

PERSONAL INFORMATION



Nicola Smania, MD

Bibliometrics

Peer-reviewed publications: author and co-author of 266 publications on international journals.

H-Index: Scopus 54

Main Research Interests

Neurorehabilitation, Stroke, Multiple Sclerosis, Parkinson's Disease

WORK EXPERIENCE

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 2015 - present | Head of the Neurorehabilitation Unit
University Hospital of Verona, Italy |
| 2013 - present | Full Professor in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
University of Verona, Italy |
| 2024 - present | President of the Bachelor's Degree in Osteopathy |
| 2013 - 2024 | President of the Bachelor's Degree in Physiotherapy
University of Verona, Italy |
| 2011 - present | Director of the Post-graduate Specialization Program in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
University of Verona, Italy |
| 2007 - present | Director of the Neuromotor and Cognitive Rehabilitation Research Centre
Department of Neurosciences, Biomedicine and Movement Sciences
University of Verona, Italy |
| 2006 - present | President of the Master's Degree in Rehabilitation Science in Healthcare Professions
University of Verona, Italy |
| 2007 - 2015 | Head of the Neurological Rehabilitation Unit
University Hospital of Verona, Italy |
| 2007 - 2013 | Associate Professor in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
University of Verona, Italy |
| 1990 - 2007 | MD at the Rehabilitation section
University Hospital of Verona, Italy |

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

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|------|---|
| 2005 | Visiting Professor - Klinik Berlin (supervision Prof. Stefan Hesse)
Department of Neurological Rehabilitation, Free University of Berlin, Germany |
| 1996 | Post-Graduate Specialization in Child Neuropsychiatry
University of Verona, Italy |
| 1994 | Medical Fellow - Neuropsychology Unit (supervision Prof. Joseph Zihl)
Max Planck Institute Fur Psychiatrie, Munich, Germany |
| 1990 | Post-Graduate Specialization in Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine
University of Pavia, Italy |
| 1986 | Medical Degree (MD)
University of Verona, Italy |

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Publications of the last two years

- 1: Sandri A, Bonetto C, Fiorio M, Salaorni F, Bonardi G, Geroi C, Smania N, Tinazzi M, Gandolfi M. Unraveling the mechanisms of high-level gait control in functional gait disorders. *J Neural Transm (Vienna)*. 2025 Jan;132(1):95-104. doi: 10.1007/s00702-024-02829-4.
- 2: Capecci M, Gandolfi M, Straudi S, Calabrò RS, Baldini N, Pepa L, Andrenelli E, Smania N, Ceravolo MG, Morone G, Bonaiuti D; HTA section of SIMFER (Italian Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine). Advancing public health through technological rehabilitation: insights from a national clinician survey. *BMC Health Serv Res*. 2024 Dec 19;24(1):1626. doi: 10.1186/s12913-024-11991-0.
- 3: Picelli A, Di Censo R, Tomasello S, Scaturro D, Letizia Mauro G, Smania N, Filippetti M; Physical Modalities Section of the Italian Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine. Effects of pulsed electromagnetic fields on bone fractures: a systematic review update. *Eur J Phys Rehabil Med*. 2024 Dec;60(6):989-994. doi: 10.23736/S1973-9087.24.08226-1.
- 4: Veronese S, Picelli A, Zoccatelli A, Amuso D, Amore R, Smania N, Frisone A, Sbarbati A, Scarano A. Morphological characterization of two dermal and hypodermal alterations in an adult man: surgical scar vs. stretch mark. *J Ultrasound*. 2024 Dec;27(4):857-862. doi: 10.1007/s40477-024-00956-y. Epub 2024 Sep 21.
- 5: Picelli A, Di Censo R, Tamburin S, Smania N, Filippetti M. Are We Missing Something About the Maximum Dosing of Botulinum Toxin Type A1 in Adult and Pediatric Patients with Spasticity? *Toxins (Basel)*. 2024 Nov 27;16(12):513. doi: 10.3390/toxins16120513.
- 6: Filippetti M, Tamburin S, Di Maria I, Angeli C, Di Censo R, Mantovani E, Smania N, Picelli A. Diagnostic Nerve Block to Guide Botulinum Neurotoxin Type A Injection for Clonus in Spastic Equinovarus Foot: A Retrospective Study. *Toxins (Basel)*. 2024 Nov 21;16(12):503. doi: 10.3390/toxins16120503.
- 7: Picelli A, Tamburin S, Di Censo R, Smania N, Filippetti M. Does the Diffusion Profile Differ Between Botulinum Toxin Type a Formulations? Implications for the Management of Post-Stroke Spasticity. *Toxins (Basel)*. 2024 Nov 7;16(11):480. doi: 10.3390/toxins16110480.
- 8: Fonte C, Rotundo G, Varalta V, Filosa A, Muti E, Barletta C, Evangelista E, Venturelli M, Picelli A, Smania N. Combined Effect of tDCS and Motor or Cognitive Activity in Patients with Alzheimer's Disease: A Proof-of-Concept Pilot Study. *Brain Sci*. 2024 Oct 30;14(11):1099. doi: 10.3390/brainsci14111099.
- 9: Gambarin M, Malgrati T, Di Censo R, Modenese A, Balestro G, Muti G, Cappellesso M, Fonte C, Varalta V, Gallinaro Y, Pinto M, Carlucci M, Picelli A, Smania N. An Overview of Reviews on Predictors of Neurorehabilitation in Surgical or Non-Surgical Patients with Brain Tumours. *Life (Basel)*. 2024 Oct 26;14(11):1377. doi: 10.3390/life14111377.
- 10: Picelli A, Di Censo R, Angeli C, Spina S, Santamato A, Baricich A, Smania N, Filippetti M. Is the Silfverskiöld Test a valid tool for evaluating calf muscles spastic overactivity in patients with stroke? A retrospective observational study. *Eur J Phys Rehabil Med*. 2024 Oct;60(5):761-766. doi: 10.23736/S1973-9087.24.08153-X. Epub 2024 Sep 11.
- 11: Filippetti M, Tamburin S, Di Censo R, Aldegheri R, Mantovani E, Spina S, Battaglia M, Baricich A, Santamato A, Smania N, Picelli A. Do Diagnostic Nerve Blocks Affect the Starting Dose of Botulinum Neurotoxin Type A for Spasticity? A Case-Control Study. *Toxins (Basel)*. 2024 Sep 6;16(9):388. doi: 10.3390/toxins16090388.
- 12: Filippetti M, Lugoboni L, Di Censo R, Degli Esposti L, Facciorusso S, Varalta V, Santamato A, Calabrese M, Smania N, Picelli A. Classification of upper limb spasticity patterns in patients with multiple sclerosis: a pilot observational study. *J Rehabil Med*. 2024 Aug 25;56:jrm40548. doi: 10.2340/jrm.v56.40548.
- 13: Filippetti M, Tamburin S, Di Censo R, Adamo M, Manera E, Ingrà J, Mantovani E, Facciorusso S, Battaglia M, Baricich A, Santamato A, Smania N, Picelli A. Role of Diagnostic Nerve Blocks in the Goal-Oriented Treatment of Spasticity with Botulinum Toxin Type A: A Case-Control Study. *Toxins (Basel)*. 2024 Jun 3;16(6):258. doi: 10.3390/toxins16060258.
- 14: Capecci M, Gandolfi M, Straudi S, Calabrò RS, Baldini N, Pepa L, Andrenelli E, Smania N, Ceravolo MG, Morone G, Bonaiuti D; HTA section of SIMFER (Italian Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine). Shaping the future: an Italian survey unveils the unmet need to empower physical medicine and rehabilitation professionals with technological skills. *Eur J Phys Rehabil Med*. 2024 Jun;60(3):540-543. doi: 10.23736/S1973-9087.24.08376-X.
- 15: Cacciante L, Pregnotato G, Salvalaggio S, Federico S, Kiper P, Smania N, Turolla A. Language and gesture neural correlates: A meta-analysis of functional magnetic resonance imaging studies. *Int J Lang Commun Disord*. 2024 May-Jun;59(3):902-912. doi: 10.1111/1460-6984.12987.
- 16: Varalta V, Righetti A, Evangelista E, Vantini A, Martoni A, Tamburin S, Fonte C, Di Vico IA, Tinazzi M, Waldner A, Picelli A, Filippetti M, Smania N. Effects of upper limb vibratory stimulation training on motor symptoms in Parkinson's disease: an observational study. *J Rehabil Med*. 2024 Feb 26;56:jrm19495. doi: 10.2340/jrm.v56.19495.

- 17: Faccio E, Fonte C, Smania N, Neri J. (Re)constructing identity following acquired brain injury: The complex journey of recovery after stroke. *Health Expect.* 2024 Feb;27(1):e13874. doi: 10.1111/hex.13874.
- 18: Zanconato L, Rossetini G, Mourad F, Cotrozzi M, Carità E, Di Filippo L, Turolla A, Smania N, Picelli A, Valè N, Maselli F. Ewing's sarcoma in a young man mimicking lateral elbow pain: A case report with 2 years follow-up. *Physiother Res Int.* 2024 Jan;29(1):e2063. doi: 10.1002/pri.2063.
- 19: Favetta M, Romano A, Valè N, Cieslik B, Federico S, Girolami A, Mazzarotto D, Pregolato G, Righetti A, Salvalaggio S, Castelli E, Smania N, Bargellesi S, Kiper P, Petrarca M. A scoping review of scientific concepts concerning motor recovery after stroke as employed in clinical trials. *Front Neurol.* 2023 Dec 11;14:1221656. doi: 10.3389/fneur.2023.1221656.
- 20: Nolan J, Jacques A, Godecke E, Abe H, Babyar S, Bergmann J, Birnbaum M, Dai S, Danells C, Edwards TG, Gandolfi M, Jahn K, Koter R, Mansfield A, Nakamura J, Pardo V, Perennou D, Piscicelli C, Punt D, Romick-Sheldon D, Saeys W, Smania N, Vaes N, Whitt AL, Singer B. Clinical practice recommendations for management of lateropulsion after stroke determined by a Delphi expert panel. *Clin Rehabil.* 2023 Nov;37(11):1559-1574. doi: 10.1177/02692155231172012.
- 21: Picelli A, Munari D, Serina A, Filippetti M, Baricich A, Santamato A, Guerrazzi F, Modenese A, Smania N. Short-wave diathermy for spastic equinus foot in chronic stroke patients: a proof-of-concept pilot study. *Minerva Med.* 2023 Aug;114(4):469-475. doi: 10.23736/S0026-4806.21.07581-9.
- 22: Emamvirdi M, Hosseinzadeh M, Letafatkar A, Thomas AC, Dos'Santos T, Smania N, Rossetini G. Comparing kinematic asymmetry and lateral step-down test scores in healthy, chronic ankle instability, and patellofemoral pain syndrome female basketball players: a cross-sectional study. *Sci Rep.* 2023 Jul 31;13(1):12412. doi: 10.1038/s41598-023-39625-1.
- 23: Orejel Bustos AS, Tramontano M, Morone G, Ciancarelli I, Panza G, Minnetti A, Picelli A, Smania N, Iosa M, Vannozzi G. Ambient assisted living systems for falls monitoring at home. *Expert Rev Med Devices.* 2023 Jul-Dec;20(10):821-828. doi: 10.1080/17434440.2023.2245320.
- 24: Veronese S, Zoccante L, Smania N, Sbarbati A. Stretch marks: a visible expression of connective's involvement in autism spectrum disorders. *Front Psychiatry.* 2023 Jun 28;14:1155854. doi: 10.3389/fpsyt.2023.1155854.
- 25: Mancuso M, Iosa M, Abbruzzese L, Matano A, Coccia M, Baudo S, Benedetti A, Gambarelli C, Spaccavento S, Ambiveri G, Megna M, Tognetti P, Maietti A, Rinaldesi ML, Gamberini G, Varalta V, Morone G, Ciancarelli I; CogniReMo Study Group. The impact of cognitive function deficits and their recovery on functional outcome in subjects affected by ischemic subacute stroke: results from the Italian multicenter longitudinal study CogniReMo. *Eur J Phys Rehabil Med.* 2023 Jun;59(3):284-293. doi: 10.23736/S1973-9087.23.07716-X. Epub 2023 May 15.
- 26: Villa-Sánchez B, Gandolfi M, Emadi Andani M, Valè N, Rossetini G, Polesana F, Menaspà Z, Smania N, Tinazzi M, Fiorio M. Placebo effect on gait: a way to reduce the dual-task cost in older adults. *Exp Brain Res.* 2023 Jun;241(6):1501-1511. doi: 10.1007/s00221-023-06620-x.
- 27: Scaturro D, Vitagliani F, Signa G, Tomasello S, Tumminelli LG, Picelli A, Smania N, Letizia Mauro G. Neck Pain in Fibromyalgia: Treatment with Exercise and Mesotherapy. *Biomedicine.* 2023 Mar 14;11(3):892. doi: 10.3390/biomedicine11030892.
- 28: Morone G, Baricich A, Paolucci S, Bentivoglio AR, De Blasiis P, Carlucci M, Violi F, Levato G, Pani M, Carpagnano LF, Spandonaro F, Picelli A, Smania N. Long-Term Spasticity Management in Post-Stroke Patients: Issues and Possible Actions-A Systematic Review with an Italian Expert Opinion. *Healthcare (Basel).* 2023 Mar 7;11(6):783. doi: 10.3390/healthcare11060783.
- 29: Gandolfi M, Fiorio M, Geroin C, Torneri P, Menaspà Z, Smania N, Giladi N, Tinazzi M. Dual tasking affects gait performance but not automaticity in functional gait disorders: A new diagnostic biomarker. *Parkinsonism Relat Disord.* 2023 Mar;108:105291. doi: 10.1016/j.parkreldis.2023.105291.
- 30: Picelli A, Di Censo R, Zadra A, Faccioli S, Smania N, Filippetti M. Management Of Spastic Equinovarus Foot in Children with Cerebral Palsy: An Evaluation of Anatomical Landmarks for Selective Nerve Blocks of the Tibial Nerve Motor Branches. *J Rehabil Med.* 2023 Feb 20;55:jrm00370. doi: 10.2340/jrm.v55.4538.
- 31: Gandolfi M, Mazzoleni S, Morone G, Iosa M, Galletti F, Smania N. The role of feedback in the robotic-assisted upper limb rehabilitation in people with multiple sclerosis: a systematic review. *Expert Rev Med Devices.* 2023 Jan;20(1):35-44. doi: 10.1080/17434440.2023.2169129.
- 32: Gandolfi M, Boscolo Galazzo I, Gasparin Pavan R, Cruciani F, Vale N, Picelli A, Storti SF, Smania N, Menegaz G. eXplainable AI Allows Predicting Upper Limb Rehabilitation Outcomes in Sub-Acute Stroke Patients. *IEEE J Biomed Health Inform.* 2023 Jan;27(1):263-273. doi: 10.1109/JBHI.2022.3220179.

EDITORIAL COLLABORATION

Section Editor	Life MDPI — (Physiology and Pathology section)
Associated Editor	European Journal of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine Frontiers in Neurology — (Neurorehabilitation)
Editorial Board	Journal of Rehabilitation Medicine Rehabilitation Research and Practice Case Reports in Medicine

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue	Italian				
Other languages	English				
Self-assessment	Understanding		Speaking		Writing
	Listening	Reading	Spoken Interaction	Spoken Production	
Level	Independent user	Independent user	Independent user	Independent user	Proficient user

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Digital skills **Good command of Microsoft™ tools (Word, Excel and Power Point)**

PLACE AND DATE	According to law 679/2016 of the Regulation of the European Parliament of 27h April 2016, I hereby express my consent to process and use my data provided in this CV
VERONA, 11/02/2025	SIGNATURE Prof. Nicola Smania

"Il sottoscritto, sotto la propria personale responsabilità e consapevole delle sanzioni previste dall'art. 76 del DPR n.445 del 28/12/2000, per le ipotesi di falsità in atti e dichiarazioni mendaci, dichiara che quanto sopra riportato corrisponde al vero."

"Dichiara, altresì, di essere informato ai sensi e per gli effetti di cui al D.Lgs n.196/2003 (Codice in materia di protezione dei dati personali del 30/06/2003) e dell'Art. 13 del Regolamento UE 679/2016, che i dati personali raccolti saranno trattati, anche con strumenti informatici, esclusivamente nell'ambito del procedimento ECM per il quale la presente dichiarazione viene resa. Autorizzo il trattamento dei miei dati personali ai sensi del D.Lgs sopra menzionato."