

## Carla Montesano, PhD

Department of Biology - University of Rome Tor Vergata.  
Via della Ricerca Scientifica, 1 00133 - Rome, Italy  
Office: +39 06 72594237  
[montesano@uniroma2.it](mailto:montesano@uniroma2.it)



- Assistant Professor of General Pathology and Immunology.
- National Scientific Qualification as Associate Professor in General Pathology and Clinical Pathology (2020)
- Since 2023 CM is President of the UNESCO Interdisciplinary Chair in Biotechnology and Bioethics of which she has been a member since 2000.

### Research activity

CM has a long specific track of research activities in the field of immunology, host-pathogen interaction and their implications in the development of diagnostic and vaccine strategies as well as in the field of microRNA-mediated gene expression regulation, particularly in the analysis of the effects of plant-derived microRNAs on human health, cancer and immune response.

### Academic courses

General Pathology, Immunology, Applied Immunology and elective course “Health, Nutrition and sustainable development” for MSc degree courses in “Molecular and Cellular Biology and Biomedical Science”, “Medical Biotechnology”, “Pharmacy” and “Biotechnology” (the latter two as international courses in English language)

### Most relevant projects

- Coordinator of the H2020 “*Science with and for Society*” Program of European Commission Project STARBIOS2 Structural Transformation to Attain Responsible BIOSciences project (2016-2020) on Responsible Research and Innovation
- Coordinator of the H2020 “*Science with and for Society*” Program of European Commission Project RESBIOS – Responsible Research in Biosciences project (2020-2023) on Responsible Research and Innovation (2020-2023)
- WIDESPREAD-2018-2020 “CANVAS- Enhancing Cancer Vaccine Science for New Therapy Pathways”. CANVAS (2022-2025)
- H2020 EC “*Swafs*” Program. STEPCHANGE Project “Science Transformation in EuroPe through Citizens involvement in HeAlth, coNservation and enerGy rEsearch – Citizen Science Initiative on COVID-19 and other infectious disease outbreak in Italy on Infectious disease outbreak preparedness” (2021-2024)
- Progetto Piano Nazionale di Ripresa e Resilienza (PNRR), Mission 4 Education and Research, From Research to Enterprise, 'Innovation Ecosystems', funded by the EU – NextGeneration EU: 'Rome Technopole'. "Outreach, public engagement, lifelong learning" (2022-today)
- H2020 EC “*Swafs*” Program. DIOSI Project - Developing and Implementing hands on training on Open Science and Open Innovation for Early Career Researchers (2021-23)
- Coordinator of the "Progetti Gruppi di Ricerca 2020" LazioInnova Project “ Easy-To-use Immunization against COvid-19” ETICO (2021-2023)

*Projects for the organization and upgrading of diagnostic and research laboratories and of training for biomedical personnel and students in Africa:*

- Cooperation Italia-Marocco Project L.212/92 - Institut National d’Hygiène funded by Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2004-2006).

- "Benghazi Action Plan for organization and re-qualification of Benghazi Centre for Infection Diseases and Immunology" and the treatment of HIV pediatric infection Benghazi Libya funded by EU (2005-2008).
- Emergency Program in Sierra Leone to fight the Ebola epidemics funded by Italian Episcopal Conference and Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs - International cooperation – MAECI and in collaboration with local and Italian NGOs (2015-2018)
- Collaborative PhD programme between the University of Rome Tor Vergata and the Evangelical University of Cameroon with title recognized by both universities (2017-today)

## Networks

- Chair holder of UNESCO Interdisciplinary Chair in Biotechnology and Bioethics for the UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs Programme of UNESCO for promoting international inter-university cooperation and networking to enhance institutional capacities through knowledge sharing and collaborative work (Chair holder since 2023-today; member since 2000)
- Co-founder of the International Network for Responsible Biosciences, a space for the bioscience community to share knowledge and grow together, using the Responsible Research and Innovation and Open Science framework, and encourage multi-, inter- and trans-disciplinary approaches to solving the modern problems facing research and society (2022-today)
- Vice-President of the 'European Biotechnology Group of the Tor Vergata Science Park' Eurobiopark, a non-profit association formed by professors and researchers from research and training in Rome for technology transfer to developing countries. (2019-today)
- Programs for disseminating scientific culture and raise awareness of health issues in high schools and city districts.

## Relevant Publications

- Ka'e AC et al. Inflammatory profile of vertically HIV-1 infected adolescents receiving ART in Cameroon: a contribution toward optimal pediatric HIV control strategies. *Front. Immunol.* (2023) 14:1239877.
- Aissatou A et al. Pre-existing immunity to SARS-CoV-2 before the COVID-19 pandemic era in Cameroon: Amcomparative analysis according to HIV status. *Front. Immunol.* (2023) 14:1155855.
- Roglia V, Exogenous miRNAs from *Moringa oleifera* Lam. recover a dysregulated lipid metabolism. *Front. Mol. Biosci.* (2022) 9:1012359
- Minutolo A et al. Plant microRNAs from *Moringa oleifera* regulate immune response and HIV infection *Front. Pharmacol. Front Pharmacol.* (2021) 11:620038.
- Potestà, M et al. Effect of microvesicles from *Moringa oleifera* containing miRNA on proliferation and apoptosis in tumor cell lines. *Cell Death Discovery* (2020) 6(1),43
- Minutolo A et al. *Olea europaea* small RNA with functional homology to human miR34a in cross-kingdom interaction of anti-tumoral response. *Sci Rep.* (2018) 17;8(1):12413.
- Glynn JR et al. Asymptomatic infection and unrecognised Ebola virus disease in Ebola-affected households in Sierra Leone: a cross-sectional study using a new non-invasive assay for antibodies to Ebola virus. *Lancet Infect Dis.* (2017) 17(6):645-653.

According to law 679/2016 of the Regulation of the European Parliament of 27th April 2016, I hereby express my consent to process and use my data provided in this CV

Rome, 28.09.2023

  
\_\_\_\_\_