

Biographical Sketch of Gerry MELINO

SHORT

Gerry Melino is Head of the Apoptosis & Cancer Laboratory, Medical Research Council Toxicology Unit, UK, and Director of Department & Professor of Molecular Biology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Rome – Tor Vergata. His training originated in Rome, Italy, where he obtained his M.D. (1978, University of Rome) followed by clinical specialisations in Paediatrics (1981) and Clinical Oncology (1985); the Ph.D. (1984) was at the University of London, UK, where he became Consultant. He is Editor-in-Chief, of the journal *Cell Death & Differentiation* (www.nature.com/cdd), *Cell Death & Disease* (www.nature.com/cddis) and also sits on several other Editorial Boards and acts as Scientific Advisor for several Governmental Institutions. His scientific interest, with over 390 papers, focuses upon programmed cell death in neural and epidermal models, and in particular on the p53 family – p63 and p73.



Professor Gerry Melino currently works as Department Director and Professor of Molecular Biology at the University of Rome “Tor Vergata” in Italy (Email: melino@uniroma2.it). He is also Programme Leader for the Medical Research Council (MRC) Toxicology Unit, in Leicester, UK

His training originated in Italy and in particular Rome, where he obtained his M.D. (1978, University of Rome) followed by clinical specialisations in Paediatrics (1981, University of Rome) and Clinical Oncology (1985, University of Rome). He obtained his Ph.D in 1984 at the University of London in the Chemical Pathology Department, Charing Cross & Westminster Medical School. Upon graduation, he worked as Research Fellow, then Lecturer and later Senior Lecturer (Honorary Consultant) until 1987. Professor Melino returned to Italy in 1988 to the University of Rome as a Lecturer before becoming a full Professor in 1994. Professor Melino has acted as Consultant and Scientific Advisor for several companies and government institutions. He also has significant Editorial activity as Founder and Editor-in-Chief of the Nature-Publishing-Group journals *Cell Death and Disease* (www.nature.com/cddis) and *Cell Death and Differentiation* (Impact Factor 9.050. www.nature.com/cdd) as well as serving on the editorial boards of several other scientific journals.

The Scientific Interests of Professor Melino are focused on Programmed Cell Death or apoptosis, in neural and epidermal models. Originally, he worked on the Molecular mechanisms of cell death in the skin, a process known as cornification or formation of the cornified envelope. The molecular events were investigated in vitro and in animal models as well as in human genetic pathologies. The role of transglutaminases (type 1, 2, 3, and 5) and their substrates (SPRs, loricrin, keratins) were investigated at biochemical and genetic levels. While still keeping an interest on these aspects, his current work is focused on The p53/p63/p73 family. DNA damage elicit repair mechanisms involving the tumour suppressor gene p53 and the two newer members of the same family: p63 and p73. The molecular events driven by DNA damage to elicit the function of p63/p73 and their transcriptional regulation, is investigated in vitro. The molecular mechanisms of apoptosis and their protein stability and degradation is also under investigation. Transgenic mice and knock-out work for p63 or p73 is in progress.

Curriculum Vitae

NAME Gennaro 'Gerry' MELINO, MD, PhD

(Born 14.9.1953 in Naples, Italy)

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work telephone +39.6.20427299 (cell +39-380 320 9966), email: melino@uniroma2.it

PRESENT POSITION

Programme Leader, Medical Research Council (MRC), Toxicology Unit, Leicester, UK.

Director Department & Professor of Molecular Biology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Rome 'Tor Vergata'.

Scientific Director. European Brain Research Institute (EBRI), Rita Levi-Montalcini Foundation, Rome, Italy.

EDUCATION

1978 M.D. (Rome). Final grade 110/110 cum laude (honours)

1981 Specialisation in Paediatrics (Rome). (Accreditation). Final grade 70/70 cum laude (honours)

1984 Ph.D. (London) in Tumour Immunology. Examiners Profs A Davies and G Janossy, supervisor JR Hobbs

1985 Specialisation in Oncology (Rome). (Accreditation). Final grade 70/70

AWARDS

2009 "Feltrinelli Prize" by the "Accademia dei Lincei" awarded by the President of Italy.

2010 "Antonini Award", Italian Biochemical Society.

PREVIOUS APPOINTMENTS

1972 to 1979 Biochemistry Institute of Rome University. Research student. Worked under the supervision of Profs. E. Chiancone and E. Antonini. Experimental work on structure-function relationship of ferritin. Worked with Profs. A. Finazzi-Agro` and S. Stefanini, carrying out experiments on circular dichroism, spectrophotometric kinetics, analytical ultracentrifuge and manometric experiments. During that time has worked twice in UK (1.9.76 to 15.12.76 and 30.11.77 to 15.1.78) at the Biochemistry Dept., Lancaster University, UK. Visiting research student with Prof. C. Phelps on the interaction between calcium and heparin, using dialysis flow techniques.

1979 to 1986 Chemical Pathology Dept., Charing Cross & Westminster Medical School., University of London. Worked with Prof. J.R. Hobbs on clinical and experimental tumour immunology of paediatric tumours and bone marrow transplantation. In particular on Drug Targetting *in vitro* and on patients, using allogeneic antineuroblastoma antibodies coupled to chlorambucil and daunorubicin. Appointments:

i 1.11.79 to 1.3.83 Research Fellow and Hon. Senior Registrar.

ii 1.3.83 to 1.11.85 Lecturer in Clinical Immunology (Hon. Senior Registrar).

iii 1.11.85 to 31.12.86 Senior Lecturer, Hon Consultant in Chemical Immunology, Deputy-director of department

1987 to 1994 Research Fellow in Biochemistry (1987-1994), Experimental Medicine & Biochemistry Dept., University of Rome Tor Vergata, Italy. Locum Professor of Biochemistry (1991-1994), Biology Faculty, University of L'Aquila.

1994 to 1998 Full Professor of Biochemistry (1991-1998), Biology Faculty, University of L'Aquila.

2010 Jan to Dec Scientific Director, European Brain Research Institute, Rita Levi-Montalcini Foundation, Rome.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

1. Chemical Immunology at the Charing-Cross & Westminster Medical School, London University, UK: Lecturer (1983-1984); Senior Lecturer (1985-1986).
2. Biochemistry, Biology Faculty, L'Aquila University: Locum Prof.(1991-1994), Full Professor (since 1994).
3. Biochemistry PhD, Adjunct Professor, P & M Curie University of Paris VI (yearly 1994-2003).
4. Visiting Professor: (i) University of Paris (1992-2001). (ii) University of Tucuman, Argentina (April 1997). (iii) Foundation for Promotion of Cancer Research, National Cancer Center Hospital, Tokyo, Japan (Feb. 1999). (iv) University of El Monsura, Egypt (March 1999). (v) Yamagata University, Japan (Feb. March 2003). (vi) Tirana University, Albania (Feb 2005).

EDITORIAL EXPERIENCE

1. Editor-in-Chief for "CELL DEATH DIFFERENTIATION" (Nature Publishing Group, London; www.nature.com/cdd), Impact Factor 9.050.
2. Editor-in-Chief for "CELL DEATH & DISEASE" (Nature Publishing Group, London; www.nature.com/cddis).
3. Editorial Board of "ONCOGENE", Nature Publishing Group, London (www.nature.com/onc).
4. Editorial Board of "BIOCHEMICAL JOURNAL", Portland Press, UK
5. Editorial Board of "CELL CYCLE", Landes Bioscience, Editor-in-Chief M Blagosklonny.
6. Editorial Board of "CANCER BIOLOGY & THERAPY" Landes Bioscience, Editor-in-Chief W.El-Deiry.
7. Editorial Board of "MOLECULAR NEUROBIOLOGY", Blackwell, Editor-in-Chief N Bazan.
8. Editorial Board of "AGING", Impact-Aging, Landes Bioscience.
9. Referee for several scientific journals (e.g. Science, Nature, Nature Reviews, Nature Medicine, EMBO J, MCB, JBC, JID, Cancer Res, J Cell Physiol, J Neurochem, Br J Cancer, Int J Cancer, Exp Cell Res).

CONSULTANT, MANAGING, BIOTECH EXPERIENCE

- 1 Scientific Advisory Board of Biotech Companies: "EiRx Therapeutics", Ireland, Capgene (Paris), BioUniSA (Salerno), Chanel Parfume Beaute (Paris).
- 2 Consultant for several groups: Promark Ltd (UK), TotalRes Co. Ltd (UK) Serono Co. (CH), Chanel (F).
- 3 Scientific Advisory Board for the Government Ireland (SFI), UK (MRC), Finland (Academy of Science), Belgium (VIB), China (ISBS), Italy (CNR).

MEETINGS [as invited speaker, or organizer]

1. 1st Intensive course on basic immunology, EMBO. 10-29 September 1979, Pavia, I.
2. "Neuroblastoma Workshop". Cancer therapy evaluation programme workshop/Cancer treatment. N.C.I., Bethesda, MD, USA. 14.1.1981.
3. Advanced course on immunological methods. FEBS Summer School. 24.5-6.6,1981. Budapest, Hungary.
4. XI Congreso Argentino de Pediatria. Mar del Plata, Argentina, 26.11.81.
5. Organiser and speaker "Immuno-oncologia pediatrica". CNR, Rome 26.2.83.
6. "Colloquium Protides of Biological Fluids". Brussels, Belgium 30.4.83.
7. "Colloquium Protides of Biological Fluids". Brussels, Belgium 1.5.84.
8. ASCO Meeting. Toronto 1984.
9. ASCO Meeting. Los Angeles 1986.
10. "Immunology International Meeting", Galway, Ireland, 25.4.1986
11. EMBO practical course Advanced Flow Cytometry. Koln, Germany, 15-31.8.1988.
12. "Colloquium Protides of Biological Fluids". London, UK 20.4.1989.
13. Organiser and Speaker at 19th FEBS Satellite Meeting Workshop "Biochemistry of Neuroectodermal Tumours", 1st in Rome 1989.
14. Symposium "Neuroblastoma Research": Philadelphia (US), 1990.
15. "XXIInd SIOP Meeting". Rome 2-5. 10.1990.

16. Symposium "Neuroblastoma Resarch": Heidelberg (D), 1991.
17. Organiser and Speaker at 19th FEBS Satellite Meeting Workshop "Biochemistry of Neuroectodermal Tumours", 2nd in Rome 1993.
18. Organiser Conference "Liposomes as biomimetics". Rome 1993.
19. Director, Summer Course "Cell Differentiation and Death", International School of Biophysics "E. Majorana", Erice, in 1992.
20. Conference "Apoptosis in Cancer & AIDS" (by Montagnier & Tomei), Paris 2-5 .12.1993.
21. Director, Summer Course "Cell Differentiation and Death", International School of Biophysics "E. Majorana", Erice, in 1994.
22. VI Conference Differentiation & Cancer (by Waxman), Hertzelia, Israel, 4-7.3.1994.
23. ECDO Euroconferences, European Cell Death Society, 2nd in Cork (IR), 1994.
24. Organiser and Speaker at 19th FEBS Satellite Meeting Workshop "Biochemistry of Neuroectodermal Tumours", 3rd in Rome in 1995.
25. FEBS Meeting, Basel, Switzerland 1995.
26. FASEB Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia 1995.
27. Organizer, Villa Vigoni/CDD Conference on Apoptosis. Como, Italy. June, 1995.
28. Chairman & Speaker, Cambridge Healththec Inst., Cell Death Conference, MIT, Cambridge, Mass 1995.
29. Organizer, Villa Vigoni/CDD Conference on Apoptosis. Como, Italy. May, 1996.
30. Organizer 4th Euroconferenc on Apoptosis, European Cell Death Organization, Capri, 1996 .
31. Organizer, GCI/ABCD course on Cell Death, L'Aquila, 1996.
32. Organizer, Villa Vigoni/CDD Conference on Apoptosis. Como, Italy. June, 1997.
33. Organizer, GCI/ABCD course on Cell Death, L'Aquila, 1997.
34. Keystone Symposium on Cell Death, Tamarron Colorado 21.3.1997.
35. Chairman & Speaker, Mechanisms of Cell Death, University of Tucuman, Argentina, 12-17.5.1997.
36. Organizer, Villa Vigoni/CDD Conference on Apoptosis. Como, Italy. June, 1997.
37. Gordon Research Conference on "Apoptosis", New Hampshire, 2.7.1997.
38. Eur Confer 'Calcium Signalling in the Cell Nucleous', Praelios, 5.10.1997.
39. VII Conference Differentiation Therapy & Cancer (by Waxman), Paris 8.10.1997.
40. Mechanisms in toxicity: recent advances. European Science Foundation, Maratea, 10.10.1997.
41. Symposium "Neuroblastoma Resarch": Bath (UK), 1998.
42. Lorne Cancer Conference, Melbourne, Australia, 12-14.2.1998.
43. Organizer, Villa Vigoni/CDD Conference "NO & Redox Reactions". Como, Italy. April, 1998.
44. Organizer, Villa Vigoni/CDD Conference on Apoptosis. Como, Italy. May, 1998.
45. ECDO Euroconferences, European Cell Death Society, 6th in Stockholm (S),1998.
46. Organizer, "Inherited Skin Diseases", Rome 12-14.5.1998.
47. Organizer, GCI/ABCD course on Cell Death, L'Aquila, 1998.
48. Organizer, S.I.B. course on "Protein structure & function", L'Aquila, 1998.
49. Chairman Cell Death Society (US), New York, 17-18.7.1998.
50. Seminar Series, Found. Promot. Cancer Res., National Cancer Center Hosp., Tokyo, Japan (Feb. 1999)
51. Organizer, Villa Vigoni/CDD Conference on Apoptosis. Como, Italy. May, 1999.
52. 7th EU/European Cell Death Society, Ein Gadi, Israel, 5-9 November 1999.
53. Society for Histochemistry, 41st Symposium, Gargellen, Austria, 22-25.9.1999.
54. ESF/EURESCO/EU Conference on Mechanisms in toxicity. San Feliu de Guixol, Spain. 7-12 April, 2000.
55. Organizer, Villa Vigoni/CDD Conference "NO & Redox Reactions". Como, Italy. April 12-15, 2000.
56. Organizer, Villa Vigoni/CDD Conference on Apoptosis. Como, Italy. June 1-4, 2000.
57. CDS 3rd Symposium on Apoptosis. El Escorial Monastery, Spain. May 6-10, 2000.
58. 6th Conference on Transglutaminase, Lyon, France 16-19 September, 2000.
59. Societa' Italiana Biochimica, Conference 2000, Napoli, Italy. September 20-23, 2000.
60. Organizer, 8th EU/European Cell Death Society, in Davos Switzerland, October 14-17, 2000.
61. 2000 Hanson Symposium, Adelaide, Australia 13-16 November, 2000.
62. Keystone Conference on Apoptosis, Keystone, Colorado, USA. 16-22 January 2001.
63. Organizer, Villa Vigoni/CDD Conference on Apoptosis. Como, Italy. May, 2001.
64. Medical Genetics Course, San Giovanni Rotondo, FG, Italy. June 14-16, 2001.
65. Organizer, FEBS course "Nerve Cells' Differentiation & Death". Spetses Island, Greece, Sept.15-24, 2001
66. European Cancer Conference Org. ,Lisbon, Portugal. October 21-25, 2001.
67. Organizer, Villa Vigoni/CDD Conference "NO & Redox Reactions". Como, Italy. April, 2002.

68. Organizer, 5th Int. Cell Death Society Conference, Australia, 1-4 June 2002.
69. Keynote Lecture, EuroCancer, 15th Conference, Paris 4-6 June 2002.
70. Organizer, Villa Vigoni/CDD Conference on Apoptosis. Como, Italy. June 26-30, 2002.
71. Organizer, 4th SASS Conference on "Apoptosis", Capri (I) 6-10 October 2002.
72. ESH-MD Anderson 3rd Conference on Apoptosis & Disease. Intra, Portugal 8-11 November 2002.
73. "Apoptosis 2003", Luxemburg, January 29-February 1, 2003.
74. Hermelin Brain Tumor Symposium on Apoptosis, Detroit, MI, April 4, 2003.
75. EMBO Workshop "Transgenesis and genome analysis", Brdo, Slovenia, April 8-13, 2003.
76. Transglutaminases in Biology & Medicine. Yamagata, Japan, 1-5 March 2003.
77. 7th Workshop Apoptosis in Bio-Medicine. Cosenza, Italy, 29-30 April 2003.
78. 5th Meeting Molecular Oncology, Postano, Italy, 12-15 May 2003.
79. Organizer, Villa Vigoni/CDD Conference on Apoptosis. Como, Italy. May 26-28, 2003.
80. Cancer from its birth to its death. Toscana, Italy, 10-16 August 2003.
81. Signal transduction in cancer. Ettore Majorana School, Erice, Italy, 24-31 October 2003.
82. European Tissue Culture Society. Bristol, UK, 26-27 November 2003.
83. Keystone Conference on Apoptosis, Keystone, Colorado, USA. 3-8 February 2004.
84. Organizer, Villa Vigoni/CDD Conference on Apoptosis. Como, Italy. June 2-5, 2004.
85. 11th Advance Neuroblastoma Reserach. Genova, Italy. June 16-19, 2004.
86. 1st From Cage to Clinic-Non Human Primate research, Kunming, China, 27-30 October 2004.
87. p53 Workshop, Dunedin, New Zealand, 6-10 November 2004.
88. Congreso Conjunto Sociedades Biomedicas Mar del Plata, Argentina, 16-20 November 2004.
89. Claude Bernard Lecture, Societe' de Biologie, Paris, France, 25 November 2004.
90. p53 family in Genotoxicity, Rehovot, Israel, 2-4 December 2004.
91. Programmed Cell Death, Santiago del Chile, Chile. 13-16 April 2005.
92. Keystone Conference on Apoptosis, Keystone, Colorado, USA. 3-9 March 2005.
93. Organizer, Villa Vigoni/CDD Conference on Apoptosis. Como, Italy. May 29-31, 2005.
94. Cancer from its birth to its death. Toscana, Italy, 21-27 August 2005.
95. COMBIO, Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, Adelaide, Australia. 25-29 September 2005.
96. UK-China Governmental delegation Beijing, China, 20-25 October 2005.
97. Intern Symp Translational Res: Apoptosis & Cancer. Trivandrum, India. Dec 18-21, 2005
98. Journee Recherche "Apoptosis" CNRS/INSERM. Paris, France. June 21, 2005.
99. 6st SASS Conference. Molecular Targests Cancer. Mallorca, Spain. October 13-15, 2005
100. 2nd GTCbio Tumor Progression & Chemo Resistance. Boston. September 18-20, 2005
101. Organizer, Death in the alps. Innsbruck, Austria. January 23-26, 2006
102. "Arturo Leone Memorial" Salerno 12 May 2006.
103. Societa' Italiana Biochimica. Proteine. 2-4 June 2006.
104. Organizer, Cell Death Differentiation. Villa Vigoni, Como, Italy. June 25-28, 2006
105. Leukemia and lymphoma Society Meeting. Toronto, Canada. July 11, 2006
106. DJ-1 Meeting. Toronto, Canada. July 13, 2006
107. From the cage to the bench. Primate Research. Kunning, China. August 13-16, 2006
108. 14th ECDO EuroConference on Apoptosis. Cagliari, ITA. 29 Sept-4 Oct, 2006.
109. "Apoptose et pathologies" Nantes, F. 18-20 Oct 2006.
110. Accademia Nazionale Lincei, "Proteins in Rome". 22 Nov 2006.
111. "EU Science: Collaboration Germany-Italy". Villa Vigoni. 31 Jan-2 Feb, 2007.
112. Academia Europea-The Klaus Tschira Foundation GmbH, "Cellular & molecular mechanism of tissue repaire". Heidelberg, D. 1-3 march 2007.
113. Keynote Lecture. Winter School "Cell death, cancer & immunity" Obergurgl, Innsbruck, Austria. 7-9 March 2007.
114. Organizer. 3rd International p63/p73 workshop. Rome. 18-21 March 2006.
115. 4eme Symposium de Monastire "Toxiques Environnementaux:. Tunisie. 20-24 March 2007.
116. Chair & speaker. GTC-bio's "Apoptosis in drug discovery". San Diego 22-23 March 2007.
117. Keynote Lecture. X Workshop "Apoptosis in Medicine". University Calabria. Cosenza 29-30 March 2007.
118. Connecting research with industry. Cranfield, UK 10-19 April 2007.
119. "Ceel Biology Workshop" Sapienza University. 20 April 2007.
120. Signaling & metabolic pathways in cancer. Cantoblanco, Madrid, S. 11-13 June 2007.
121. Encyclopaedia Life Science. Wyley-Blackwell Publ. Richmond, UK. 23 June 2007.
122. Organizer. "Programmed Cell Death" Villa Vigoni. 23-27 June 2007.
123. "Cell cycle and death" University of Tehran, Iran. 26-28 June 2007.
124. "Genetics & treatment of Cancer" Siena, ITA. 18-25 August 2007.

125. Organizer. Nature Conference & CDD Conference “Cancer therapeutics: the road ahead” Capri, Italy. 8-10 October 2007.
127. Organizer. 6th International Symposium on Translational Research in Oncology. Dublin, Ireland. 11-14 October 2007.
126. Organizer. Nature Conference & CDD Conference “Discovery tools in cardiovascular disease” Capri, Italy. 14-16 October 2007.
128. MRC Showcasw in Oncology. Manchester, UK. 21-22 Nov 2007.
129. “Cell Death Symposium”. The Rockefeller University, New York, US. 10 Dec 2007.
130. 24th Gene & Cancer Meeting. Warwick, UK. 11-13 Dec 2007.
131. Organizer. “3rd Luxemburg Conference on Apoptosis”. Luxemburg 23-26 January 2008.
132. 1st Epistem “Skin biology” conference. Ghent, Belgium. 28-29 February 2008.
133. Winter School “Cell death, cancer & immunity” Obergurgl, Innsbruck, Austria. 26-29 March 2008.
134. Keynote Speech. Nobel Forum mini-symposium on Cell Death. 14 April, 2008.
135. Cell Death Mechanism Workshop. Bristol, UK. 23 April 2008.
136. Keynote Lecture. XXIX Cosmetic Medicine Congress. Rome, Italy. 16-18 May 2008.
137. Symposium “Targeting cell death pathways”, Int Cell Death Soc/Chinese Biochem Soc. Shanghai, China. 6-9 June 2008.
138. Organizer. “Programmed Cell Death” Villa Vigoni. 28-30 June 2008.
139. “Cell Stress and apoptosis” A Leone Workshop. Salerno, Italy. 3-4 July 2008.
140. “Cell Death” Gordon Conference. Il Ciocco, Lucca, Italy. 6-11 July 2008.
141. Summer School “Inflammation, Immunomodulation”. Bern/Interlaken, Swiss. 10-11 August 2008.
142. 16th ECDO Eutorconference/5th Swiss Apoptosis Meeting. Bern 6-9 September 2008.
143. SIB/SBBM Society, Riccione, Italy. 24-26 September 2008.
144. Organizer. MRC-China Workshop on “Cell Death”. Shanghai, China. 25 October 2008.
145. 14th International p53 Workshop. Shanghai, China. 27-31 october 2008.
146. Workshop “miR & Cancer”. MRC/University of Leicester. December 10th, 2008.
147. Organizer, EMBO Workshop “Death in the Alps”. Obergurgl (Innsbruck, Austria). 1-5 Feb 2009.
148. “Cancer Progression”. Birmingham University, UK. 11 Feb 2009.
149. “DNA damage response”. Ludwig Cancer Center, Oxford, UK 11 March 2009.
150. Organizer. “Neurodegeneration”. CNR-NPG Conference. Rome, Italy. 18-20 May 2009.
151. “Tumour diagnosis and Therapy”. Ischia, Italy. 20-23 May 2009.
152. Award “Feltrinelli Prize” for Biochemistry & Neuroscience by the President of Italy. Accademia Lincei, Rome 11 June 2009.
153. Organizer. Joint Rome University –Princeton’s Institute Advanced Studies (NJ, US). 13-18 July 2009.
154. Organizer. “Cell Death Summer Course”. Montalcino, Tuscany, Italy. 8-15 August 2009.
155. Organizer, “4th Workshop p63/p73 family”. Toronto, Canada. 30/8/09 – 2/9/09.
156. ELS Meeting, Chicester, UK. 10-11 Septemebr 2009.
157. ECDO Meeting. Paris, France. 23-26 September 2009.
158. VIB Experimental Medicine Meeting. 22-23 October 2009.
159. Keynote Lecture. AICC “Apoptosis” Meeting. Florence, Italy. 2-4 December 2009.
160. Workshop “Death in the Alps”. Obergurgl (Innsbruck, Austria). 6-9 Jan 2010.
161. Oak Foundation Review, University Oxford, UK. 12 Jan 2010.
162. AACR Special Conference: Cell death mechanisms and cncer therapy. San Diego, CA, 1-4 Feb 2010.
163. Cell Death & Immunity Conference, Sao Paulo, Brasil. 8-11 Feb 2010.
164. German Society Cell Biology. Regensburg. 10-13 Mar 2010.
165. Ceinge Institute Workshop. Napoli 15-16 Mar 2010.
166. Chair. 2nd Sino-MRC conference on “Cell Death”. Shanghai, China. 4-7 Apr 2010.
167. 1st Conference of the European Research Institute for Integrated Cellular Pathology (ERI-ICP) on “Integrated Cellular Pathology: Death, Danger & Degeneration”, Institut Pasteur, Paris April 22-23, 2010.
168. Science Foundation Ireland. Dublin, IR. 3-4 May 2010.
169. Nobel Conference, 200 anniversary Karolinska, Nobel Forum. Stockholm, S. 23-27 May 2010.
170. Pharmacology Workshop, European Brain Res Inst, Cosenza. 3-4 Jun 2010.
171. Chair. Stem Cells at CNR. Rome. 1-2 Jul 2010
172. IARC, p53 isoforms, workshop. Lyon, France. 13-15 Sep 2010.
173. Antonini Prize. Italian Biochemical Society, Milan. 14-17 Sep 2010.
174. 6th Swiss Apoptosis Meeting. Bern, CH. 29-30 Sep 2010.
175. Italian Cancer Society. Rome. 3-6 Oct 2010.
176. 15th p53 workshop. Philadelphia, PA., USA. 8-12 Oct 2010.

177. Italian Pathology Society. Salerno. 14-17 Oct 2010.
178. Chair, Organizer. FEBS meeting on Cancer Metabolism. Capri, Italy. 23-26 Oct 2010.
179. Publishing Forum, Wiley-Blackwell. Oxford, UK. 1-2 Dec 2010.
180. Keynote Medal. Portuguese Biochemical Society. Porto, P. 15-17 Dec 2010.
181. Chair, Organizer. Cell Signalomics. Luxemburg. 26-29 Jan 2011.
182. Keynote. Indian Assoc Cancer Res. Kolkata, India. 6-9 Feb 2011.
183. Chair. EMBO Workhop "Death in the Alps". Obergurgl (Innsbruck, Austria). 10-14 Feb 2011.
184. Keynote. Shanghai Biology Conference. 23-26 Mar 2011.
185. In-Cosmetics Fair, Avant. Milan, I. 30 Mar 2011.
186. Chair. 2nd Sino-MRC conference on "Cell Death". Shanghai, China. 19-21 May 2011.
187. Mutant p53 workshop. Ariccia, Italy. 22-24 May 2011.
188. ICDS Meeting. Sao Paulo, Brasil. 10-13 Jun 2011.
189. Organizer. Stress Meeting. Salerno. 23-26 Jun 2011.
190. Organizer. FEBS Meeting. Turin, Italy. 25-30 Jun 2011.
191. ESDR skin biology course. Rome, I. 18-22 Jul 2011.
192. Summer course on Cell Death. Montalcio, Tuscany, I. 6-13 Aug 2011.
193. 1st Australian Cell Death Workshop. Lindemann Island, Aus. 21-15 Aug 2011.
194. DZNE Conference, Bonn, Germany. 1-4 Sep 2011.
195. Chair. 5th p63/p73 workshop. IARC, Lyon, France. 12-14 Sep 2011.
196. 19th ECDO Conference. Sockholm, Sweden. 14-17 Sep 2011.

SCIENTIFIC INTERESTS

(1) The p53/p63/p73 family.

DNA damage elicit repair mechanisms involving the tumour suppressor gene p53. More recently, two additional members of the same family have been identified: p63 and p73. The molecular events driven by DNA damage to elicit the function of p63/p73 is investigated in vitro. In parallel, the transcriptional activity of p63/p73 is under scrutiny. The molecular mechanisms of apoptosis involving these two genes is also under investigation. Transgenic mice and knock for p63 or p73 is in progress.

(2) Molecular mechanisms of cell death in epithelia.

The death of keratinocytes is also known as, corneification, or formation of the cornified envelope. The molecular events are investigated in vitro and in animal models as well as in human pathologies. The role of transglutaminases (type 1, 2, 3, and 5) is investigated at biochemical level; their substrates (SPRs, loricrin, keratins) are also characterized. These proteins are also evaluated in the skin diseases including lamellar ichthyosis, palmoplantar kerathosis, pachionikya congenita, Vowinkel syndrome, Sjogren-Larsson syndrome. Knock-out mice for the transglutaminases (1, 2) are completed, new ones (3, 5) are in progress.

STAFF & FUNDING

The ROME GROUP includes 4 assistants (permanent positions), 4 post-Doc, 4 PhD students. Attracts about euro 300,000 per year in grants from industry, CNR, Health Ministry, European Union.
The LEICESTER GROUP includes 6 post-Doc. It is entirely core-funded by MRC.

STAFF TRAINED

More than 35 students obtained the PhD or MD under the supervision of prof. G Melino. The following ones now have a permanent position: A Stephanou (Reader, ICH, Univ London, UK), ElSaid El Sherbini El Said (ex-Dean, now pro-Rector; University El Monsura, Egypt), V De Laurenzi (Associate Professor, Univ. Rome, I), E Candi (Assistant Professor, Univ. Rome, I), MV Catani (Associate Professor, Univ. Rome, I), L Bellincampi (Assistant Professor, Univ. Rome, I), S Oddi (Assistant Professor, Univ. Teramo, I), A Paradisi (Assistant Professor, Univ. Teramo, I), M Annicchiarico (Research Assistant, IDI-IRCCS, Rome, I), A Terrinoni (Research Assistant, IDI-IRCCS, Rome, I), F Bernassola (Research Assistant, IDI-IRCCS, Rome, I), D Barcaroli (Research Assistant, MRC, Leicester, UK), M Rossi (Research Assistant, MRC, Leicester, UK), Emre Sayan (Lecturer, Southampton, UK), Berna Sayan (Lecturer, Southampton, UK).