



UNIMORE
UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI
MODENA E REGGIO EMILIA

PhD Program in Molecular and Regenerative Medicine

Molecular and Regenerative Medicine Seminar Series (MRMss)



Mechanistic Insights into Hematopoietic Stem Cell Response to Gene Editing and Defective Hematopoiesis in Aging and Leukemia

Anastasia Conti, PhD
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Telethon Institute for Gene Therapy*

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Dr. Conti earned her PhD in Public Health Sciences in 2015 from the University of Parma (Italy), pioneering new research lines focused on understanding the transcriptional and epigenetic regulation of transposable elements (TEs) in the pathogenesis of Acute Myeloid Leukemia (AML). In 2016, she joined the San Raffaele Telethon Institute for Gene Therapy (SR-Tiget) in Milan (Italy) as a postdoctoral fellow, where she embarked on a research project aimed at dissecting the response of hematopoietic stem cells (HSCs) to gene editing (GE) procedures. In 2020, Dr. Conti became a Senior Postdoctoral Researcher at the same institute, focusing her work on the role of TEs in AML response to chemotherapy-induced senescence and on the impact of inflammation and senescence on genetically engineered HSCs for the development of future HSPC-based clinical applications. Currently, Dr. Conti is a Project Leader at SR-Tiget, with full responsibility for leading and mentoring a research team within a larger unit. She drives independent research lines on the role of TEs in AML poor response to chemotherapy and on the molecular basis of bone marrow failure in telomere biology disorders. She has demonstrated strong research productivity, with 22 publications (seven as first author, one as corresponding author) and a patent application; two manuscripts are under revision, and three preprints have been published in the past three years. In addition, Dr. Conti has secured funding from national and international agencies and received several awards from prestigious international gene and cell therapy societies (ESGCT, ASGCT) and stem cell organizations (ISSCR) for her pioneering work in hematology. Notably, she was honored with the Excellence in Research Award from the American Society for Gene and Cell Therapy (ASGCT) in both 2019 and 2022 for her research on HSC responses to genetic engineering.

Dr. Conti is a member of the European Hematology Association (EHA) and the American Society of Hematology (ASH), as well as prestigious international societies in gene therapy and stem cell research (e.g., ASGCT, ESGCT, ISSCR). She is also a past EHA-ASH TRTH early-career hematological scientist. Dr. Conti remains committed to advancing hematology and genetic engineering of rare genetic diseases.

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