SOFIA FRANCIA

Date of birth: 8th of August 1976.

Researcher at IGM-CNR since November 2015, coordinates a small unit of four Ph.D students and a bio-informatician; she has an interest in the role played by small non coding RNA in the maintenance of genome instability during cancer development, physiological aging, and pathological neuro-degenerations.

EDUCATION:

April 2009: Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Molecular Medicine awarded in the European School of Molecular Medicine (SEMM), Milano, Italy.

July 2003: Degree in Biological Science achieved at the "Università degli studi di Milano". Final marks 110/110 *cum laude*.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

November 2015- present: Researcher III level at IGM-CNR.

September 2013- November 2015: Guest Scientist at IGM-CNR.

May 2012-present: Scientific collaborator of FIRC Institute of Molecular Oncology (IFOM) Foundation.

October-December 2012: Visiting researcher in the laboratory of Jiri Bartek, at University of Palacky, Czech Republic.

March 2011-May 2012: Scientific collaborator of Center for Genomic Science@SEMM of the Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia.

April 2009- December 2011: Postdoctoral fellow at IFOM.

September 2003- March 2009: PhD student.

December 2001-July 2003: Undergraduate student at IFOM in the group of Prof. Marco Foiani.

AWARDS and ACHIEVEMENTS:

2017: Co-inventor of the US patent n. PCT/EP2013/059753 RNA products and uses thereof

2016: Winner of an AriSLA (Italian foundation for ALS research) grant to study the role of non-coding RNA induced by DNA damage in neurodegeneration in ALS pathology.

2014: Winner of a 'Cariplo Giovani Ricercatori' grant of Cariplo Fundation for tree years entitled "A novel role for DICER in breast cancer prevention". Grant N. 2014-1215.

2914: Winner of a one-year fellowship from Collegio-Ghislieri

2013: Winner of the 'Premio Leonardo-Ugis III edizione'.

2012: Winner of the 'Premio GALENO Italia 2012' for the clinical and experimental research in Italy.

2012: Winner of a scholarship EMBO Short-Term Fellowship.

2007: Winner of an AIRC (Italian Association for Cancer Research) scholarship of three years.