## PERSONAL INFORMATION

### Jessica Podda

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*Sex* Female | *Date of birth* 04/07/1990 | *Nationality* Italian
*Fiscal code* PDDJSC90L44D969V

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Researcher at the Italian Multiple Sclerosis Foundation (Genoa, Italy)
- National Scientific qualification as associate professor in the Italian higher education system, in the call 2023/2025 (Ministerial Decree n. 1796/2023) for the disciplinary field of 11/E1- General psychology, psychobiology and psychometrics.
- PhD in Bioengineering and Robotics
- Subject Expert in Rehabilitation engineering and prosthetic devices
- Licensed Psychologist N. 2694 (Ordine degli Psicologi della Liguria)

## WORK EXPERIENCE

**05/11/2018- currently enrolled**

**Researcher**
Italian Multiple Sclerosis Foundation (FISM)
https://www.aism.it/
Via Operai, 40, 16149, Genoa (Italy)

- *Cognitive neurorehabilitation; Risk factors for mood disorders; Cognitive phenotyping; Development of protocols and technological device for assessment and rehabilitation in Multiple Sclerosis.*

**01/06/2015- 31/10/2015**

**Research Assistant**
Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia (Robotics, Brain & Cognitive Sciences department)
Via Morego 30, 16163, Genoa (Italy)

## EDUCATION

**2019**

**PhD in Bioengineering and Robotics**
Course: Cognitive Robotics, Interaction and Rehabilitation Technologies
Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia (Cognition, Motor and Neuroscience Unit)
Via Enrico Melen, 87, 16152, Genoa (Italy)

**2014**

**Master's Degree in Psychology (full marks with honors)**
University of Turin (Italy)

**2012**

**Bachelor's Degree in Psychological Sciences and Techniques (full marks with honors)**
University of Genoa (Italy)

## DIDACTIC ACTIVITY

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| 2021-currently enrolled | **Subject Expert** (Cultore della materia)<br>Rehabilitation engineering and prosthetic devices (cod. 86775); master's degree in Bioengineering, Department of Informatics, Bioengineering, Robotics and Systems Engineering (DIBRIS), University of Genoa, Italy |

### Teaching activity

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|---|---|
| 2024/2025 | **Contract Professor for General Psychology**; bachelor's degree in Movement, Sport and Health Science (cod. 57746); Department of Experimental Medicine (DIMES), University of Genoa, Italy |
| 2023/2024 | **Contract Professor for General Psychology**; bachelor's degree in Movement, Sport and Health Science (cod. 57746); Department of Experimental Medicine (DIMES), University of Genoa, Italy |
| 09/08/2021- 31/03/2023 | **Contract Professor for Neuropsychological Rehabilitation**; bachelor's degree in Physiotherapy (cod. 106614); Department of Neuroscience, Rehabilitation, Ophthalmology, Genetics and Maternal and Child Sciences (DINOGMI), University of Genoa, Italy |
| 2019-enrolled | **Teaching Assistant for Rehabilitation Engineering**; master's degree in Biomedical Engineering; Department of Informatics, Bioengineering, Robotics and Systems Engineering (DIBRIS), University of Genoa, Italy |

### Tutoring activity

Tutor of bachelor's degree experimental theses

Co-tutor of master's degree experimental theses

AISM Coordinator of tutors for psychology internships in collaboration with University of Turin, Florence, Genoa, Bologna and Niccolò Cusano

## PUBLICATIONS

Peer-Reviewed International Journals

1. Sabatino, E., Moschetta, M., Lucaroni, A., Barresi, G., Ferraresi, C., **Podda, J.,** Grange, E., Brichetto, G, & Bucchieri, A. (2025). A Pilot Study on Mixed-Reality Approaches for Detecting Upper-Limb Dysfunction in Multiple Sclerosis: Insights on Cerebellar Tremor. *Virtual Worlds*, 4(1):4. https://doi.org/10.3390/virtualworlds4010004
2. *Finlayson, M., Poli, S., Bozzoli, F., Brichetto, G., Bø, L., Busch, I. M., Dalgas, U., Evangelou, N., Farrin, A., Freeman, J., Jidborg, H., Kos, D., Marck, C. H., Ontaneda, D., Podda, J., Rimondini, M., Swain, P., Tallantyre, E., Taylor, L. A., & das Nair, R. (2025, in press). Designing wellbeing intervention trials for people with progressive multiple sclerosis: The importance of understanding "usual care" comparators. International Journal of MS Care.*
3. Ponzio, M., Grange, E., Di Antonio, F., Persechino, B., Manacorda, T., Inglese, M., Durando, P., Battaglia, M.A., Brichetto, G., & **Podda, J.** (2024). Phenotypes of Italian workers with disability: a cluster analysis on workers with multiple sclerosis, *European Journal of Public Health*, 34, Issue Supplement_3, ckae144.2290, doi: 10.1093/eurpub/ckae144.2290
4. **Podda, J.,** Grange, E., Susini, A., Tacchino, A., Di Antonio, F., Pedullà, L., Brichetto, G. & Ponzio, M., (2024). The Italian Version of the mHealth App Usability Questionnaire (ita-MAUQ): Translation and Validation Study in People with Multiple Sclerosis. *JMIR Human Factors,* 11: e58079; doi: 10.2196/58079
5. **Podda, J.,** Di Antonio, F., Tacchino, A., Pedullà, L., Grange, E., Battaglia, M.A., Brichetto, G., Ponzio, M. (2024). A taxonomy of cognitive phenotypes in Multiple Sclerosis: a 1-year longitudinal study. *Scientific reports*, 14(1):20362. doi: 10.1038/s41598-024-71374-7.
6. **Podda, J.,** Tacchino, A., Ponzio, M., Di Antonio, F., Susini, A., Pedullà, L., Battaglia, M.A., & Brichetto, G. (2024). A Mobile Health App (DIGICOG-MS®) for Self-Assessment of Cognitive

Impairment in People with Multiple Sclerosis: Instrument Validation and Usability Study. *JMIR Formative Research,* 20;8:e56074. doi: 10.2196/56074.

7. Rocca MA, Valsasina P, Romanò F, Tedone N, Amato MP, Brichetto G, Boccia VD, Chataway J, Chiaravalloti ND, Cutter G, Dalgas U, DeLuca J, Farrell RA, Feys P, Freeman J, Inglese M, Meza C, Motl RW, Salter A, Sandroff BM, Feinstein A, Filippi M**; Cogex Research Team** (2024). Cognitive rehabilitation effects on grey matter volume and Go-NoGo activity in progressive multiple sclerosis: results from the CogEx trial. *J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry*; jnnp-2024-333460. doi: 10.1136/jnnp-2024-333460.

8. **Podda, J.,** Marchesi, G., Bellosta, A., Squeri, V., De Luca, A., Pedullà, L., Tacchino, A., Brichetto, G. (2024). Testing Dynamic Balance in People with Multiple Sclerosis: A Correlational Study between Standard Posturography and Robotic-Assistive Device. *Sensors*; 24(11):3325. doi: 10.3390/s24113325.

9. **Podda, J.,** Pedullà, L., Brichetto, G., & Tacchino, A. (2024). Evaluating Cognitive-Motor Interference in Multiple Sclerosis: A Technology-Based Approach. *Bioengineering*, 11(3):277. doi: 10.3390/bioengineering11030277.

10. Albanese, G.A., Bucchieri, A, **Podda, J.,** Tacchino, A., Buccelli, S., De Momi, E., Laffranchi, M., Mannella, K., Holmes, M.W.R., Zenzeri, J., De Michieli, L., Brichetto, G., & Barresi, G. (2024) Robotic systems for upper-limb rehabilitation in multiple sclerosis: a SWOT analysis and the synergies with virtual and augmented environments*. Frontiers in Robotics and AI*, 27;11:1335147. doi: 10.3389/frobt.2024.1335147.

11. Ponzio, M., Tacchino, A., Verri, A., Battaglia, M.A., Brichetto, G., & **Podda, J.** (2024). Profile and burden of the family caregiver: the caring experience in multiple sclerosis. An observational study. *BMC Psychology*, 26;12(1):173. doi: 10.1186/s40359-024-01678-w.

12. Tacchino, A., Skjerbæk, A. G., **Podda, J.,** Prada, V., Bragadin, M. M., Bergamaschi, V., ... & Brichetto, G. (2024). The role of sensory systems in the association between balance and walking in people with multiple sclerosis. *Multiple sclerosis and related disorders*, *83*, 105440.

13. Feinstein A, Amato MP, Brichetto G, Chataway J, Chiaravalloti ND, Cutter G, Dalgas U, DeLuca J, Farrell R, Feys P, Filippi M, Freeman J, Inglese M, Meza C, Motl RW, Rocca MA, Sandroff BM, Salter A; **CogEx Research Team**. (2024). Cognitive rehabilitation and aerobic exercise for cognitive impairment in people with progressive multiple sclerosis (CogEx): a randomised, blinded, sham-controlled trial. The Lancet Neurology, 22(10), 912-924. doi: 10.1016/S1474-4422(23)00280-6

14. Ponzio, M., **Podda,** J., Pignattelli, E., Verri, A., Persechino, B., Vitturi, B. K., ... & Battaglia, M. A. (2023). Work Difficulties in People with Multiple Sclerosis. Journal of Occupational Rehabilitation, 1-12. doi: 10.1007/s10926-023-10149-9

15. Tacchino, A., Pedullà, L., **Podda, J**., Bragadin, M. M., Battaglia, M. A., Bisio, A., ... & Brichetto, G. (2023). Motor imagery has a priming effect on motor execution in people with multiple sclerosis. Frontiers in Human Neuroscience, 17. doi: 10.3389/fnhum.2023.1179789

16. **Podda, J.,** Marchesi, G., Squeri, V., De Luca, A., Bellosta, A., Pedullà, L., ... & Tacchino, A. (2023). Standard versus innovative robotic balance assessment for people with multiple sclerosis: a correlational study. European Journal of Medical Research, 28(1), 254. doi: 10.1186/s40001-023-01223-2

17. **Podda, J**., Tacchino, A., Verri, A., Battaglia, M. A., Brichetto, G., & Ponzio, M. (2023). Development and psychometric properties of a self-assessed knowledge questionnaire for caregivers of people with multiple sclerosis (CareKoMS): a cross-sectional study. BMJ open, 13(6), e071657. doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2023-071657

18. Tacchino, A., **Podda, J**., Bergamaschi, V., Pedullà, L., Brichetto, G. (2023, proof) Cognitive rehabilitation in Multiple Sclerosis: three digital ingredients to address current and future priorities. Frontiers Human Neuroscience. doi: 10.3389/fnhum.2023.1130231

19. **Podda, J.,** Messmer Uccelli, M., Tacchino, A., Pedullà, L., Monti Bragadin, M., Battaglia, M.A., Brichetto, G., Ponzio, M. (2022). Predictors of mood disorders in parental Multiple Sclerosis: the role of disability level, coping and perceived social support. International Journal of MS Care. https://doi.org/10.7224/1537-2073.2021-101

20. Montobbio, N., Cavallo, A., Albergo, D., Ansuini, C., Battaglia, F., **Podda, J.,** Nobili, L., Panzeri, S., Becchio, C. (2022). Intersecting Intention Encoding and Readout in Autism. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. 119(5), e2114648119. doi: 10.1073/pnas.2114648119

21. **Podda, J.,** Tacchino, A., Pedullà, L., Monti Bragadin, M., Battaglia, M.A., Brichetto, G., Ponzio, M. (2022). Mind Wandering in people with Multiple Sclerosis: a psychometric study, Multiple Sclerosis and Related Disorders. doi: 10.1016/j.msard.2022.103521

22. **Podda, J.,** Ponzio, M., Pedullà, L., Monti Bragadin, M., Battaglia, M.A., Zaratin, P., Brichetto, G., Tacchino, A. (2021). Predominant cognitive phenotypes in multiple sclerosis: Insights from patient-centered outcomes. Multiple Sclerosis and Related Disorders, 51:102919. doi: 10.1016/j.msard.2021.102919.

23. **Podda, J.,** Pedullà, L., Monti Bragadin, M., Piccardo, E., Battaglia, M.A., Brichetto, G., Bove, M., Tacchino, A. (2020). Spatial constraints and cognitive fatigue affect motor imagery of walking in people with Multiple Sclerosis. Scientific Reports, 10, 21938. doi: 10.1038/s41598-020-79095-3

24. Pedullà, L., Tacchino, A., **Podda, J.,** Monti Bragadin, M., Bonzano, L., Battaglia, M. A., Bove, M, Brichetto, G., Ponzio, M. (2020). The patients' perspective on the perceived difficulties of dual-tasking: development and validation of the Dual-task Impact on Daily-living Activities Questionnaire (DIDA-Q). Multiple Sclerosis and Related Disorders, 46, 102601. doi: 10.1016/j.msard.2020.102601

25. **Podda, J.,** Tacchino, A., Pedullà, L., Monti Bragadin, M., Battaglia, M.A., Brichetto, G., (2020). Focus on neglected features of cognitive rehabilitation in MS: setting and mode of the treatment. Multiple Sclerosis Journal, 1–11. doi: 10.1177/1352458520966300

26. **Podda, J.,** Ponzio, M., Messmer Uccelli, M., Pedullà, L., Bozzoli, F., Molinari, F., Monti Bragadin, M., Battaglia, M.A., Zaratin, P., Brichetto, G., Tacchino, A. (2020). Predictors of clinically significant anxiety in people with multiple sclerosis: a one-year follow-up study. Multiple Sclerosis and Related Disorders. doi: 10.1016/j.msard.2020.102417

27. Monti Bragadin, M., Motta, R., Messmer Uccelli, M., Tacchino, A., Ponzio, M., **Podda, J.,** Konrad, G., Rinaldi, S., Cava, M. D., Battaglia, M. A., Brichetto, G. (2020). Lower urinary tract dysfunction in patients with multiple sclerosis: A post-void residual analysis of 501 cases. Multiple sclerosis and related disorders, 45, 102378. doi: 10.1016/j.msard.2020.102378

28. Prada, V., Tacchino, A., **Podda, J.,** Pedullá, L., Konrad, G., Battaglia, M. A., & Brichetto, G. (2020). Mam36 and Abilhand as outcome measures of multiple sclerosis hand disability: an observational study. European journal of physical and rehabilitation medicine. doi: 10.23736/S1973-9087.20.06446-1.

29. Tacchino, A., Ponzio, M., Pedullà, L., **Podda, J.,** Monti Bragadin, M., Pedrazzoli, E., Konrad, G., Battaglia, M.A., Mokkink, L. Brichetto, G. (2020). Italian validation of the Arm Function in Multiple Sclerosis Questionnaire (AMSQ). Neurological sciences. doi: 10.1007/s10072-020-04363-z.

30. Brichetto, G., Pedullà, L., **Podda, J.,** Tacchino, A. (2019). Beyond center-based testing:

Understanding and improving functioning with wearable technology in MS. Multiple Sclerosis Journal, 1–10. doi: 10.1177/1352458519857075

31. Cavallo, A., Romeo, L., Ansuini, C., **Podda, J.,** Battaglia, F., Veneselli, E., Pontil, M., Becchio, C., (2018). Prospective motor control obeys to idiosyncratic strategies in autism. Scientific Reports, 8: 13717. doi: 10.1038/s41598-018-31479-2.

32. Ansuini, C., **Podda, J.,** Battaglia, F. M., Veneselli, E., Becchio, C. (2018). One hand, two hands, two people: Prospective sensorimotor control in children with autism. Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience, 29, 86-96. doi: 10.1016/j.dcn.2017.02.009.

33. **Podda, J.,** Ansuini, C., Vastano, R., Cavallo, A., Becchio, C. (2017). The heaviness of invisible objects: Predictive weight judgments from observed real and pantomimed grasps. Cognition, 168, 140-145. doi: 10.1016/j.cognition.2017.06.023.

Peer-Reviewed Italian Journals

34. **Podda, J.,** Ansuini, C., Battaglia, F., Cavallo, A., Pintaudi, M., Jacono, M., Semino, M., Dufour, E., Veneselli, E., & Becchio, C. (2018). Studio di cinematica sull'effetto di comfort dello stato finale: il caso del Disturbo dello Spettro Autistico. Sistemi Intelligenti, 1, 123-138. doi: 10.1422/89320.

Conference Proceedings

Bucchieri, A., Lucaroni, A., Moschetta, M., Ricci, L., Sabatino, E., Grange, E., Tacchino, A., **Podda, J.,** De Momi, E., Ferraresi, C., Laffranchi, M., De Michieli, L., Brichetto, G., Barresi, G. Exploring the Potential of Mixed Reality for Functional Assessment in Multiple Sclerosis (2024) 2024 IEEE Gaming, Entertainment, and Media Conference, GEM 2024. DOI: 10.1109/GEM61861.2024.10585461

Tanda, M., Prattico, F.G., **Podda, J.,** Grange, E., Brichetto, G., De Michieli, L., Lamberti, F., Barresi, G. Rehabilitative Exergaming in Multiple Sclerosis: Bimanual Tasks in Mixed Reality (2024) 2024 IEEE Gaming, Entertainment, and Media Conference, GEM 2024. DOI: 10.1109/GEM61861.2024.10585544

Macaluso, A., Bottino, A., Prattico, F.G., Lamberti, F., Galletti, C., Storchi, C., **Podda, J.,** Tacchino, A., Brichetto, G., Boccardo, N., Michieli, L.D., Barresi, G. Executive Control in a Mixed Reality Exergame for Motor-Cognitive Rehabilitation in Multiple Sclerosis (2024) Digest of Technical Papers- IEEE International Conference on Consumer Electronics, DOI: 10.1109/ICCE59016.2024.10444475

Galletti, C., Parente, C., Bottino, A., Lamberti, F., Salatino, L., De Zambotti, M., **Podda, J.,** Tacchino, A., Brichetto, G., De Michieli, L., Barresi, G. A Biofeedback-Enhanced Virtual Exergame for Upper Limb Repetitive Motor Tasks (2023) Conference Proceedings- IEEE International Conference on Systems, Man and Cybernetics, pp. 1561-1566. DOI: 10.1109/SMC53992.2023.10394416

Ameri, K., Battegazzorre, E., Galletti, C., Bottino, A., **Podda, J.,** Tacchino, A., Brichetto, G., De Michieli, L., Barresi, G. Effects of Social Conditions in a Virtual Exergame for Cognitive Rehabilitation in Multiple Sclerosis (2023) IEEE International Conference on Consumer Electronics- Berlin, ICCE-Berlin, pp. 117-122. DOI: 10.1109/ICCE-Berlin58801.2023.10375657

Parente, C., Galletti, C., Bottino, A., Lamberti, F., **Podda, J.,** Tacchino, A., Brichetto, G., De Michieli, L., Barresi, G. A Biofeedback-Enhanced Virtual Exergame for Upper Limb Motor-Cognitive Rehabilitation (2023) 2023 IEEE 11th International Conference on Serious Games and Applications for Health, SeGAH 2023. DOI: 10.1109/SeGAH57547.2023.10253757

Pierella, C., Romani, P., Gandolfi, F., **Podda, J.,** Massone, A., Tacchino, A., Brichetto, G., Canessa, A., Ricci, S., Casadio, M. Driving Simulator for Assessing Driving Skills of People with Multiple Sclerosis: A Pilot Study (2022) Proceedings of the IEEE RAS and EMBS International Conference on Biomedical Robotics and Biomechatronics, 2022-August, DOI:

10.1109/BioRob52689.2022.9925411

Zunino, A., Morerio, P., Cavallo, A., Ansuini, C., **Podda, J.,** Battaglia, F., Veneselli, E., Becchio, C., Murino, V. Video Gesture Analysis for Autism Spectrum Disorder Detection

(2018) Proceedings- International Conference on Pattern Recognition, 2018-August, art. no. 8545095, pp. 3421-3426. DOI: 10.1109/ICPR.2018.8545095

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*ORAL AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS IN SCIENTIFIC CONGRESS*

**Podda, J.,** Tacchino, A., Pedullà, L., Marchesi, G., Squeri, V., De Luca, A., Bellosta, A., Monti Bragadin, M., Rogina, G., Vitiello, A., Rinaldi, S., Isolabella, L., Monti Bragadin, M., Battaglia, M.A., Brichetto. (April, 2025). Oral Presentation "Riabilitazione robotica e sclerosi multipla: un nuovo approccio per l'equilibrio dinamico" in 23rd Congresso Nazionale Società Italiana di Riabilitazione Neurologica (Parma, Italy).

**Podda, J.,** Tacchino, A., Susini, A., Di Antonio, Ponzio, M., Pedullà, L., Battaglia, M.A., Brichetto, G. (September, 2024). "A mHealth app for cognitive self-assessment in people with Multiple Sclerosis: validation and usability of DIGICOG-MS®" in 40th Congress of ECTRIMS (Copenaghen, Denmark)

**Podda, J.,** Tacchino, A., Susini, A., Di Antonio, Ponzio, M., Pedullà, L., Battaglia, M.A., Brichetto, G. (September, 2024). "A mHealth app for cognitive self-assessment in people with Multiple Sclerosis: validation and usability of DIGICOG-MS®" in 10th IMSCOGS (Bern, Switzerland)

**Podda, J.,** Di Antonio, F., Tacchino, A., Pedullà, L., Grange, E., Battaglia, M.A., Brichetto, G., Ponzio, M. (May, 2024). "A taxonomy of cognitive phenotypes in people with MS: a one-year longitudinal study" in euRIMS Annual Congress (Hassel, Belgium)

**Podda, J.,** Tacchino, A., Ponzio, M., Di Antonio, F., Susini, A., Pedullà, L., Battaglia, M.A., Brichetto, G. (February, 2024). "Validazione e usabilità dell'app DIGICOG-MS® di autovalutazione cognitiva per le persone con Sclerosi Multipla" in 23rd Congresso Nazionale Società Italiana di Riabilitazione Neurologica (Florence, Italy).

**Podda, J.,** Tacchino, A., Pedullà, L., Bergamaschi, V., Ponzio, M., Battaglia, M.A., Brichetto, G. (May, 2023). "A new mHealth app for monitoring and self-assessment of cognitive impairment in people with Multiple Sclerosis: DIGICOG-MS" in euRIMS Annual Congress (Genoa, Italy).

**Podda, J.,** Tacchino, A., Pedullà, L., Bergamaschi, V., Ponzio, M., Battaglia, M.A., Brichetto, G. (April, 2023). Oral Presentation "Digitale o cartaceo? Usabilità di nuova app di autovalutazione delle funzioni cognitive per le persone con sclerosi multipla e correlazione con test cognitivi tradizionali" in 22nd Congresso Nazionale Società italiana di Riabilitazione Neurologica (Riva Del Garda, Italy).

**Podda, J.,** Tacchino, A., Marchesi, G., De Luca, A., Squeri, V., Pedullà, L., Bellosta, A., Monti Bragadin, M., Rogina, G., Vitiello, A., Rinaldi, S., Isolabella, L., Tortorolo, A., Addeo, S., Battaglia, M.A., Konrad, G., Brichetto. (October, 2022). e-Poster Presentation "Balance rehabilitation in people with Multiple Sclerosis: robotic versus usual care intervention protocols" in 38th Congress of ECTRIMS (Amsterdam, Netherlands)

**Podda, J.,** Tacchino, A., Squeri, V., De Luca A., Marchesi, G., Pedullà, L., Bellosta, A., Vitiello, A., Addeo, Konrad, G., S., Battaglia, M.A., Brichetto, G. (June 2022). Oral Presentation: "Studio di non-inferiorità di un protocollo riabilitativo eseguito con dispositivo robotico rispetto ad un trattamento tradizionale per migliorare l'equilibrio nelle persone con sclerosi multipla" in 21st Congresso Nazionale Società italiana di Riabilitazione Neurologica (Naples, Italy).

**Podda, J.,** Ponzio, M., Pedullà, L., Monti Bragadin, M., Battaglia, M.A., Tacchino, A., Brichetto, G. (October 2021). Poster Presentation: "Mind wandering in people with Multiple Sclerosis: a psychometric study" in 37th Congress of ECTRIMS**.** The Digital Experience

**Podda, J.,** Maggiora, A., Pedullà, L., Monti Bragadin, M., Battaglia, M.A., Brichetto, G., Casadio, M., Tacchino, A. (December 2020). Poster Presentation: "Do PwMS plan ahead? A Kinematic Study of Upper Limb Motor Planning in MS". In RIMS Conference (digital edition).

**Podda, J.,** Tacchino, A., Pedullà, L., Monti Bragadin, M., Rogina, G., Vitiello, A., Rinaldi, S., Isolabella, L., Tortorolo, A., Battaglia, M.A., Konrad, G., Brichetto, G. (December 2020). Poster Presentation: "Using a novel robotic platform for balance assessment in pwMS: data from traditional clinical tests and Hunova". In RIMS Conference (digital edition).

**Podda, J.,** Ponzio, M., Pedullà, L., Monti Bragadin, M., Battaglia, M.A., Zaratin, P., Brichetto, G., Tacchino, A. (November 2020). Poster and Video Presentation: "Predominant cognitive phenotypes in MS: insights from patient-centered outcomes (PCOs)" in 28th Annual Meeting of the European Charcot Foundation (digital edition).

**Podda, J**. and Tacchino, A. (December 2019). Oral presentation (Invited): "Neuropsychological Rehabilitation - Cognitive training and other techniques" in 2nd RIMS Workshop "Rehabilitation in Progressive MS" (Milan, Italy).

**Podda, J.** and Bergamaschi, V. (November 2019). Oral presentation (Invited): "From "paper and pencil" to computerized devices: tools in Cognitive Rehabilitation" in SIG Occupation in-between meeting (Genoa, Italy).

**Podda, J.,** Bergamaschi, V., Konrad, G., Tacchino, A., Battaglia, M.A., Brichetto, G., Monti Bragadin, M. (June 2019). Oral Presentation: "Same form diverse outcome: role of PT on SPMS". In RIMS Conference (Ljubljana, Slovenia).

**Podda, J.,** Bozzo, L., Ponzio, M., Monti Bragadin, M., Konrad, G., Bergamaschi, V., Pedullà, L., Battaglia, M.A., Brichetto G., Tacchino, A. (June 2019). Poster Presentation: "Computerized balance assessment and PRO in MS". In RIMS Conference (Ljubljana, Slovenia).

**Podda, J.,** Ansuini, C., Memeo, M.C., Becchio, C., (May 2018). Poster Presentation: "The role of movement frequency on motor contagion". In MeeTo Conference (Turin, Italy).

**Podda, J.,** Ansuini, C., Cavallo, A., Jacono, M., Pintaudi, M., Semino, M., Battaglia, F., Veneselli, E., Becchio, C. (October 2017). Poster Presentation: "How far do ASD children plan ahead? A kinematic study on the grasp-height effect". In 18th SIAMOC Congress (Turin, Italy).

**Podda, J.,** Ansuini, C., Vastano, R., Cavallo, A., Becchio, C., (July 2017). Poster Presentation: "The heaviness of invisible objects: predictive weight judgments from observed real and pantomimed grasps". In 7th JAM (London, UK).

Ansuini, C., **Podda, J**., Cavallo, A., Koul, A., Pintaudi, M., Battaglia, F., Veneselli, E., Becchio, C. (May 2017). Poster Presentation: "Reading intention in action: the case of autism spectrum disorder". In IMFAR (San Francisco, USA).

**Podda, J**. (November 2016). Oral Presentation: "Planning ahead: grasp height effect in children with autism spectrum disorder". In 13th AISC Conference (Turin, Italy).

Ansuini, C., **Podda, J.,** Cavallo, A., Jacono, M., Pintaudi, M., Semino, M., Battaglia, F., Veneselli, E., Becchio, C. (September 2016). Poster Presentation: "Same object, different uses: prior-intention and action execution in children with high functioning autism". In 11th Autism-Europe International Congress (Edinburgh, UK).

**Podda J**. (September 2016). Oral Presentation: "The I.Move.U approach to the study of action execution and action observation: the case of autism spectrum disorder". In 2nd SMART School on Computational Social and Behavioral Sciences (Paris, France).

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*HONOR AND AWARDS*

**Travel Grant** for the 40th Congress of the European Committee for Treatment and Research in Multiple Sclerosis – ECTRIMS (18-20 September, Copenhagen, Denmark). Title

contribution: "A mHealth app for cognitive self-assessment in people with Multiple Sclerosis: validation and usability of DIGICOG-MS®"

**Best oral presentation** At RIMS congress (Genoa 4-6 may, 2023) with "A new mHealth app for monitoring and self-assessment of cognitive impairments in people with MS: DIGICOG-MS"

**Finalist and winner** at MakeToCare Contest, promoted by Sanofi (MakerFaire Rome Edition, November 2022), with DIGICOG-MS, the app for self-assessment and monitoring of cognitive functions for people with Multiple Sclerosis.

**Finalist and 2nd place** at 10th edition of "Premio Nazionale Giovedì Scienza". Title presentation: "Design and development of a remote, time-efficient, personalized digital assessment of cognitive impairment in MS: DIGICOG-MS" (Venaria Reale, Turin, Italy).

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**PATENT**

**Patent.** DIGICOG-MS (DIGITAL ASSESSMENT OF COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT IN MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS) (Scientific-Clinical App for Android and iOS mobile devices) – N° D000019219, Ordinativo D000018162, 29/12/2022

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**INVITED SPEAKER**

November 2023. Invited Speaker for "Evento Giovani oltre la SM", organized by AISM, Rome, Italy

April 2024. Invited Speaker for Comicon. Talk "No bounders: il gaming fra psicologia, terapia e accessibilità", Naples, Italy.

January 2024. Invited Speaker for VideoGame Lab. Talk "Realtà Riabilitative Digitali e Sclerosi Multipla", Rome, Italy.

November 2023. Invited Speaker for "Giornata laboratori Siamoc 2023" organized by the Società Italiana di Analisi del Movimento in Clinica (SIAMOC), Genoa, Italy.

November 2023. Invited Speaker for "Teleriabilitazione nella sclerosi multipla: dalla valutazione al trattamento" organized by the Italian Multiple Sclerosis Foundation, Genoa, Italy.

November 2023. Invited Speaker for "GameAbility: laboratorio per docenti" organized by Fondazione Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia (Dr. Giacinto Barresi).
November 2023. Invited Speaker for Festival della Scienza 2023 "Riabilitazione e Virtualità" - Demo and Talk at RAISE Village.

March 2022.  Invited Speaker for "Stabilometria nella Sclerosi Multipla: dalla Valutazione alla misura di outcome" organized by the Italian Multiple Sclerosis Foundation, Genoa, Italy.

October 2021. Invited Speaker for Festival della Scienza 2021. Roundtable "Mappare i Movimenti in Gioco. Sclerosi Multipla ed Exergame Design a Scuola", Genoa, Italy

May 2021. Invited Speaker for "Medicina digitale e teleriabilitazione durante ed oltre l'emergenza sanitaria: focus su patologie neurologiche" organized by the Italian Multiple Sclerosis Foundation (digital edition)

March 2021. Invited Speaker for "Le abilità in gioco" organized by Fondazione Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia (Dr. Carlo Canali) and ITIS Delpozzo (digital edition).

April 2019. Invited Speaker for "La riabilitazione in èquipe della sclerosi multipla: aspetti teorici" organized by the Italian Multiple Sclerosis Foundation, Naples, Italy.

March 2019. Invited Speaker for "Recenti acquisizioni nella sclerosi multipla: le tecnologie ambulatoriali e domiciliari per il trattamento riabilitativo della sclerosi multipla" organized by the Italian Multiple Sclerosis Foundation, Genoa, Italy.

February 2019. Invited Speaker for "Misure di outcome per la SM: aggiornamento della letteratura e training di somministrazione" organized by the Italian Multiple Sclerosis Foundation, Genoa, Italy.

*LEADERSHIP OR PARTICIPATION IN NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS*

**LEADER of activity 3.3.8 "Smart Devices and Technologies for Personal and Remote Healthcare in Multiple Sclerosis"** (Project 3.3: Robotic and Mechatronic Solutions for Assessment, Rehabilitation, and Assistance in Infants, Older Adults, and Individuals with Neurological and Neuropsychiatric Diseases/Disorders in Subacute and Chronic Conditions) within WP3 "Rehabilitation Ecosystem," part of Spoke 2 "Smart Devices and Technologies for Personal and Remote Healthcare" of the RAISE project. Funded by the Italian Ministry of University and Research (MUR) under the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR), RAISE aims to create and strengthen innovation ecosystems in technological specialization areas, promoting collaboration between research, industry, and regional institutions. The project involves 26 partners, including universities, research institutes, hospitals, and companies, and is coordinated by the University of Genoa (UNIGE), the National Research Council (CNR), and the Italian Institute of Technology (IIT) (2022–2025).

**PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR of the national study "Using iFeel Technology to Monitor Balance and Gait in People with Multiple Sclerosis: A Feasibility Study,"** promoted by FISM. The objective is to test the reliability of measurements obtained through the iFeel technology, developed by the Artificial and Mechanical Intelligence research unit at the Italian Institute of Technology, during standardized clinical tests of gait and balance, and to assess its usability in a sample of people with MS (2022- currently enrolled)

**COORDINATOR OF INTERNAL UNIT for the international multicenter study "CogEx,"** funded by the MS Society of Canada (MSSC) and MS Scientific Research Foundation (MSSRF). The aim is to investigate the effects of cognitive rehabilitation and aerobic exercise on cognitive abilities in people with progressive forms of multiple sclerosis (MS) (2018-2023)

**COORDINATOR of the national study "A profile of family caregivers in MS,"** promoted by the Italian Multiple Sclerosis Foundation (FISM). The study aims to evaluate caregivers' perceived competence in supporting family members with MS and identify potential factors influencing this perception, such as caregivers' knowledge of MS, coping strategies, social support, quality of life, mood, socio-demographic characteristics, and aspects related to the person with MS (2020-currently enrolled)

**PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR of the national study "Balance Monitoring in MS,"** promoted by FISM. The goal is to monitor balance in people with MS using traditional clinical tests and robotic-assisted systems (2022- currently enrolled)

**COORDINATOR of the national study "REMOTE-MS: REhabilitation of cognitive and MOtor functions in the era of digital health: hints of TElerehabilitation for people with Multiple Sclerosis"** promoted by FISM. The aim is to evaluate the effectiveness of home-based telerehabilitation compared to conventional interventions delivered at clinical centers for cognitive functions in people with MS (2022- currently enrolled)

COORDINATOR OF INTERNAL UNIT of the national study "ENACT01: Enactive biofeedback exergaming solutions for cognitive-motor training in people with Multiple Sclerosis and upper limb cerebellar tremor" promoted by FISM. Objectives include: (1) determining whether enactive features of biofeedback exergaming reduce workload and increase motivation in people with MS during cognitive-motor training; (2) identifying which sensors and non-invasive multimodal stimulation devices to integrate into the experimental setup; (3) exploring potential predictors of MS progression related to the emergence of cerebellar tremor and secondary progressive MS (2022- 2024)

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR of the national study "DIGICOG-MS: Design, Development, and Usability Testing of a Smartphone and Tablet App for Remote Self-Assessment of Cognitive Disorders in People with Multiple Sclerosis" promoted by FISM. The objectives include: (1) designing, developing, and testing the usability of an app for cognitive self-assessment in two modes, autonomous and remotely supervised by a clinician; (2) validating the digital tests and evaluating the tool's usability (2022- currently enrolled)

COORDINATOR OF INTERNAL UNIT of the national study "Assessment and Monitoring of Motor and Cognitive Performance and Association with Driving Ability in People with Multiple Sclerosis - ADRIS-MS" The objective is to validate and test a customizable driving simulator tailored to the characteristics of people with MS at various stages of disease (2023-2024).

COORDINATOR OF INTERNAL UNIT for the Swiss-Italian study "Neurorehabilitation of Cognitive Deficits in Multiple Sclerosis Using an Adaptive Cognitive Exergame - REALISE MS" (PI: Arsenal Sokolov), funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation. The aim is to test the effectiveness of the Body-Brain Trainer (BBT) for cognitive rehabilitation in people with MS compared to other traditional cognitive intervention methods (2023 - currently enrolled)

COORDINATOR OF INTERNAL UNIT for the international study "Improving the Quality of MS Rehabilitation Research", conducted within the European RIMS network (Rehabilitation in Multiple Sclerosis), this initiative aims to refine current guidelines for designing and conducting randomized controlled trials (RCTs) in MS to better account for the complexity of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) and Cognitive Rehabilitation (CR) trials (2024- 2025).

COORDINATOR OF INTERNAL UNIT for the international study "Living Well with Progressive Multiple Sclerosis". Funded by the International Progressive MS Alliance, this study evaluates the effectiveness of a new community-based intervention designed to improve the well-being and daily functioning of people with progressive MS. The program is patient-centered, personalized, and delivered in the community or remotely. It involves a multidisciplinary team of people with MS, neurologists, psychologists, nurses, occupational therapists, physiotherapists, and experts in physiology, rehabilitation medicine, health economics, and clinical trial methodology from eight countries (Norway, USA, Belgium, Denmark, Italy, Canada, Australia, and the UK), united by a common vision to enhance the well-being of people with progressive MS (2024- 2025)

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*SCIENTIFIC EVENT COORDINATION*

November 2024

Scientific responsibility and Invited Speaker for of "DIALOGANDO. Operatori in SM, NMOSD e MOGAD: Infermieri, neurologi e psicologi a confronto" organized by the Italian Multiple Sclerosis Foundation, Rome, Italy

November 2023

Scientific responsibility and Invited Speaker for 14th edition of Rete Psicologi SM "So-Stare nell'incertezza" organized by the Italian Multiple Sclerosis Foundation, Rome, Italy

| October 2023 | **SIG in between meeting (SIG Occupation and SIG Psychology/Neuropsychology)** "Vocational and cognitive rehabilitation", hosted by MS-Senteret, Hakadal, Norway |
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Member of the Local Organizing Committee of the Annual Congress euRIMS (Genoa)

| June 2022 | **Scientific responsibility and Speaker for "Disturbi Cognitivi e Sclerosi Multipla: stato dell'arte e strumenti di valutazione"** organized by the Italian Multiple Sclerosis Foundation. |
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| November 2022 | **Scientific responsibility and Invited Speaker for 14th edition of Rete Psicologi SM** "La relazione: una costante di cura" organized by the Italian Multiple Sclerosis Foundation (Rome) |

## FUNDED GRANTS

| 2022- 2025 | **Fondazione Italiana Sclerosi Multipla. FISM Special Grant as Principal Investigator**: Digital health solutions for cognitive impairment assessment: an artificial intelligence approach- DIGICOGMS (code number 2023/S/2) |
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| 2023- 2024 | **Fondazione Italiana Sclerosi Multipla. FISM Special Grant as Principal Investigator**: Una piattaforma digitale di raccolta dati integrato per la sclerosi multipla: dal test da remoto all'analisi dei dati- SMART REHAB (code number 2021/Special/005) |

## NETWORK PARTICIPATION

| 2022- currently enrolled | **Scientific Committee Member of "Rete Psicologi"**, a network organized by the Italian Multiple Sclerosis Society (AISM) |
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| 05/2022- currently enrolled | **Chair of Special Interest Group (SIG) of Mood and Cognition** (formerly Psychology and Neuropsychology) of the Rehabilitation in Multiple Sclerosis European Network (euRIMS) - https://www.eurims.org/ |
| 03/2021- 01/2024 | **Coordinator of Psychogeriatrics/Neuropsychology Working group** at Ordine degli Psicologi della Liguria |

## EDITORIAL ACTIVITIES

**Editorial Board Member** for Scientific Reports (from March 2024)
https://srepeditorialsite.nature.com/users/jessica-podda

**Review Editor on the Editorial Board of Performance Science** (specialty section of Frontiers in Psychology)

**Ad hoc reviewer for manuscripts for the following international journals:** BMS Psychology, Frontiers, Frontiers in Psychology, Section Performance Science, Insight of Biomedical research, Multiple Sclerosis and Related Disorders, Scientific Reports.

## RELEVANT SKILLS

| Mother tongue(s) | Italian |
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| Other language(s) | English |
| Job-related skills | Effective communication, teamwork, creativity, adaptability, problem solving |

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| Higher Education & Training skills | PhD in Bioengineering and Robotics (IIT), Winter School Human Factors in Wearable and Portable Technologies (Como, January 2020), SMART School on Computational Social and Behavioral Sciences (Paris, September 2016), Internship at Opera San Camillo Hospital (Turin, 2014-2015) |
| Other skills | Generic software: Office; Experimental and programming software: E-Prime; Statistical software: SPSS; Motion capture: Vicon system; Robotic device for balance assessment and rehabilitation: hunova (Movendo Technology), EquiTest (Neurocom); Cognitive assessment: Mini Mental State Examination (MMSE), Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA), Attentional Matrices, Trail-Making Test (TMT), Corsi Block-Tapping Test, Digit Span Test, Rivermead Behavioural Memory Test, Tower of London Test, Raven's progressive Matrices, Weigl Test, Frontal Assessment Battery (FAB), Movement Assessment Battery for Children-Second Edition (MABC-2), Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children- Fourth Edition (WISC IV), Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS-2), Brief International Cognitive Assessment for MS (BICAMS); Cognitive rehabilitation software: Rehacom (Hasomed, Germany). |

Date: 16/06/2025

Sign: Jessica Podda