665.

Cassaniti I, Calarota SA, Adzasehoun KM, Chiesa A, Comolli G, Parea M, Baldanti F. **Memory T cells specific for HBV enumerated by a peptide-based cultured enzyme-linked immunospot assay in healthy HBV-vaccinated subjects.** Hum Vaccin Immunother. 2016 Nov;12(11):2927-2933.