

## Silvia Pesce

Associate Professor of Histology



### EDUCATION AND TRAINING

#### 2019

Qualification for Second Class Professor of Histology

#### 2011

PhD in Clinical and Experimental Immunology  
University of Genoa

#### 2007

Laurea summa cum laude in Medical Biotechnology  
University of Genoa

### PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

#### From November 2024 – present

Associate Professor of Histology  
University of Genova – School of Medical and Pharmaceuticals Sciences - DIMES - Genova

#### From November 2019 to October 2024

Assistant Professor of Histology  
Type B fixed-term researchers (RTDB): nov 2021-oct 2024  
Type A fixed-term researchers (RTDA): nov 2019-oct 2021  
School of Medical and Pharmaceutical Sciences, DI.ME.S., University of Genoa

#### From October 2019 to January 2020

Leonardo da Vinci Fellowship  
Title : "Targeting immunoregulatory pathways to enhance NK cell reactivity in cancer"  
Visiting Researcher in Gothenburg University, Sahlgrenska Hospital, Sweden

#### From March 2018 to October 2019

Fondazione Umberto Veronesi Fellowships.  
Title : "Targeting immune checkpoint inhibitors in NK cells to treat ovarian cancer"  
School of Medical and Pharmaceutical Sciences, DI.ME.S., University of Genoa

#### From September 2018 to December 2018

C.M. Lerici Foundation Fellowship  
Title : "Targeting immunoregulatory pathways to enhance NK cell reactivity in cancer"  
Visiting Researcher in Gothenburg University, Sahlgrenska Hospital, Sweden

#### From January 2011 to August 2018

PostDoc Research Fellow at DI.ME.S.  
University of Genoa

**From January 2008 to December 2010**

PhD student in Clinical and Experimental Immunology program  
School of Medical and Pharmaceutical Sciences, DI.ME.S., University of Genoa

**From April 2007 to December 2007**

Research Fellow  
School of Medical and Pharmaceutical Sciences, DI.ME.S., University of Genoa

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

**2024- present**

Member of the Degree Program in Medical Radiology, Imaging, and Radiotherapy Technician  
University of Genoa

**2020- present**

Member of the Degree Council for Environmental and Workplace Prevention Techniques  
University of Genoa

**From 2019- present**

Member of Department of Experimental Medicine (Di.M.E.S.), University of Genoa  
Member of the Biotechnology Degree Council, University of Genoa  
Member of the Biomedical Laboratory Technician Degree Council, University of Genoa  
Member of the Medicine and Surgery Degree Council, University of Genoa

## EXPERIENCE

### MAIN SEMINARS

**2013**

KIR2DS1-dependent acquisition of CCR7 and migratory properties by human NK cells  
interacting with allogeneic HLA-C2+ DC or T cell blasts  
XXI National Conference of Cytometry

**2015**

B7-H6-mediated downregulation of NKp30 in NK cells contributes to ovarian carcinoma  
immune escape  
XXIII National Conference of Cytometry

**2016**

Identification of a subset of human nk cells expressing high levels of PD-1 receptor.  
16<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for Natural Immunity

**2017**

1) Cytofluorimetric analysis of NK cell subsets expressing different immune checkpoints.  
2) The PD-1 immune checkpoint on human NK cells in normal and pathological condition.  
European Society for Clinical Cell Analysis Conference

**2019**

Relevant role for PD-1 immune checkpoint expressed on NK cells derived from ovarian

cancer patients

19<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for Natural Immunity

#### **2021**

PD-1, NKG2A and KIRs as the main NK immune checkpoints on which to bet on to fight ovarian cancer.

Scientific session of National Histology meeting

#### **2022**

Novel ovarian cancer PD1+ NK cell subsets, targetable by combined immune checkpoint blockade

VI Conference of Italian Society for Clinical Cell Analysis Conference ISCCA

### **SCIENTIFIC RESPONSIBILITY FOR RESEARCH PROJECTS ACCEPTED FOR FUNDING ON THE BASIS OF COMPETITIVE CALLS INVOLVING PEER REVIEW**

#### **From 2023 to present**

Position Held: Principal Investigator

Title: Impact of metabolic alterations on NK cell function: new horizons for immune checkpoint blockade immunotherapy of High Grade Serous Ovarian Carcinoma.

Funding Source: PRIN PNRR- Ministry of Health- NextGenerationEU

#### **From 2023 to present**

Position Held: Group Leader

Title: Unveiling breast cancer associated fibroblast secrets to boost anti-tumor immune response and neo-adjuvant therapy success rate

Funding Source: PRIN 2022- Ministry of Health- NextGenerationEU

#### **From 2022 to present**

Position Held: Co-investigator

Title: Understanding the role of NK cells in checkpoint blockade immunotherapy for treatment of breast and gynecologic cancer

Funding Source: Fondazione Associazione Italiana per la Ricerca sul Cancro (AIRC)- Investigator Grant 2021 (Rif.26037)

#### **From 2018 to present**

Position Held: Co-investigator

Title: Immunity in Cancer Spreading and Metastasis (ISM)

Funding Source: Fondazione Associazione Italiana per la Ricerca sul Cancro (AIRC)-Special Program Metastatic disease: the key unmet need in oncology 5 per mille 2018 (Rif. 21147).

#### **From 2018 to 2021**

Position Held: Principal Investigator

Title: Espressione dei checkpoint inibitori delle cellule NK umane (PD-1, KIR e NKG2A) e loro ruolo nell'immunoterapia di tumori solidi ed ematologici."

Funding Source: Bando Roche per la Ricerca 2017

## **TEACHING OR RESEARCH POSITIONS (FELLOWSHIPS) AT FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES AND RESEARCH INSTITUTES**

**From October 2019 to January 2020**

Leonardo da Vinci Fellowship

Title: "Targeting immunoregulatory pathways to enhance NK cell reactivity in cancer  
Visiting Researcher in Gothenburg University, Sahlgrenska Hospital, Sweden

**From September 2018 to December 2018**

C.M. Lerici Foundation Fellowship

Title: "Targeting immunoregulatory pathways to enhance NK cell reactivity in cancer  
Visiting Researcher in Gothenburg University, Sahlgrenska Hospital, Sweden

## **EDITORSHIP OR PARTICIPATION IN EDITORIAL BOARDS OF JOURNALS, PUBLISHING SERIES, ENCYCLOPAEDIAS AND TREATISES**

**2023**

Topic Editor of topic "Community Series in Cell Network in Antitumor Immunity of Pediatric  
and Adult Solid Tumors: Volume II  
Frontiers in Immunology

**2022**

1) Topic Editor of topic "Cell network in antitumor immunity of pediatric and adult solid  
tumors?"  
Frontiers in Immunology

2) Review Editor on the Editorial Board of "NK and Innate Lymphoid Cell"  
Special section of Frontiers in Immunology since 2022

**2021**

Review Editor on the Editorial Board of "Cancer Immunity and Immunotherapy"  
Special section of "Frontiers in Immunology" and "Frontiers in Oncology" since 2021

**2020**

Guest Editor of Special Issue "Female Malignancies and Immunotherapy: What's New?"  
Cancers Journal 2020

## **PRIZES AND ACCOLADES FOR SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITY, INCLUDING MEMBERSHIP OF ACADEMIES**

**2021**

Scientific session of National Histology meeting Award

**2018**

15<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Innate Immunity Award

**2016**

16<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society for Natural Immunity Award

**2015**

XXXIII National Conference of Cytometry Award

**2013**

15<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Immunology Award

**2014**

Member of SIICA (Società Italiana di Immunologia e Allergologia) since 2014