

Andrea Sommella



Born in Naples (Italy) on 15/12/1982

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Current Position: Permanent Staff - Research Technician (CTER VI degree) and Manager of the Functional Area 'Biochemistry and Cell Biology'

Current Affiliation:

Biology and Evolution of Marine Organisms Department, Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn, Napoli (Italy)

Education/Training/Experience

Institute and Location	Degree / Function	Year	Field of Study
University Federico II – Naples (Italy)	Bachelor's degree	2002-2005	Gene Therapy
University Federico II – Naples (Italy)	Master's degree	2005-2006	Epigenetics
INRA French National Institute For Agricultural Research – Nantes (France)	Leonardo Da Vinci Post-graduate Research Internship	2007-2008	Plant autophagy
TIGEM institute (Telethon) – Naples (Italy)	Fellowship/contract	2008-2014	Retina Gene Therapy
Okairos/Reithera – Naples/Rome (Italy)	R&D Scientist	2014-2023	Immunology/Vaccines
Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn, Naples (Italy)	CTER VI degree	2023-present	Biology and Evolution of Marine Organisms

Working experience

03/07/2023 – CURRENT Naples, Italy

SCIENTIFIC LABORATORY TECHNICIAN & LAB MANAGER STAZIONE ZOOLOGICA ANTON DOHRN

Business or Sector Professional, scientific and technical activities

Department Biology and Evolution of Marine Organisms **Address** Villa comunale, 80121, Naples, Italy
Website www.szn.it

03/06/2014 – 16/06/2023 Naples / Castel Romano (RM), Italy

R&D SCIENTIST - IMMUNOLOGY UNIT OKAIROS / REITHERA SRL

Vaccines / immunology

Characterization of the immune responses elicited after vaccination in animals and humans with nucleic acids, viral vectors and proteins.

03/07/2008 – 30/05/2014 Naples, Italy

FELLOW/COLLABORATOR TIGEM (TELETHON)

Retinal gene therapy.

Support in research projects aimed at the development and the preclinical characterization of viral vectors for the treatment of genetically inherited retinal disorders

12/2007 – 05/2008 Nantes, France

LEONARDO DA VINCI POST-GRADUATE RESEARCH INTERNSHIP INRA FRENCH NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

Supervisor Dr. Khalil Elmorjani

“Cloning and expression of atg8 and atg4, the wheat autophagy master genes ”

Europass patent mobility no. IT/00/2008/047/02/FR/10 released on 12 June 2008

Education and Training

09/2002 – 21/03/2005 Naples, Italy

BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN BIOTECHNOLOGY FOR HEALTH Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II

Cell cultures; western blot analysis of lysates from infected cells

Final grade 110/110 **Thesis** “Analisi di proteine in cellule infettate con vettori adenovirali”

03/2005 – 26/10/2006 Naples, Italy

MASTER'S DEGREE IN MEDICAL BIOTECHNOLOGY SCIENCES Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II

Epigenetics.

Dissection of the mechanisms involved in methylation and downregulation of genes.

Study of interactors that affect the recruitment of factors that modify the chromatin functional status. Analysis of the methylation of promoters.

Final grade 110/110 cum laude **Thesis** “Studio di una nuova interazione molecolare tra le proteine MBD2 e TACC3”

Other

Digital skills

Microsoft Office: Word, PowerPoint, Excel / Graph Pad Prism / Extensive knowledge in search and selection of information through search engines (i.e. Pubmed) / FreezerPro / basic statistical analysis with Prism

Conferences and Courses

06/07/2015 – 10/07/2015 – Valencia

ESCCA Functional Cytometry 2015 ESCCA Coordinator:
Claude Lambert, Université de Saint-Etienne, Saint-Etienne, France

11/07/2016 – 12/07/2016 – Coventry

Corso breve di immunologia di base: “An introduction to Immunology (two-day course)”
Warwick University

21/06/2017 – 23/06/2017 – C.E.R.C. – Fondazione Santa Lucia - Roma (RM)

Corso breve di statistica biomedica: “L’uso della statistica nella ricerca biomedica”

05/05/2018 – 12/05/2018 – Porto Cervo (Italy)

13th ENII EFIS EJI Immunology Summer School

21/05/2018 – 24/05/2018 – Consiglio Nazionale Ricerche, Via dei Taurini 19 - 00185 Roma

Corso breve di statistica biomedica: “L’uso della statistica nella ricerca biomedica e applicazione del software R – CORSO AVANZATO”

19/05/2019 – 21/05/2019 – SIICA-FOCIS - Firenze

SIICA FOCIS Advanced Course 2019 lezioni di immunologia generale e clinica “Bridging basic & clinical immunology”

28/09/2020 – Rome (Italy)

GCLP training (seQure) GXP Fundamentals

22/11/2021 – 01/12/2021 – Fondazione Santa Lucia (Rome)

FELASA Accredited Course F 023/09 "Scienza degli Animali da Laboratorio"
mouse/rat - Functions A, B, C, D

23/05/2022 – 26/05/2022 – Naples (Italy)

SIICA 2022 - XIII National Congress

Publications

List of publications of the last 10 years (2013-present):

Colella, P., **Sommella, A.**, Marrocco, E., Di Vicino, U., Polishchuk, E., Garcia Garrido, M., Seeliger, M. W., Polishchuk, R., & Auricchio, A. (2013). Myosin7a deficiency results in reduced retinal activity which is improved by gene therapy. *PloS one*, 8(8), e72027.
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0072027>

Manfredi, A., Marrocco, E., Puppo, A., Cesi, G., **Sommella, A.**, Della Corte, M., Rossi, S., Giunti, M., Craft, C. M., Bacci, M. L., Simonelli, F., Surace, E. M., & Auricchio, A. (2013). Combined rod and cone transduction by adeno-associated virus 2/8. *Human gene therapy*, 24(12), 982–992.
<https://doi.org/10.1089/hum.2013.154>

Trapani, I., Toriello, E., de Simone, S., Colella, P., Iodice, C., Polishchuk, E. V., **Sommella, A.**, Colecchi, L., Rossi, S., Simonelli, F., Giunti, M., Bacci, M. L., Polishchuk, R. S., & Auricchio, A. (2015). Improved dual AAV vectors with reduced expression of truncated proteins are safe and

effective in the retina of a mouse model of Stargardt disease. *Human molecular genetics*, 24(23), 6811–6825. <https://doi.org/10.1093/hmg/ddv386>

- Napolitano, F., Merone, R., Abbate, A., Ammendola, V., Horncastle, E., Lanzaro, F., Esposito, M., Contino, A. M., Sbrocchi, R., **Sommella, A.**, Duncan, J. D., Hinds, J., Urbanowicz, R. A., Lahm, A., Colloca, S., Folgori, A., Ball, J. K., Nicosia, A., Wizel, B., Capone, S., ... Vitelli, A. (2020). A next generation vaccine against human rabies based on a single dose of a chimpanzee adenovirus vector serotype C. *PLoS neglected tropical diseases*, 14(7), e0008459. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0008459>
- Napolitano, F., Merone, R., Abbate, A., Ammendola, V., Horncastle, E., Lanzaro, F., Esposito, M., Contino, A. M., Sbrocchi, R., **Sommella, A.**, Duncan, J. D., Hinds, J., Urbanowicz, R. A., Lahm, A., Colloca, S., Folgori, A., Ball, J. K., Nicosia, A., Wizel, B., Capone, S., ... Vitelli, A. (2021). Correction: A next generation vaccine against human rabies based on a single dose of a chimpanzee adenovirus vector serotype C. *PLoS neglected tropical diseases*, 15(4), e0009348. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0009348>
- Capone, S., Raggioli, A., Gentile, M., Battella, S., Lahm, A., **Sommella, A.**, Contino, A. M., Urbanowicz, R. A., Scala, R., Barra, F., Leuzzi, A., Lilli, E., Miselli, G., Noto, A., Ferraiuolo, M., Talotta, F., Tsoleridis, T., Castilletti, C., Matusali, G., Colavita, F., ... Vitelli, A. (2021). Immunogenicity of a new gorilla adenovirus vaccine candidate for COVID-19. *Molecular therapy : the journal of the American Society of Gene Therapy*, 29(8), 2412–2423. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ymthe.2021.04.022>
- Lanini, S., Capone, S., Antinori, A., Milleri, S., Nicastrì, E., Camerini, R., Agrati, C., Castilletti, C., Mori, F., Sacchi, A., Matusali, G., Gagliardini, R., Ammendola, V., Cimini, E., Grazioli, F., Scorzolini, L., Napolitano, F., Plazzi, M. M., Soriani, M., De Luca, A., ... Ippolito, G. (2022). GRAd-COV2, a gorilla adenovirus-based candidate vaccine against COVID-19, is safe and immunogenic in younger and older adults. *Science translational medicine*, 14(627), eabj1996. <https://doi.org/10.1126/scitranslmed.abj1996>
- Agrati, C., Castilletti, C., Battella, S., Cimini, E., Matusali, G., **Sommella, A.**, Sacchi, A., Colavita, F., Contino, A. M., Bordoni, V., Meschi, S., Gramigna, G., Barra, F., Grassi, G., Bordi, L., Lapa, D., Notari, S., Casetti, R., Bettini, A., Francalancia, M., ... Capone, S. (2022). Safety and immune response kinetics of GRAd-COV2 vaccine: phase 1 clinical trial results. *NPJ vaccines*, 7(1), 111. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41541-022-00531-8>