

## Irene Caffa

Researcher

### EDUCATION AND TRAINING

2023

**Advanced Course "Small Animals specific training for personnel involved in animal experimentation for scientific purposes (OZ2)"**

University Of Milan – Milan - IT

2014

**PhD., Clinical and experimental oncology and hematology**

University of Genoa - Genoa - IT

2009

**Statal Exam for the Professional Qualification**

University of Genoa - Genoa - IT

2009

**Master degree in Biological Sciences, course of Cellular and Molecular Biology**

110/110 cum laude.

University of Genoa - Genoa - IT

2007

**Bachelor's degree in Biological Sciences**

110/110 cum laude.

University of Genoa - Genoa - IT

### PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

2023- ONGOING

**Researcher in Applied Dietetic Technical Sciences**

Department of Internal Medicine.

University of Genoa - Genoa - IT

2020-2023

**Technician category D, Technical, technical-scientific and data processing**

Department of Internal Medicine.

University of Genoa - Genoa - IT

2019-2020

**Fellow researcher**

IRCCS San Martino hospital - Genova - IT

2018-2019



**Università  
di Genova**

**Fellow researcher**

Department of Internal Medicine.  
University of Genoa - Genoa - IT

2017-2018

**Veronesi Post-Doctoral Fellowship**

Department of Internal Medicine.  
University of Genoa - Genoa - IT

2014-2016

**Fellow researcher**

Department of Internal Medicine.  
University of Genoa - Genoa - IT

2011-2013

**PhD Student**

Department of Internal Medicine.  
University of Genoa - Genoa - IT

2010

**Fellow researcher**

Department of Internal Medicine.  
University of Genoa - Genoa - IT

2009

**Fellow researcher**

Laboratory of Pediatric Oncology.  
Giannina Gaslini Children's Hospital – Genoa – IT

## **ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

**Dietetics and Human Nutrition**

Degree Course in Mediterranean Agri-Food Sciences and Cultures.  
University of Genoa - Genoa - IT

**Epidemiology of Eating Habits and Food Geography**

Degree Course in Dietetics.  
University of Genoa - Genoa - IT

**Nutrition Physiology**

Specialty School in Food Science, non-medical specialization.  
University of Genoa - Genoa - IT

**Applied Dietary Technical Sciences**

Specialty School in Food Science, non-medical specialization.  
University of Genoa - Genoa - IT

## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Tumor biology and metabolism. *In vitro* research on stabilized and engineered with retroviral and lentiviral vectors tumor cells.

*In vivo* research involving laboratory animals for the development of various experimental models of murine and human tumors (with particular focus on breast, pancreatic and colorectal cancers).

Identification and evaluation of changes in circulating cytokines and adipokines level following dietary restriction in animal models and human patients.

Coordination and implementation of nutritional assessments for patients enrolled in clinical trials evaluating the impact of a modified fasting regimen in oncology.

## EXPERIENCE

### GRANTS/SCHOLARSHIPS

[2025](#) Current Research IRCCS Policlinico San Martino (CDC U11R - project code FA721).

[2024](#) Grant FRA "University Research Funds" 2024 as PI at Department of Internal Medicine, University of Genoa.

[2022](#) Grant AIRC MFAG ID26482 as PI for the project "Endocrine therapy potentiation and mechanisms of drug enhancement in cancer via fasting".

[2017](#) Umberto Veronesi Foundation Scholarship.

### AWARDS

[2024](#) Fondazione Umberto Veronesi Award for 2024 during the ceremony held in Milan on 15 May 2024.

[2023](#) Best oral presentation at 37° National S.I.S.A. Congress held in Naples from November 26th to 29th 2023.

[2022](#) Award for best poster presented during the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) conference held in New Orleans from April 8 th to 13 th 2022.

[2020](#) Best National Study of 2020 for the article "Fasting-mimicking diet and hormone therapy induce breast cancer regression" from BJClub.

### MEMBERSHIP IN SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

[2023-ONGOING](#)

Member of the Italian Society of Human Nutrition (SINU).

[2023- ONGOING](#)

Member of the Italian Society for the Study of Atherosclerosis (SISA).

[2018- ONGOING](#)

Associate membership of the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR).

### PARTICIPATION IN THE CREATION OF NEW BUSINESS ENTITIES (SPIN-OFFS), DEVELOPMENT, USE AND COMMERCIALISATION OF ACADEMIC PATENTS

- Co-inventor of patent "Sensitization of cancer cells to NAMPT inhibitors by neutralization of nicotinic acid phosphoribosyltransferase" deposit number 102016000030760.

- Co-inventor of patent “Using a diet that mimics fasting to enhance the efficacy of anti-estrogens in cancer therapy” deposit number 102016000017036.
- Co-inventor of patent “Agenti terapeutici per l'uso nel trattamento del cancro e di malattie caratterizzate da fibrosi eccessiva o aberrante” number MI2014A001204.
- Co-inventor of patent “Protein kinase inhibitors for use in a method of treating cancer in association with a reduced caloric intake” number MI2014A000537.
- Co-inventor of patent “Diet composition for the prevention and/or the treatment of endometrial hyperplasia” number WO2018138090A1.