

CURRICULUM VITAE ET STUDIORUM

VALENTINA TOMASSINI

Nationality: dual (Italian and British)

Place & date of birth: Rome, 14 June 1974

Languages: Italian (native), English (fluent)

Professional bodies: Ordine dei Medici e Chirurghi di Roma (n. M50855); GMC UK (7028889), full with specialist registration in Neurology since 24/11/08

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PRE - AND POST -GRADUATE EDUCATION

High School

1993, School leaving exam from "Liceo Ginnasio Statale Giulio Cesare" (classical studies), Rome, Italy (maximum score + honours)

Preclinical & Clinical

1993-1999, Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery (maximum score + honours), University of Rome "La Sapienza"
Thesis: The impact of Interferon beta therapy on the treatment of multiple sclerosis patients: the experience of the University of Rome MS Centre.

Specialist training

1999-2004, Specialist training in Neurology, Department of Neurology and Psychiatry, University of Rome "La Sapienza", Final exam (maximum score + honours), Thesis: Predictors of long-term response to Interferon beta treatment in multiple sclerosis.

Doctorate

2004-2008, PhD in experimental and clinical neuroscience, Department of Clinical Neurology and Oxford Centre for Functional MRI of the Brain (FMRIB), Nuffield Department of Clinical Neurosciences, University of Oxford. Thesis: Human brain networks for motor control and learning: testing structural-functional relationships

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Current

Since September 2019: Associate Professor in Neurology ("Chiamata diretta"), Department of Neuroscience, Imaging and Clinical Sciences, School of Medicine, University of Chieti-Pescara "G. d'Annunzio" (Professore Associato di Neurologia)

Since December 2019: Honorary Consultant in Neurology, Department of Neurology, SS. Annunziata Hospital, Chieti, Italy (Dirigente Medico di Neurologia)

Past

2011-2019: Clinical Senior Lecturer in Neurology, Division of Psychological Medicine and Clinical Neurosciences, Cardiff University School of Medicine, University Hospital of Wales, CF14 4XN Cardiff, UK (Italian equivalent: Professore Associato di Neurologia)

2011-2019: Honorary Consultant in Neurology, University Hospital of Wales, CF14 4XN Cardiff, UK (Italian equivalent: Dirigente Medico di II livello, Neurologo)

2016: Visiting Professor, Department of Neurology and Psychiatry, University of Rome "La Sapienza"

2011-2015: Research Associate (Principal Investigator), Santa Lucia Foundation, via Ardeatina 306, 00142 Rome, Italy

2009-2011: Post-doctoral clinical research fellow (NIHR Oxford Biomedical Research Centre Fellowship), Nuffield Department of Clinical Neurosciences (FMRIB Centre and Clinical Neurology), University of Oxford

2008-2011: Research Associate, Department of Neurology and Psychiatry, University of Rome "La Sapienza"

2008-2011: Honorary specialist registrar, Department of Clinical Neurology (Nuffield Department of Clinical Neurosciences), John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford

2007-2009: Post-doctoral clinical research fellow, Nuffield Department of Clinical Neurosciences (FMRIB Centre and Clinical Neurology), University of Oxford

2006-2007: Research Assistant, Nuffield Department of Clinical Neurosciences (FMRIB Centre and Clinical Neurology), University of Oxford

2004-2007: PhD student (MS Society Training Fellowship) in Experimental and Clinical Neuroscience, Department of Neurology and Psychiatry, University of Rome "La Sapienza", and Nuffield Department of Clinical Neurosciences (FMRIB Centre), University of Oxford

1999-2004: Neurology Registrar Department of Neurology and Psychiatry, University of Rome "La Sapienza"

CAREER BREAKS

1st Maternity leave: 10/01/2014-10/07/2014

2nd Maternity leave: 15/03/2016-15/01/2017

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

Since March 2017: Italian National Qualification as Full Professor of Neurology ("Abilitazione Nazionale Professore di I fascia")

Since March 2017: Italian National Qualification as Full Professor of Medical Technology Sciences ("Abilitazione Nazionale Professore di I fascia")

2015: Master Class in PhD supervision for experienced supervisors

Jan 2014-March 2017: Italian National Qualification as Associate Professor of Neurology ("Abilitazione Nazionale Professore di II fascia")

Jun 2014-March 2017: Italian National Qualification as Associate Professor of Medical Technology Sciences ("Abilitazione Nazionale Professore di II fascia")

2016, 2014 Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS) Provider – American Heart Association

2016, 2014 Basic Life Support (BLS) Provider – American Heart Association

2018, 2015: 2012 Good Clinical Practice in Research, Cardiff, UK

2010 Good Clinical Practice in Research, Oxford, UK

2010 Neurostatus e-test (neurological evaluation in multi-centre clinical trials), UK

2008 General Medical Council, UK

2008 Doctorate in Experimental and Clinical Neuroscience University of Rome "La Sapienza", research conducted at the University of Oxford

2007 Basic Life Support (BLS), UK

2005 Certified instructor of Basic Life Support and Defibrillation (BLSD) by the Italian Resuscitation Council

2005 Certified Advanced Life Support (ALS) Provider by the Italian and European Resuscitation Council

2005 Trauma Life Support

2005 Basic Life Support, Early Defibrillation (BLSD) and Paediatric Basic Life Support (PBLIS)

2004 Specialism in Neurology, University of Rome "La Sapienza" (maximum score with honours)

2001 Ordine dei Medici e Chirurghi e degli Odontoiatri, Rome (equivalent to full GMC membership in the UK)

2000 Abilitazione all'esercizio della Medicina, Italy (post-graduate medical training prerequisite for specialist training)

1999 Degree in Medicine and Surgery (equivalent of MBBS), University of Rome "La Sapienza" (maximum score with honours)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Clinical Prevention of brain damage and clinical disability in inflammatory demyelinating diseases of the central nervous system. I have studied pathological, clinical, prognostic and therapeutic aspects of chronic inflammatory demyelinating diseases of the central nervous system with the objective of preventing damage to the brain and preventing clinical disability.

Neuroscientific Promotion of recovery from damage and clinical disability by modulation of brain plasticity. I have studied the mechanisms of cerebral plasticity that help limit the impact of damage on clinical disability. Because these mechanisms are active also during normal learning, my scientific interests have widened to include functional anatomy of the healthy brain and its changes in the course of learning.

Methodological Development of structural and functional neuroimaging for clinical applications. I have contributed to the development of advanced methods of functional and structural neuroimaging to characterise anatomical and functional changes in the course of damage and recovery and to develop neuroimaging markers of clinical recovery.

SPECIALIST CLINICAL INTERESTS

Multiple Sclerosis (MS) and other Neuroinflammatory disease of the Central Nervous System.

GRANTS AWARDED (IN BRITISH POUND STERLING AND EUROS - TOTAL AMOUNT IN EURO OVER 5,400,000)

2019-2022: Research Infrastructure: "B.R.A.I.N. Unit", National Institute for Social Care and Health Research (NISCHR) £750,000 (Collaborator)

2018-2021: Research Project "Using exergames to improve cognitive function in multiple sclerosis", MS Society Italy €180,000 (Co-App)

2014-2017: Research Infrastructure: "B.R.A.I.N. Unit", National Institute for Social Care and Health Research (NISCHR) £1,500,000 (Collaborator)

2013-2017: Research Project "Quantitative functional MRI: developing non-invasive neuroimaging to map the human brain's consumption of oxygen", Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) £706,000 (Co-App)

2014-2017: Research Project: "Predicting the individual's potential for functional recovery in Multiple Sclerosis: a novel clinical and neuroimaging strategy", MS Society UK £263,362 (PI)

2011-2015: Research Project "Promoting and imaging restoration of brain function in Multiple Sclerosis" Italian Ministry of Health (equivalent to NIHR UK) € 288,388.81 (PI)

2012-2013: Research Project "Promoting and imaging functional recovery in multiple sclerosis" Institute of Psychological Medicine and Clinical Neurosciences & MRC Centre for Neuropsychiatric Genetics and Genomics £5,000 (PI)

2012-2013: Research Project "Relating brain damage to brain functional reorganization and clinical disability in Neuromyelitis Optica" Neuroscience and Mental Health Research Institute £5,000 (PI)

2012-2013: Research Project "Assessing motor imagery and the effects of mental practice of a motor task in patients with multiple sclerosis" MS Society Italy € 30,000 (PI)

2012-2015: Research Project "Neuroprotective strategies: Amiloride Clinical Trial in Optic Neuritis (ACTION)" MS Society UK £ 377,283 (Co-App)

2011: Du Pre' Grant "Testing the effect of pharmacological modulation of inflammation on brain plasticity in patients with multiple sclerosis", Multiple Sclerosis International Federation £ 4,680 (PI)

2010-12: Fellowship of the Oxford Biomedical Research Centre, University of Oxford and Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals, financed by the National Institute of Health Research (NIHR) £ 81,600

2010: International Meeting Grant Multiple Sclerosis International Federation £ 4,660 (PI)

2009-2012: Research Project "Pharmacological and non-pharmacological modulation of brain plasticity in Multiple Sclerosis", Merck Serono Switzerland € 240,000 (Co-App)

2009: Research Project "Rehabilitation of gait disturbance in Multiple Sclerosis" University of Rome "La Sapienza" € 30,000 (Co-App)

2009: Bridging funds, University of Oxford £ 12,144 (PI)

2006-9: Research Project "Assessing brain plasticity in Multiple Sclerosis using behavioural and imaging measures of motor learning", Multiple Sclerosis Society UK £ 180,717 (Designated Fellow)

2006-9: Rosetrees Trust of the MS Society UK (annual support for research costs)

2008: ECF Young Investigator Award, European Charcot Foundation € 2,000

2004-7: Training Fellowship, Multiple Sclerosis Society Italy € 30,000

PRIZES

2008: Young Investigator Award, European Charcot Foundation (with invited lecture)

2007: Charles Symonds Best Poster, Association of British Neurologists

2007-10: Travel prizes and international conference registration: Organisation for Human Brain Mapping (OHBM), International Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine (ISMRM), European Committee for Treatment and Research in Multiple Sclerosis (ECTRIMS)

OUTCOME OF THE RESEARCH EXCELLENCE FRAMEWORK (REF) 2015: RETURNABLE TRAINING COURSES (SELECTION OF)

Technical/scientific

2009, 2010, 2011: International school of MR and brain function, 7 days, Erice, Italy

2007: Diffusion MRI – the methods, 1 day, Berlin, Germany

2005-6: Advanced image analysis, 1 year, Oxford, UK

2002, 2005: Magnetic Resonance Techniques in Multiple Sclerosis, 3 days, Milan, Italy

2002: International conference on the structural basis for understanding human brain function and dysfunction, 6 days, Rome, Italy

Clinical Trial Research

1999-2003: 7 Investigators' meetings in Europe and America for phase II and Phase III studies
2010: Evaluating Neurologist of the Multiple Sclerosis Functional Composite in multi-centre clinical studies (certification obtained in Oxford)
2010: Evaluating Neurologist for the Expanded Disability Status Scale in multi-centre clinical trials (certification obtained in Oxford and in Cardiff)

Management/Teaching

2015: Master Class in PhD supervision for experienced supervisors, Cardiff, UK
2012: Equality and diversity, 1 day, Cardiff, UK
2012: Management of PhD student, Cardiff, UK

Emergency medicine (formally assessed)

2014: Interpretation of ECG in emergency medicine, 4 days, Rome, Italy
2016, 2014: Anaphylaxis and the use of adrenaline, 1 day, Rome, Italy
2016, 2014: Provider of Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS), certified by American Heart Association, 3 days, Rome, Italy
2016, 2014: Provider of Basic Life Support (BLS), certified by American Heart Association, 1 day, Rome, Italy
2007: Basic Life Support (BLS), 1 day, Oxford, UK
2005: Instructor Basic Life Support and Defibrillation (BLSD), certified by Italian Resuscitation Council, 2 days, Rome, Italy
2005: Emergency medical management of trauma, 4 days, Rome, Italy
2005: Provider of Advanced Life Support (ALS), certified by Italian and European Resuscitation Council, 3 days, Rome, Italy
2005: Provider of Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS), 5 days, Rome, Italy
2004: Provider of Basic Life Support, Early Defibrillation (BLSD) and Paediatric Basic Life Support (PBLs), 6 days, Rome, Italy

Central nervous system diseases

2019: Paediatric multiple sclerosis, 1 day, Rome, Italy.
2013: Multiple Sclerosis 2013 Conference, 1 day, London, UK
2004: Top seminars on Multiple Sclerosis, 3 days, Genoa, Italy
2004: Role of Neutralizing antibodies in Multiple Sclerosis treatment, 2 days, Verona, Italy
2004: Quality of Life in Multiple Sclerosis, Parma, Italy
2004: Multiple Sclerosis: diagnostic, clinical and therapeutic aspects, 1 day, Rome, Italy
2003: Updates on Dementia, 1 day, Rome, Italy
2003: Update on diagnosis of Multiple Sclerosis using MR techniques, 1 day, Rome, Italy
2003: Top seminars on Multiple Sclerosis, 5 days, Milan, Italy
2003: Factors influencing the course and quality of life of patients with Multiple Sclerosis, 1 day, Trieste, Italy
2003: Conventional and Innovative Treatments in Multiple Sclerosis, 1 day, Asti, Italy
2002: Multiple Sclerosis: state of the art and strategies, 1 day, Rome, Italy
2002, 2004: Updates on Prognosis of Multiple Sclerosis using MR techniques, 1 day, Grottaferrata and Cascia, Italy
2002: Therapy of Multiple Sclerosis, 1 day, Naples, Italy
2002: Quality of health services for Multiple Sclerosis, 1 day, Rome, Italy
2002: Multiple Sclerosis: new therapeutic options, 3 days, Ostuni, Italy
2002: Cannabis in Multiple Sclerosis: pharmacological actions and therapeutic use, 1 day, Rome, Italy
2001, 2002, 2003: Multiple Sclerosis Meeting, 2 days, Rome, Italy
2001: International School on Multiple Sclerosis, 2 days, Paris, France
2000: Therapy of Secondary Progressive Multiple Sclerosis, 1 day, Seville, Spain
2000: Oestrogen effects on neurological disorders, 3 days, Los Angeles, USA
2000: Immunological and therapeutic aspects of Multiple Sclerosis, 1 day, Parma, Italy
1999-2004: Neurology specialist registrar, Centre for Multiple Sclerosis, Department of Neurological Sciences, University of Rome "La Sapienza" (Course Director: Prof C Fieschi)
1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2003, 2004: Updates in Neurology, 1 day, Rome, Italy
1998: Interferon and Multiple Sclerosis, 1 day, Rome, Italy
1997: Updates on Dystonia, 1 day, Rome, Italy
1997: Parkinsonian Syndromes: pathogenesis, differential diagnosis, therapy, 1 day, Rome, Italy
1997: Immunotherapy of Multiple Sclerosis, 1 day, Rome, Italy
1996-1999: Student intern (Course Director: Prof C Fieschi)

MEMBERSHIPS OF SOCIETIES AND STUDY GROUPS (CURRENT AND PREVIOUS)

MAGNetic resonance Imaging in Multiple Sclerosis (MAGNIMS) European Consortium International Society for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine (ISMRM)
Organisation for Human Brain Mapping (OHBM)
Society for Neuroscience (SfN)
Italian Neurological Society (SIN)
Italian Researchers in Multiple Sclerosis Group (RIReMS)
PET Imaging Centre (PETIC) Strategy Group, Cardiff University, UK

ORGANISATION OF CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS

2017: Regional meeting South Wales MS day, Cardiff, UK (organisers: N Robertson, V Tomassini)
2010: International workshop (supported by MS International Federation) on Imaging brain remodelling in Multiple Sclerosis, Warwick, UK (organiser: V Tomassini)
2002: Workshop on Cannabis in Multiple Sclerosis, Rome, Italy (organisers: C Pozzilli, V Tomassini)

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT IN RESEARCH (EVENTS)

Oxford Biomedical Research Centre of the National Institute for Health Research, Open Days, Oxford, 2010 and 2011.
“Alzheimer’s disease today”, public engagement event, Pescara, 2017.

RESEARCH AND TEACHING MANAGEMENT

Previously

- Research

Oxford - Oxford Centre for Functional MRI of the Brain (FMRIB), University of Oxford: 2 physicists (Jonathan Brooks, Mark Jenkinson), 3 neurology registrars (Lucy Matthews, Emilia Sbardella, Laura De Giglio), 1 medical student (Rose Gelineau-Morel), 2 medical students for Master in Neuroscience (Mudassar Kamran, Luis Paixao).

Rome – IRCCS Santa Lucia Foundation: 2 post-doctoral research associates (Nikolaos Petsas, Emilia Sbardella), 1 clinical neuropsychologist (Valentina Bianchi), 1 engineer (Claudio Bantaloukas), 1 medical student (Laura Leonardi).

Cardiff – Cardiff University School of Medicine: 1 post-doctoral research associate (Ilona Lipp), 4 PhD students (Marek Allen, PhD awarded in 2016; Catherine Foster, Wellcome Trust PhD awarded in 2017, Rachael Stickland, Wellcome Trust PhD awarded in 2018, Eleonora Patitucci, Wellcome Trust PhD ongoing), 1 neurology registrar (Eleonora Sgarlata), 2 medical students for Senior Project (Bethan John, Shona Bhome-Dhaliwal).

Chieti –University “G. d’Annunzio” of Chieti-Pescara: 4 neurology registrars (Anna Di Giovanni, Paola Ajdinaj, Marianna Rispoli, Martina Di Pietro), 1 medical student (Anastasia Mancini).

2012-2014: Neurology Representative, PETIC Strategy Group, Cardiff University School of Medicine.

Invited member of the panel that set new research priorities for the MS Society UK (Workshop, 12 July 2013, London).

2014-2019: Clinical Advisor, Welsh Neuroscience Tissue Bank, Cardiff University.

2015-2019: Collaborator, NISCHR Brain Unit, Cardiff University.

2016-2019: Deputy for Neurology, Neurodegeneration Theme, Scientific Advisory Board, MRC Centre for Neuropsychiatric Genetics and Genomics, Cardiff University School of Medicine

- Teaching

2011-2019: Cardiff Lead Tutor for Year-4 Neuroscience Undergraduate Module, Cardiff University School of Medicine, Cardiff, UK.

2011-2019: Year-4 Medical Student supervision within the Neuroscience Undergraduate Module, Cardiff University School of Medicine, Cardiff, UK.

2013-2019: MSc in Neuroimaging, Cardiff University School of Psychology, Cardiff, UK.

2012, 2018: Project supervisor for Senior Clinical Project of Medical Student (Bethan John, Shona Bhome-Dhaliwal).

2015: External clinical supervision of a specialist registrar in Neurology (Supervisor indicated on the Thesis submitted to the University in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the Degree “Specialism in Neurology”), II University of Naples, Italy.

Currently

- Research

Since 2019: Institute for Advanced Biomedical Technologies (ITAB), Department of Neuroscience, Imaging and Clinical Sciences, School of Medicine, University "G. d'Annunzio" of Chieti-Pescara

Since 2019: member of the Scientific Committee for Research, University of Chieti-Pescara, Italy.

- Teaching

Since 2019: MSc in Neuroimaging, Institute for Advanced Biomedical Technologies (ITAB), Department of Neuroscience, Imaging and Clinical Sciences, School of Medicine, University of Chieti-Pescara "G. d'Annunzio".

Since 2019: PhD in Neuroscience, Institute for Advanced Biomedical Technologies (ITAB), Department of Neuroscience, Imaging and Clinical Sciences, School of Medicine, University of Chieti-Pescara "G. d'Annunzio".

Since 2020: Demyelinating Diseases of the CNS module within the Neuroscience Course, Year VI, School of Medicine, University of Chieti-Pescara "G. d'Annunzio".

2020-present: Lead Tutor for Neuroscience Undergraduate Module, School of Speech and Language Therapy, University G.d'Annunzio of Chieti-Pescara, Chieti, Italy.

SELECTED INVITED LECTURES

Research

2019: "Neuroplasticity and functional recovery in multiple sclerosis", University of Szeged, Hungary

2019: "Imaging microstructure in multiple sclerosis", Wellcome Centre for Integrative Neuroimaging, Oxford University, UK

2019: "Alemtuzumab in MS: the Cardiff experience", Orvieto, Italy

2019: "Neuroplasticity and functional recovery in multiple sclerosis rehabilitation", Department of Clinical Neurosciences, Cambridge, UK

2017: "Neuroplasticity and functional recovery in multiple sclerosis", ITAB, Chieti, Italy

2015: "Rehabilitation in Multiple Sclerosis (RIMS)", European Conference, Milan, Italy

2014: "Assessing motor imagery and the effects of mental practice of a motor task in patients with multiple sclerosis, FISM (MS Society Italy) Annual Meeting, Rome, Italy

2014: "Imaging visuospatial rehabilitation in Multiple Sclerosis", ARSEP (MS Society France) MRI Workshop, Paris, France

2013: "MRI in Multiple Sclerosis", South Wales MS Day, Cardiff, UK

2012: "Plasticity in Multiple Sclerosis", British Society for Rehabilitation Medicine, Derby, UK

2008: "Sex hormones, brain damage and clinical course of Multiple Sclerosis", European Charcot Foundation Symposium, Taormina, Italy

2008: "Structural-functional relationships in human brain networks for motor learning: implications for recovery after brain damage", Human Brain Mapping Seminars, Cardiff University Brain Research Imaging Centre, School of Psychology, Cardiff, UK

2003: "Fatigue in Neurological Diseases", European Chapter of the American College of Nutrition, Göttingen, Germany

2002: "Focus on Multiple Sclerosis: new diagnostic criteria", Gallarate, Italy

Teaching

2017: Non-conventional MRI techniques in MS, half day course for neurologists and neuroradiologists, Cardiff, UK

2014: Plasticity and functional recovery in multiple sclerosis, 1-day course for neurologists, Perugia

2009: Brain plasticity in the normal and damaged CNS, Centre for Professional Development in Osteopathy and Manual Therapy, London

2008: Imaging brain plasticity in Multiple Sclerosis, Multiple Sclerosis Trust Annual Meeting for MS specialist nurses, York

2004: Multiple Sclerosis: latest in basic and clinical research, 3-day residential course for specialist registrars in neurology, Narni

2004: Multidisciplinary approach to patients with Multiple Sclerosis, 5-day course for neurologists, psychologists and psychiatrists organised by the scientific commission of the Italian Neurological Society Multiple Sclerosis study group

INVESTIGATOR -LED CLINICAL TRIAL DESIGN (ETHICS APPROVED)

In Italy

2002: Multi-centre randomised trial of the efficacy of combined IFN beta and oral contraceptives in Multiple Sclerosis, University Hospital "Policlinico Umberto I", Rome, Italy

2004: Phase II randomised controlled crossover trial on the effects of cannabinoids in Multiple Sclerosis using fMRI and electrophysiology, University Hospital "Policlinico Umberto I", Rome

2009: Magnetic resonance imaging markers for studying recovery in Multiple Sclerosis, University Hospital "Policlinico Umberto I", Rome

2011: Pharmacological and non-pharmacological modulation of brain plasticity in Multiple Sclerosis, University Hospital "Policlinico Umberto I", Rome

2011-2014: Promoting and imaging restoration of brain function in Multiple Sclerosis (EudraCT 2012-000287-17), Santa Lucia Foundation, Rome, Italy

2012: Promoting and imaging restoration of brain function in Multiple Sclerosis, Santa Lucia Foundation, Rome

2012: Assessing motor imagery capacity and the effect of mental practice in patients with multiple sclerosis (Valutazione delle capacità di immaginazione motoria e degli effetti della pratica mentale di un compito motorio in pazienti affetti da sclerosi multipla), University Hospital "Policlinico Umberto I", Rome

In the UK

2005: Assessing Brain Plasticity in Multiple Sclerosis using behavioural and functional imaging measures of motor learning, Department of Clinical Neurology, John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford

2012: Testing the relationship between visuomotor learning, attention and memory in healthy volunteers, Cardiff University School of Medicine

2015: Investigating neurovascular coupling in multiple sclerosis patients, Cardiff University School of Medicine

2015: Predicting the individual's potential for functional recovery in Multiple Sclerosis: a novel clinical and neuroimaging strategy, Cardiff University School of Medicine

2016: Characterising Cerebrovascular Function in MS using fMRI, Cardiff University School of Medicine

INVOLVEMENT IN CLINICAL TRIALS (PHASE II-IV) AND CLINICAL AUDIT

1999-2004: Evaluating neurologist, Department of Neurological Sciences, University of Rome "La Sapienza", Italy (Principal investigator: Prof Carlo Pozzilli)

2008-2011: Evaluating neurologist, Department of Clinical Neurology, John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, UK (Principal investigator: Dr Jacqueline Palace)

2012-2019: Evaluating or treating neurologist, Department of Neurology, University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff, UK

2020-present: Treating neurologist, Department of Neurology, University "G. d'Annunzio" of Chieti-Pescara
1999-2004 and 2008-present: audit of clinical trials in Italy and UK.

MULTIDISCIPLINARY ACADEMIC COLLABORATIONS FOSTERED

In Italy

2003-present: Department of Human Pharmacology, University of Rome "La Sapienza", Rome (Prof F Nicoletti)

2008-present: Department of Neurology and Psychiatry, University of Rome "La Sapienza", Rome (Prof C Pozzilli, Dr E Millefiorini, Prof P Pantano, Prof M Inghilleri)

2006-present: Laboratory of Quantitative Neuroimaging, Department of Neurological Sciences, University of Siena, Siena (Prof N De Stefano)

2009-present: collaborations on specific projects with centres within the Italian Consortium of Research in Multiple Sclerosis (25 Multiple Sclerosis centres)

2013-present: Department of Health Sciences, University of Genoa, Genoa (Prof MP Sormani)

2014-present: Department of Neurology, (18 Italian Multiple Sclerosis centres participating), II University of Naples, Naples (Dr A Gallo)

2018-present: Department of Neurology, Scan Camillo Hospital, Rome (Dr L Prosperini)

In the UK

2005-present: Analysis Group and Connectivity Group, FMRIB Centre, University of Oxford (Dr M Jenkinson, Prof H Johansen-Berg, Dr S Jbabdi)

2005-present: Division of Brain Sciences, Imperial College, London (Prof PM Matthews)

2009-present: Cardiff University Brain Research Imaging Centre, School of Psychology, Cardiff (Prof RG Wise, Prof DK Jones)

Across Europe

2006-present: collaborations on specific projects with centres within MAGNetic resonance Imaging in Multiple Sclerosis (MAGNIMS) European Consortium

2009-present: collaborations on specific projects with centres within RIReMS Consortium (<http://www.rirems.it/>)

RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS WITH THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY

2009-present: Merk Serono, Switzerland

2006-present: GlaxoSmithKline, UK

2004-2005: GW Pharma Ltd, UK

2012-present: Biogen Idec International, Switzerland

REVIEWER FOR INTERNATIONAL JOURNALS AND FUNDING BODIES (SELECTED)

- Journals

Nature Reviews Neurology; Journal of Neuroscience, Human Brain Mapping, Multiple Sclerosis, Neurology, NeuroImage, J Physiol, PLoS ONE, Journal of Neurology, Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery and Psychiatry, Journal of Neurological Sciences, Clinical Anatomy, Clinical Rehabilitation, Expert Review of Neurotherapeutics, Imaging in Medicine, Magnetic Resonance in Medicine, Brain Research

- Funding Bodies

Austrian Science Fund, MS Society UK, MS Society Italy (Federazione Italiana Sclerosi Multipla), Wellcome Trust UK, Agence Recherche France

SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

Summary

5 book chapters

72 original articles in refereed international journals

5 invited reviews/opinion article

2 popular science/scientific communication article

1 PhD Thesis

71 abstracts and conference proceedings

H index (Google Scholar)= 36

N. citations (Google Scholar)= 4852

A. Book Chapters

1. Pozzilli C, **Tomassini V**, Prosperini L. Il management del paziente con SM, in: *L'assistenza della persona con SM: modelli organizzativi*, 2004. Eds: Ghezzi A, Comi G
2. Scholz J, **Tomassini V**, Johansen-Berg H. Individual differences in white matter microstructure in the healthy brain, in: *Imaging brain pathways - Diffusion MRI: from quantitative measurement to in-vivo neuroanatomy*, 2009 (1st edition). Eds: Johansen-Berg H, Behrens TE
3. Scholz J, **Tomassini V**, Johansen-Berg H. Individual differences in white matter microstructure in the healthy brain, in: *Imaging brain pathways - Diffusion MRI: from quantitative measurement to in-vivo neuroanatomy*, 2013 (2nd edition). Eds: Johansen-Berg H, Behrens TE
4. Lipp I and Tomassini V. Neuroplasticity and motor rehabilitation in multiple sclerosis, in *Plasticity and Multiple Sclerosis: from molecular to system level, from adaptation to maladaptation*, 2015. Eds M.A. Rocca, D. Zeller
5. Lipp L, Muhlert N, Tomassini V. Brain Morphometry in multiple sclerosis, in: *Brain Morphometry*, 2018. Eds: Spalletta G, Gili T, Piras, F.

B. Original articles in peer reviewed journals

2020

- Germuska M, Chandler H, Okell T, Fasano F, **Tomassini V**, Murphy K, Wise R. A frequency-domain machine learning method for dual-calibrated fMRI mapping of oxygen extraction fraction (OEF) and cerebral metabolic rate of oxygen consumption (CMRO₂). *Front Artif Intell.* 2020 Mar 31;3:12. doi: 10.3389/frai.2020.00012.
- Ilona Lipp, Catherine Foster, Rachael Stickland, Eleonora Sgarlata, Emma C. Tallantyre, Alison E. Davidson, Neil P. Robertson, Derek K. Jones, Richard G. Wise, **Valentina Tomassini**. Predictors of training-related improvement in visuomotor performance in patients with multiple sclerosis: a behavioural and MRI study. *Mult Scler.* 2020 Aug 4:1352458520943788. doi: 10.1177/1352458520943788.
- Moccia M, Annovazzi P, Buscarinu MC, Calabrese M, Cavalla P, Cordioli C, Di Filippo M, Ferraro D, Gajofatto A, Gallo A, Lanzillo R, Laroni A, Loreface L, Mallucchi S, Nociti V, Paolicelli D, Pinaridi F, Prosperini L, Radaelli M, Ragonese P, **Tomassini V**, Tortorella C, Cocco E, Gasperini C, Solaro C. Harmonization of real-world studies in multiple sclerosis: Retrospective analysis from the RIReMS group. *Mult Scler Relat Disord.* 2020 Jul 12;45:102394.
- Sormani MP, on behalf of the **Italian Study Group on COVID-19 infection in multiple sclerosis**. An Italian programme for COVID-19 infection in multiple sclerosis. *Lancet Neurol.* 2020 Jun;19(6):481-482.
- Foster C, Steventon JJ, Helme D, **Tomassini V**, Wise RG. Cerebral Metabolic Changes During Visuomotor Adaptation Assessed Using Quantitative fMRI. *Front Physiol.* 2020 May 8;11:428.
- **Tomassini V**, Sinclair A, Sawlani V, Overell J, Pearson OR, Hall J, Guadagno J. Diagnosis and management of multiple sclerosis: MRI in clinical practice. *J Neurol.* 2020 May 29. doi: 10.1007/s00415-020-09930-0.
- Prosperini L, **Tomassini V**, Castelli L, Tacchino A, Bricchetto G, Cattaneo D, Solaro C. Exergames for balance impairment in neurological disability: a meta-analysis with meta-regression. *J Neurol* 2020 in press.
- Tortorella C, Solaro C, Annovazzi P, Boffa L, Buscarinu MC, Buttari F, Calabrese M, Cavalla P, Cocco E, Cordioli C, De Luca G, Di Filippo M, Fantozzi R, Ferraro D, Gajofatto A, Gallo A, Lanzillo R, Laroni A, Fermo SL, Malucchi S, Maniscalco GT, Moccia M, Nociti V, Paolicelli D, Pesci I, Prosperini L, Ragonese P, **Tomassini V**, Clerici VLAT, Rodegher M, Gherardi M, Gasperini C; RIReMS Group. Informing MS patients on treatment options: a consensus on the process of consent taking. *Neurol Sci.* 2020 Apr 2.
- Lipp I, Parker GD, Tallantyre EC, Goodall A, Grama S, Patitucci E, Heveron P, **Tomassini V***, Jones DK*. Tractography in the presence of multiple sclerosis lesions. *Neuroimage.* 2020 Apr 1;209:116471. *Equal contribution
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C. Invited reviews/Opinion article

1. Lipp I, **Tomassini V**. Neuroplasticity and motor rehabilitation in multiple sclerosis. *Front Neurol*. 2015;6:59. **Review**.
2. **Tomassini V**, Matthews PM, Thompson AJ, Fuglø D, Geurts JJ, Johansen-Berg H, Jones DK, Rocca MA, Wise RG, Barkhof F, Palace J. Promoting and imaging functional recovery in multiple sclerosis: current status and future perspectives. *Nat Rev Neurol*. 2012;8(11):635-46. **Review**.
3. **Tomassini V**, Palace J. Multiple sclerosis lesions: insights from imaging techniques. *Expert Rev Neurother*. 2009 Sep;9(9):1341-59. **Review**.
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D. Articles for scientific dissemination

Tomassini V. Imaging brain plasticity in Multiple Sclerosis, in "Way Ahead, Information, Education, Research and Support" 2008; 12. Ed. United Kingdom Multiple Sclerosis Trust.

Tomassini V. Vuole la "vera" sclerosi multipla farsi riconoscere, per favore?, in Expert Series in Multiple Sclerosis 2020; Anno 10 n. 3 - S2 2020, Ed. Content Ed Net S.p.A.

E. Thesis

PhD in Neuroscienze Cliniche e Sperimentali: "Human brain networks for motor control and learning: testing structural-functional relationships" (Sapienza University of Rome; data collected at the University of Oxford, UK)

Esaminatore di tesi di Specializzazione in Neurologia (Dr Alessandro d'Ambrosio): "The effect of inflammation and its modulation on brain plasticity in multiple sclerosis: MRI evidence" (Università di Napoli, Italia)

F. Conference presentations and abstracts in proceedings

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18/11/2020

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Valentina Tomassini". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'V'.

Valentina Tomassini