

Michele Pellitteri

Curriculum Vitae

Personal Information

OFFICE ADDRESS: Department of Neurological Sciences (DSNNMM), Section of Anatomy and Histology, Medical Faculty, Strada Le Grazie 8, 37134 Verona, Italy

PHONE NUMBER: +39 045 8027155

CITIZENSHIP: Italian

LANGUAGES: Italian (mother tongue), English (spoken and written)

Education

1994-1999 Senior High School. I.M.S. Guarino Veronese, San Bonifacio (Verona), Italy.

1999-2005 Student, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Padua, Italy.

July 2005 **Degree in Pharmaceutical Chemistry and Technology** at the University of Padua, Faculty of Pharmacy (discussing a dissertation on “Nicotine addiction: a new animal model for studying environmental rewarding stimuli”).

December 2005 Board in Pharmacy (public qualifying examination for pharmacist profession).

2007-2009 Graduate student, PhD Curriculum (*Dottorato di ricerca*) in “Multimodal Imaging in Biomedicine” Faculty of Medicine, University of Verona, Italy (tutor: Prof. P.F. Fabene).

April 2010 **PhD in Multimodal Imaging in Biomedicine**, defending a Thesis entitled “New evidences of inflammatory mediators in absence epilepsy”.

Training Courses:

September-December 2004 Basic training for the use of chemical and biological hazard, anaesthetic drugs and surgery in laboratory animals, GlaxoSmithKline S.p.A., Verona, Italy.

September 2007 Theoretical and practical course “Behavioral observation with Observer XT and Ethovision XT”; Noldus (The Netherlands)

April 2008 Theoretical and practical course for the use of automatic gait analysis system CatWalk (Noldus); Brain Research Institute, University of Zurich, Switzerland.

Research experience

September 2004-August 2005

Stage at the Dept. of Neuropsychopharmacology, Addiction & Compulsive Behavioural Unit, Psychiatry CEED, GlaxoSmithKline S.p.A., Verona, Italy.

Acquired skills: laboratory animal handling, surgery in rats (with specific reference to venous catheter implant), utilization of Skinner Box to study operant conditioning.

October 2005-June 2006

Associate Scientist, Neuropsychopharmacology Dept., Addiction & Compulsive Behavioural Unit, Psychiatry CEED, GlaxoSmithKline S.p.A., Verona, Italy.

Acquired skills: in-vivo pharmacology, nicotine and cocaine self-administration in rodents (rats and mice), animal model development for the study of environmental rewarding stimuli connected with drug abuse.

Since January 2010

Post-doctoral fellow, Dept. of Neurological Sciences (DSNNMM), Section of Anatomy and Histology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Verona, Italy.

Experience in: gene micro-array, immunohistochemistry, live spectroscopy, behavioral testing to study cognition and motor skills in rodents (Morris water maze, elevated plus maze, open field, novel object recognition, CatWalk gait analyser). Data processing and statistical analysis. Fields of application: experimental epilepsy, anxiety, Parkinson's disease, neurodegenerative diseases.

Involved on Pharmacog project (Prediction of cognitive properties of new drug candidates for neurodegenerative diseases in early clinical development).

April-June 2011

Visiting Fellow at Delta Phenomics BV, Utrecht (NE).

Experience in: assessment of sociability, social memory and cognitive performance along with continuous observations (24hrs/day) of home-cage behavior in transgenic mouse model of schizophrenia.

Professional Societies:

Society for Neuroscience (SfN);

Gruppo Italiano per lo Studio della Neuro-Morfologia (GISN)

Teaching Experience:

- Collaboration to the courses on "Human Anatomy" in the academic years 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 for Nursing Degree (Vicenza), University of Verona (course in Vicenza), and for the Degree in Dentistry, University of Verona.

- Collaboration in mentoring of students for the bachelor thesis dissertation for Nursing Degree University of Verona and for Psychology Degree, University of Padua, since the academic year 2009-2010.

Publications

Tessari M., Catalano A., **Pellitteri M.**, Di Francesco C., Marini F., Gerrard P.A., Heidbreder C.A., Melotto S.: Correlation between serum ghrelin levels and cocaine-seeking behaviour triggered by cocaine-associated conditioned stimuli in rats. *Addiction Biology* 12(1), 22-29, 2007.

Mazzuferi M., Palma E., Martinello K., Maiolino F., Roseti C., Fucile S., Fabene P.F., Schio F., **Pellitteri M.**, Sperk G., Miledi R., Eusebi F., Simonato M.: Enhancement of GABAA-current run-down in the hippocampus occurs at the first spontaneous seizure in a model of temporal lobe epilepsy. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 107(7), 3180-3185, 2010.

Abstracts

1. Tessari M., Catalano A., **Pellitteri M.**, Marini F., Righetti C., Di Francesco C., Gerrard P.A., C. Heidbreder, S. Melotto: Differential involvement of corticosterone and ghrelin on extinction of cocaine self administration and on cocaine-associated cue-induced reinstatement in rats. 19th Congress of the European College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ECNP), 16-20 September 2006, Paris, France. (poster)
2. **Pellitteri M.**, Navarro Mora G., Chakir A., Opri S., Galiè M., Merigo F., Sbarbati A., van Luijtelaaar G., Fabene P.F.: The role of the cortex in absence epilepsy: focal or generalized epilepsy? 16th Meeting of the “Gruppo Italiano Studio Neuromorfologia (G.I.S.N.)”, 23-24 November 2006, Bologna, Italy. (oral communication)
3. **Pellitteri M.**, Navarro Mora G., Chakir A., Opri S., Galiè M., Merigo F., Sbarbati A., van Luijtelaaar G., Fabene P.F.: The role of the cortex in absence epilepsy: focal or generalized epilepsy? Congress of the Italian Society of Neuroscience (SINS), 27-30 September 2007, Verona, Italy. (poster)
4. **Pellitteri M.**, Nicolato E., Boschi F., Navarro Mora G., Chakir A., Galiè M., Merigo F., Marzola P., Sbarbati A., van Luijtelaaar G., Fabene P.F.: Microarray analysis correlated to structural and functional MRI in WAG/Rij rats. 8th European Congress on Epileptology, 21 - 25 September 2008, Berlin, Germany. (poster)
5. Caputo G., Battistella T., Fabene P.F., Lodico R., **Pellitteri M.**, Barisoni D.: Peripheral nerve regeneration by adipose-derived stem cells (ADSCs). 11th Congress of the European Societies of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery (ESPRAS), September 20-26, 2009, Rhodes, Greece. (poster)
6. Caputo G., Battistella T., Fabene P.F., Lodico R., **Pellitteri M.**, Barisoni D.: Peripheral nerve regeneration by adipose-derived stem cells (ADSCs). 22nd Congress of the Italian Society of Microsurgery, 1-3 October 2009, Modena, Italy (poster)
7. **Pellitteri M.**, F. Schio, R. Lodico, E. Nicolato, F. Boschi, G. Navarro Mora, A. Chakir, F. Merigo, E. Mosconi, P. Marzola, R. Vastyanov, A. Shandra, L. Goclevsky, A. Sbarbati, G. Van Luijtelaaar, P. F. Fabene. New evidences of a possible role of vascular alterations and cytokines in absence epilepsy. Society for Neuroscience Meeting, 17-21 October 2009, Chicago, IL, USA
8. Schio F., Lodico R., Nicolato E., Boschi F., Navarro Mora G., Chakir A., Merigo F., Mosconi E., Marzola P., Vastyanov R., Shandra A., Goclevsky L., Sbarbati A., Van Luijtelaaar G., Fabene P.F., **Pellitteri M.**: New evidences of a possible role of vascular alterations and cytokines in

absence epilepsy. Society for Neuroscience Meeting, 17-21 October 2009, Chicago, IL, USA. (poster)

9. Lodico R., **Pellitteri M.**, Chakir A., Becchi S., Schio F., Mariotti R., Bortolami O., Verlato G., Sbarbati A., Fabene P.F.: An optimized mice training protocol suitable for CatWalk, a computer-assisted gait analysis system. Society for Neuroscience Meeting, 17-21 October 2009, Chicago, IL, USA. (poster)
10. Osorio-Garcia M.I., Sima D.M., Mosconi E., **Pellitteri M.**, Schio F., Lodico R., Zanetti L., Van Luijckelaar G., Fiorini S., Nicolato E., Fabene P.F., Marzola P., Van Huffel S.: The influence of lineshape and baseline on quantification of in vivo magnetic resonance spectroscopy (MRS) signals. 2nd Annual Meeting of the Benelux Society of Magnetic Resonance in Medicine (ISMRM), 18 January 2010, Utrecht, The Netherlands. (poster)
11. Mosconi E., **Pellitteri M.**, Schio F., Lodico R., Zanetti L., Fiorini S., Nicolato E., Fabene P.F., Marzola P.: T2 relaxation and ¹H-MRS in early stage of pilocarpine-induced status epilepticus. Meeting of the Italian Chapter of the International Society of Magnetic Resonance in Medicine (ISMRM), 4-5 February 2010, Milan, Italy. (poster)
12. **Pellitteri M.**, Mosconi E., Schio F., Lodico R., Zanetti L., Fiorini S., Nicolato E., Fontanella M., Cellini B., Marzola P., Fabene P.F.: Role of N-acetylaspartate (NAA) and N-acetyl-aspartyl-glutamate (NAAG) in early stage of pilocarpine-induced status epilepticus in rat. 20th Meeting of the “Gruppo Italiano Studio Neuromorfologia (G.I.S.N.)”, 22-23 October 2010, Turin, Italy. (oral communication)