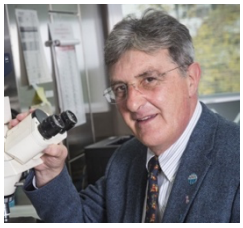
PERSONAL INFORMATION

Aldo Scarpa, MD, PhD



Policlinico Gian Battista Rossi - Piazzale L.A. Scuro 10, 37134 Verona
+39 0458127458
aldo.scarpa@univr.it

Sex Male | Date of birth 02/06/1956 | Nationality Italian
National Board of Physicians: Verona n. 3860

PRINCIPAL AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Pathology and Molecular Pathology
Histopathological and Molecular Diagnostics for Solid Tumours
Translational Research in cancer biomarker discovery and application

WORK EXPERIENCE

ACADEMIC and CLINICAL ROLES

October 2023 to date	Director of the University Department of Diagnostics and Public Health, University of Verona
October 2016 to date	Director of the Department of Pathology, Hospital Trust of Verona
August 2008 to date	Founder and Director of the ARC-Net (Applied Research on Cancer – Network) Research Centre University of Verona
October 2015 to 2021	Member of the Board of Directors of the University of Verona
March 2010 to date	Lead of the Italian participation to the “International Cancer Genome Consortium” (ICGC)
October 2010 to March 2015	Director of the University Department of Pathology and Diagnostics, University of Verona
January 2005 to date	Full Professor of Pathology, University of Verona
November 1992 to 2004	Associate Professor of Pathology, University of Verona
February 1989 to 1992	Assistant Professor of Pathology, University of Verona
January 1984 to 1988	Fellow, Associazione Italiana Ricerca Cancro (AIRC), molecular biology of cancer
January 1982 to 1983	Medical Lieutenant, vice-director Clinical Pathology and Microbiology, Military Hospital of Verona
January 1981 to 1982	Family practitioner, Villafranca (Verona)

EDUCATION

July 1980	M.D. degree, University of Padua, Italy
July 1985	Registered Pathologist, University of Parma, Italy
July 1988	Ph.D. in molecular pathology, University of Verona, Italy

RESEARCH ACTIVITY

Publications 863 publications in pathology and oncology (ORCID: 0000-0003-1678-739X).
H-Index 114 (Scopus, March 2026)

Citations 72,862 citations (Scopus, March 2026)

Honours and awards

- 1990-1991 Invited Scientist at the Japanese National Cancer Center, Tokyo, Japan
- 2010 Honorary citizenship of the city of Cuenca in Ecuador, in recognition of the results of the 10-year collaboration between the National Cancer Center of Cuenca and the University of Verona, including the foundation of the Molecular diagnostic laboratory pioneering population screening for cervical cancer and molecular diagnosis of cancer, as well as the implementation of the first biobank for research in South America. (http://www.institutodelcancer.med.ec/ index archivos/patologia.htm)
- 2014 The biobank of the ARC-Net Research Centre is among the resources listed from the WHO (http://bcnet.iarc.fr/contactus/partners.php)
- 2015 Jeremy Jass Prize for Research Excellence in Pathology 2014 for the best scientific paper published in 2014 by the Journal of Pathology, top-ranked pathology research journal.
- 2015 Recognition for the best scientific paper on cancer research (cholangiocarcinomas) published in the previous year at the presence of the President of the Italian Republic for the “Cancer Research Day” with the Italian Association for Cancer Research
- 2016 Recognition for the best scientific papers on cancer research (pancreatic cancer) published in the previous year at the presence of the President of the Italian Republic for the “Cancer Research Day” with the Italian Association for Cancer Research
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NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIA

Leader of National Scientific Consortia:

(i) the Pancreas Italia Network (PANIN) that unites the most active centres involved in pancreas cancer research and cure;

(ii) the 5-year Italian national programme of the Italian Association for Cancer Research (AIRC) “Innovative tools for cancer risk assessment and early diagnosis in pancreas cancer”

(iii) the Italian contribution to the International Cancer Genome Consortium for whole genome sequencing of pancreatic neoplasms.

(iv) member of scientific committee of Veneto Oncology Network for research biobanking and molecular diagnostics.

(v) member of National Committee for Genomics and Health of the Italian Ministry of Health;

(vi) leader of the Cancer Biobank Network Programme in the Veneto Region (population 4,600,000), to establish a network of research biobanks; co-leader of Veneto region molecular diagnostics laboratories network.

Member of International Scientific Consortia:

(i) International Cancer Genome Consortium (ICGC; www.icgc.org), where he has participated in the “Tissue and Clinical Annotation Working Group” from 2009 to 2019;

(ii) Founding member of ICGC – ARGO, which is the phase 2 of ICGC starting in January 2020 to Accelerate Research in Genomic Oncology (www.ICGC-ARGO.org)

(iii) Pancreas Genetic Europe (PANGEN-EU), pan European consortium for case-control molecular epidemiological study.

(iv) International Lymphoma Epidemiology Consortium (http://epi.grants.cancer.gov/InterLymph/)

(v) European Society of Medical Oncology (ESMO): Member of the Translational Research-Personalized Medicine Working Group.

(vi) Member of the Board of Directors of Fondazione Italiana Malattie del Pancreas (FIMP)

(vii) - Board of the Reviewers of Grant applications for Germany, France, UK, and Switzerland.

ACTIVITIES FOR THE INTEGRATED UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL (AOUI) OF VERONA

The Pathological Anatomy Operating Unit:

- provides histopathological and cytological diagnoses, as well as immunohistochemical and molecular characterizations for diagnostic and prognostic purposes as well as for prediction of response to therapy. It also provides molecular diagnoses for hereditary predispositions to cancer.
- is headquarters of the School of Specialization in Pathological Anatomy with 19 doctors in training.
- is an European Center of Excellence for rare tumors certified by the ENETS Society (European Neuroendocrine Tumor Society).

The Operating Unit is the Regional HUB for Molecular Diagnostics (DGRV n. 655/2018) which for many years has provided revenue for the AOUI of approximately 3 million Euros/year for this activity which is provided with university funding for machines and menpower. The human capital provided with research funding procured by prof. Scarpa covers the need for 4 technicians and 4 staff with bioinformatics skills.

ATTRACTION OF FUNDINGS

Scarpa has attracted funding amounting to several tens of millions of euros

University research projects, most of which have been funded by the ARC-Net Research Center in the last decade, visible on the center's website (https://arcnetit.wordpress.com/progetti-2/), and which testify to the national and international visibility of Veronese Pathological Anatomy.

Among the projects listed there, special mention must be made for 6 projects that have already had an impact on technological and clinical innovation both in diagnostic and prognostic-therapeutic terms and also therefore on the attraction of patients and can lay the foundations for its further implementation.

International Cancer Genome Consortium (ICGC). The University of Verona is a founding member of the consortium which, after a decade of activity, is now entering the second phase of the initiative, called ICGC-ARGO (https://www.icgc-argo.org), aimed at translating knowledge acquired in new clinical approaches to improve the outcomes of cancer patients. ICGC-ARGO collects samples from patients throughout their treatment journey to understand how tumors change during treatment.

The University of Verona, through the ARC-Net centre, is the leader of the Italian contribution to ICGC-ARGO with its own PONTE project (https://arcnetit.wordpress.com/ponte/), which involves Medical Oncology and the various surgeries of the AOUI. The project involves the analysis of tumors orphaned by standard therapies. These are 800 retrospective cases to identify molecular anomalies susceptible to pharmacological interventions and 1200 prospective cases. We expect that approximately 25% of the tumors analyzed will have access to drugs being tested or used for other pathologies. Digital images are collected which, when linked to clinical, genomic and response to therapy data, can allow the development of artificial intelligence systems capable of providing new classifications for the purposes of therapeutic choices.

The immediate impact for the AOUI is that the results concern patients belonging to the Oncology UOC and the various Surgical UOCs of the AOUI who, following discussions within the Molecular Tumor Board, currently being set up, can be started on appropriate therapies in clinical trials. The project is underway and the first 100 cases have already been analysed.

PNRR NextGenerationEU through the MUR – Project "HEAL ITALIA" - Health Extended Alliance for Innovative Therapies, Advanced Lab-research, and Integrated Approaches of Precision Medicine". Extended partnership in which the development of digital pathology is envisaged.

PNRR NextGenerationEU through the Ministry of Health – Project "HUB Advanced Diagnostics Partnership" which envisages the development of liquid biopsy in the oncology field.

PNRR NextGenerationEU through the MUR – Project "Strengthening BBMRI.it" – "Strengthening of the Biobanking and Biomolecular Resources Research Infrastructure of Italy" - Partnership in which the strengthening of the network of biobanks recognized by the Italian and European BBMRI Consortium is envisaged.

Project "Accelerating precision medicine in pancreatic cancer through definition of novel classifications and molecular targets"
5 years grant from the Italian Cancer Research Association (AIRC IG n. 26343) that envisages the multiomics characterization of hundreds of samples for which also digital slides are produced for the development of Artificial intelligence applications.

AOUI research projects funded by the Ministry of Health or by the Veneto Region and involving regional, national and European collaborations.

National Finalized Health Research "Precision medicine for patients with biliary tract tumors" RF-201302359692 in collaboration with the National Cancer Institute of Milan in the period 2016-2019.

E*uropean Program ERA-NET Transcan Bio-PaC "Biomarkers of tumor recurrence in Pancreatic Cancer"* – European contract signed by the Veneto Region for the period 2018-2021.

priHTA project "Telepathology Transplant Network: oncology diagnostic and organ suitability platform". Public-private collaboration between AOUI of Verona, AO of Padua, Menarini Diagnostics srl, Maticmind spa and Novartis spa. Lead body: AOUI of Verona, DGRV n.77 of 01-27-2015, AOUI VR DG Resolution n.79 of 01-29-2016.

Regional Finalized Health Research "Alterations of the EWSR1 gene as a prognostic marker in neuroendocrine tumors of the pancreas", in collaboration with the Treviso Hospital for the period 2020-2023.

National Finalized Health Research "BRCA and beyond: Dissecting BRCAness and overcoming therapeutic resistance", in collaboration with IRCCS Regina Elena of Rome for the period 2021-2023.

Technological and organizational innovation projects.

Project "The transformation of Pathological Anatomy from analogue to digital" (Prot. 76405, 28/11/2018)
Purpose: Innovate the routine by implementing a digitalized flow of activities from the arrival of the material to the formulation and delivery of the diagnosis, through traceability of the individual steps and the use of digital slides that allow intra- and inter-company sharing.
The proposed model will place the Pathological Anatomy of Verona among the first in the world to use a completely digital modality. This is also the basis for attracting public-private funding for the development of artificial intelligence programs.
This project has now become a Region project aimed at the digitalisation of the entire network of Pathological Anatomies of the Veneto by 2024 which has been financed with 24 million euros.

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March 19, 2026