



PERSONAL INFO

Lucia Altucci, MD, PhD

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Date of birth 08/04/1968 | Nationality: Italian

MAIN SCIENTIFIC INTERESTS:

Innovative therapeutic strategies against cancer, (epi)drug discovery and development, identification of pathogenesis of diseases with a focus on cancer (epi)genome alterations

CURRENT POSITION

2016 - present	Full Professor of General Pathology - University of Campania “Luigi Vanvitelli”, Naples, IT.
	Rector’s Delegate for Research & Innovation - University of Campania “Luigi Vanvitelli”, Naples, IT.
2020	Comitato scientifico Fondazione RiMED, Palermo, IT
2018	Member of the Italian Scientific Qualification Committee (ASN) - General Pathology, IT.
2019	President of CNGR (Comitato Nazionale dei Garanti della Ricerca), https://cngr.miur.it/component/

PREVIOUS POSITIONS

2007-2016	Associate Professor of General Pathology, Second University of Naples, IT.
2009 - 2016	Associate Researcher at the Italian National Research Council Institute of Genetics and Biophysics “Adriano Buzzati-Traverso” (CNR), Via Pietro Castellino 111, Napoli, IT.
Since 2013	Member of the Translational Medicine Ph.D. scientific board, University of Campania “Luigi Vanvitelli”, Naples, IT.
1999-2007	Researcher at the Second University of Naples, IT.

EDUCATION

1997-2001	Ph.D. in Molecular and Cellular Pathology, summa cum laude, University of Naples “Federico II”, IT.
1997-1999	Fellowship at the Institut de Génétique et de Biologie Moléculaire et Cellulaire IGBMC, Unité de Recherche INSERM, Strasbourg, FR.
1996	Fellowship at the Italian Foundation for Cancer Research (FIRC - AIRC), awarded to attend the advanced course on <i>Cancer Treatment</i> at the European Institut of Oncology (IEO), Milan, IT.

- 1996** Specialist in Medical Oncology, summa cum laude, Second University of Naples, IT.
- 1993 - 1994** Fellowship at the Imperial Cancer Research Fund (ICRF) in London, UK –Imperial Cancer Research Foundation London, UK
- 1992** Degree in Medicine and Surgery (summa cum laude) University of Naples “Federico II”, IT.
- 1992** Habilitation to practice Medicine & Surgery

PERSONAL SKILLS AND COMPETENCES

Research Interests. Innovative therapeutic strategies against cancer, (epi)drug discovery and development, identification of pathogenesis of diseases with a focus on cancer (epi)genome alterations. Her contribution to the understanding of chromatin deregulation and epi-biomarkers in cancer as well as to the identification of innovative epi-strategies for cancer treatment and prevention are considered relevant.

Mother tongue: Italian.

LANGUAGES

	Understanding		Speaking		Writing
	Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	Writing
English	C2	C2	C2	C2	C2
French	C1	C1	C1	C1	C1

A1/A2: English basic user - B1/B2: English independent user - C1/C2: Proficient English user. Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

TECHNICAL SKILLS AND COMPETENCES

Excellent knowledge of Microsoft Windows/Mac OS, Office™ Suite. Statistical Software.

AWARDS & HONORS

- Winner of the TechHub competition (1st prize) for entrepreneurial ideas, 2015
- Winner of the Start Cup-Campania Prize for the best business idea for industrial application, 2010
- Winner of the Presidential Gold Medal for Scientific Excellence awarded by the President of the Italian Republic (Giorgio Napolitano) for scientific excellence in epigenetics and cancer, 2010
- Winner of the International Prize for Cancer research awarded by the *Accademia dei Lincei* presented by Carlo A. Ciampi, then President of the Italian Republic, 2005
- Award Foundation Berlucci for Cancer Research, 2005.
- Award Italian Association of Cell Cultures (ONLUS-AICC), 2002
- Poste verte INSERM, France, 2002
- European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO), short-term fellowship, 2001
- French Association Against Cancer, (ARC)
- French Foundation for Medical Research, (FRM)
- Rotary International

SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES

- ✓ Since 2013, Member of the Italian Society of Biophysics and Molecular Biology (SIBBM)
- ✓ Since 2011, Member of ARFACID Scientific Board Member.
- ✓ Since 2010, Co-founder of the not for profit association *Le donne per l'arte e la scienza* (<http://www.ledonneperlarteelascienza.it>).
- ✓ Since 2006, Member of Italian Society of Pathology and Translational Medicine (SIP)
- ✓ Since 2002, Member of the Italian society of Cell Culture (AICC)
- ✓ 1996-2009, Member of the Italian Society of Medical Oncology (AIOM)

EDITORIAL BOARDS

- 2017 - present co-Editor-in-chief of Clinical Epigenetics
- 2018 - present Journal of Molecular Biochemistry (JMolBiochem)
- 2013 - present Editorial Advisory Board, Journal of Cellular Senescence and Therapy
- 2013 - present Editorial board of JGS (J. Genetics Study)
- 2013 - present Editorial board of Journal of Cancer Research and Therapeutic Oncology
- 2013 - present Editorial Board of ASR (Applied Scientific Reports)

PATENTS

- WO2008125988A1. Novel derivatives of psammaphin A, a method for their synthesis and their use for the prevention or treatment of cancer
- PCT132779. Method for the prognosis and/or treatment of acute promyelocytic leukemia

SPIN OFF AND COMPANIESEPI-C srl (Epigenetic compounds), Academic SPIN-OFF <http://www.epi-c.com/about/>**NATIONAL RESEARCH GRANTS
(SELECTED)**

- *Identification and characterization of new therapeutic approaches against cancer* (Acronym IDEAL), 2018
- *Identification, Characterization and mining of colorectal tumorigenesis: cause, prevention & cure* (Acronym iCURE), 2018
- *Oncology Care Management* (Acronym ONCARE), 2017
- I H2020 COST action: *Epigenetic Chemical Biology – Action CM1406*.
- Italian Association of Cancer Research (AIRC), 2016-2018
- Project of Relevant National Interest, PRIN 2015
- TechHub, 2015
- Project of Relevant National Interest, PRIN 2012
- Bandiera Epigenomica *EpiGen* Project CNR 2011-2017
- *Novel nanotech strategies for development of drugs and diagnostics for targeting of circulating cancer cells*. National Operation Program “Ricerca e Competitività” 2007-2013, PON01_02782:
- *Development of Sirtuin modulators as a novel therapeutic approach in neurodegenerative, oncology and cardiovascular disease* (Acronym: SIRT-IN), National Operation Program, (PON01_01227)
- National Operation “Program Ricerca e Competitività” PON 2007-2013
- Italian Association of Cancer Research (AIRC), 2011-2013
- Project of Relevant National Interest PRIN, 2008
- Italian Association of Cancer Research (AIRC), My First Air (MFAG)
- Project of Relevant National Interest PRIN 2006
- Regione Campania L.5 Annualità 2005
- Project of Relevant National Interest PRIN 2004
- *Functional and molecular characterization of the effects of drugs interfering in signal transduction and transcription* (Funded by the Italian Ministry of Health, 2002)
- *Functional and molecular characterization of the effects of drugs interfering in signal transduction and transcription Italian* (Funded by the Italian Ministry of Health, 2002)
- *Identification of treatments interfering in the regulation of cell death in leukemia* (2000)
- *Identification of genes involved in regulating apoptosis in leukemic cells: characterization of action of novel retinoid-based treatments* (Funded by the Italian Government, 1999)

**INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH GRANTS
(SELECTED)**

- H2020 COST action: *Epigenetic Chemical Biology - (Acronym: EPICHEM) Action CM1406*
- H2020 –RISE *Ocean Medicines*, 2015-2018
- World Association of Cancer Research, AICR, grant 2015-2018
- 7th Frame program EU Project Blueprint. Contract n° 282517
- Coordinator of 7th Frame program EU Project ATLAS (www.atlas-eu.com). (duration 42m, 2009-2012): *Development of Laser-Based Technologies and Prototype Instruments for Genome-Wide Chromatin Immuno Precipitation Analyses*. Contract no. 221952
- 7th Frame program EU Project Apo-sys. Contract n°200767
- 6th European Framework program Integrated Project EPITRON. Contract 518417
- 7th Frame program EU Project Cancer-Dip. Contract n°200620
- EC shared cost RTD action *Synthesis and mechanism of action. of novel classes of retinoids and rexinoids with antineoplastic activities* (Acronym: ANTICANCER RETINOIDS, contract QLK3-CT2002-02029)
- EC shared cost RTD action *Targeting chromatin in cancer: Histone deacetylases and differentiation therapy of acute myeloid leukemias* (Acronym: CHROMATIN AND CANCER, contract QLG1-CT2000-01935)

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL EXPERTISE IN EVALUATION & QUALITY (SELECTED)

Expert and Evaluator *National Agency for the Evaluation of Universities and Research Institutes* AVA – ANVUR, 2018 - 2019
 Expert and Evaluator for the COST, H2020 Action, 2016
 External Evaluator for THE Program *Planccacer*, France, 2016
 External expert for the Irish Academy of Science, 2014-16, UK
 External evaluator for the LLC, UK, 2016
 External evaluator for the *Agence Nationale de la Recherche* (ANR), France, 2016
 External evaluator for the *Innovation driven Initiative for the Development and Integration of Indian and European Research* (INOO-INDIGO), EU-Indian grants, 2015
 External evaluator of the *Skolkovo Foundation*, Russia, 2013-2015
 Expert and evaluator, AVA, IT. 2015
 Expert and Evaluator, ANVUR, IT. 2015
 External Evaluator for the ER-Africa Common Call Management. (www.erafrica.eu) 2015
 Reviewer for numerous international journals including; Nature, Nature Medicine, EMBO J, EMBO reports, Science, PNAS, Genes & Dev., J. Med. Chem., I.J.B.C.B., M.C.B., Blood, Mol Cell, Cancer Cell.
 Evaluator of Ministry of University and of Scientific Research (MIUR) projects PRIN Projects
 Member of the evaluation panel of Competence Centre for Estonian Cancer Research (CCCR), 2012
 Member of the evaluation panel of the Dutch Cancer Society, 2010
 Member of the evaluation panel of the Ministry of education of Science of the Russian Federation, 2010-15
 Member of the evaluation panel of IGA of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic 2012,
 Member of the evaluation panel of INCA, (France) 2010-13
 Member of the Evaluation Panel within the EU 7th Frame program for the call Incurable cancers both for the 1st and 2nd step of evaluation, 2010 and 2011
 Member of the evaluation panel of ARC evaluation (France) 2009-15
 Member of the European Science Foundation (EFS) Panel 2 to revise the scientific quality value of the Bulgarian Academy of Science, 2009

BIBLIOMETRIC INFORMATION

SOURCE	h-index	h5-index	i10-index	Citation	Publications
SciVal	51	15	#	10.764	237
WOS	49	#	#	10.048	223
SCOPUS	51	#	#	10.850	239
Google Scholar	61	#	176	14.782	#

Lucia Altucci is listed as a Top Italian Scientists (TIS),
http://www.topitalianscientists.org/top_italian_scientists_VIA-Academy.aspx?Cerca=lucia%20altucci

PUBLICATIONS

The full list of publications on PubMed can be found at <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=altucci+l>

PERSONAL STATEMENT

My interests involve the development of a comprehensive understanding of pathogenesis of human diseases, focusing on cancer. My academic medical training together with my medical Oncology specialization and the PhD in molecular Oncology represent an excellent background to understand and link both molecular and clinical alterations in cancer. Thus, my research is focused to innovative therapeutic strategies against cancer, (epi)drug discovery and development, identification of pathogenesis of diseases with a focus on cancer (epi)genome alterations.

CONTRIBUTION TO SCIENCE

I started my carrier after my degree in Medicine & Surgery with the aim to translate clinical problems into molecular questions, which in turn might become solutions for patient's needs. Thus, my general interests include the development of a comprehensive understanding of pathogenesis of human diseases, focusing on cancer. My academic medical training together with my medical Oncology specialization and the PhD in molecular Oncology represent an excellent background to understand and link both molecular and clinical alterations in cancer. Thus, my studies have been focused to innovative therapeutic strategies against cancer, (epi)drug discovery and development, identification of pathogenesis of diseases with a focus on cancer (epi)genome alterations. With this I have contributed more than 200 manuscripts on International Journals as well as I am inventor in several patents and patent applications. I contributed to the discovery of new epi-drugs and to their understanding of the mechanism(s) of action in cancers. I also contributed in the identification of novel deregulation in the epigenome in different cancer types. In particular, cell life and cell death are governed by (epi)genetic programs that are essential for virtually all aspects of multi-cellular organisms, ranging from shaping the body during embryonic development to the elimination of cells which are no longer required, as in the case of the mammary gland involution during weaning or terminally differentiated cells, or potentially hazardous, as mutated cells. These programs are believed to depend on the balance between survival and apoptotic factors which themselves are regulated by gene networks that reflect the intra- and

extracellular conditions of the cell or organ. In addition to the life-death signaling in “normal” cells also malignant transformation is frequently associated with the alteration or abrogation of signaling pathways that are essential for the maintenance of normal cellular functionality and/or the control of cell survival and cell death. Consequently restoring aberrant signaling pathways to normalcy, the eradication of cancer cells that have escaped apoptosis by selectively forcing them to commit suicide, is one approach to cancer therapy. While the genetic aberrations occurring in cancer are fairly well studied, we have only recently become aware of the epigenetic deregulation associated with tumorigenesis. The deposition of epigenetic “marks” on chromatin – post-translational modifications of nucleosomal proteins and methylation of particular DNA sequences - is accomplished by players, which are often embedded in multi-subunit “machineries” that have acquired aberrant functionalities during tumorigenesis. Proof-of-principle comes from studies with histone deacetylase inhibitors, promising novel anti-cancer drugs. In this field my laboratory focused on the epigenetic mechanisms associated with tumorigenesis and investigated the therapeutic potential of epigenetic modulators targeting epi-players in the context of cancer diseases.

