

Alessandro Palumbo

Curriculum Vitae

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Birth date	19-06-1981
Nationality	Italian
Address	2, Dún an Óir, Milford Grange, Casteltroy, Limerick, Ireland
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EDUCATION AND TRAINING

2004-Present

Masters Degree (*Laurea Magistrale*) in Medical, Molecular and Cellular Biotechnology, Faculty of Medicine and Surgery, *Vita-Salute San Raffaele University*, Milan, Italy.

The M.Sc. consists of a taught curriculum for 12 months and a further 12-month full-time laboratory research project.

Curriculum: Research and Development in Pharmaceutical Biotechnology, including courses in Molecular and Genetic Basis of Disease; Gene Expression; Molecular Virology; Identification of Cellular and Molecular Targets; Production and Characterisation of Biotechnological Drugs; and Molecular Screening Methodologies, *inter alia*.

Average Score in all exams: 29.4 out of 30.

Research Project: The research project is being carried out in Dr. Gerard Wall's research group at the University of Limerick, Ireland.

Thesis title: “*Generation of Novel Enzyme Moieties for Use in Antibody Directed Enzyme Prodrug Therapy*”. The aim of the work is to generate novel variants of human membrane dipeptidase (MDP) enzyme that exhibit cephalosporinase activity. The project involves general cloning techniques, protein production in *E. coli*, site-directed mutagenesis, and protein purification and characterisation. The thesis will be written and defended in English.

2001-2004

Bachelors Degree (*Laurea*) in Medical and Pharmacological Biotechnology, Faculty of Medicine and Surgery, *Vita-Salute San Raffaele University*, Milan, Italy.

Final grade: 110 out of 110, *summa cum Laude*.

Courses attended include: Cell Biology; Biochemistry; Molecular Biology; Nucleic Acids Manipulation (lab); Pathology and Immunology; Genetics; Protein Expression and Purification I and II (lab); Bioinformatics; Clinical Molecular Biology and Biochemistry; Functional Assays and Bioimaging (lab); Microbiology; Molecular Medicine; Tumour Immunology; and Recombinant Antibodies, *inter alia*.

Final year project: “ADAM proteases as a pharmacologic target”.

This project explored the possible usefulness of this class of metallo proteases in drug targeting, with particular emphasis on ADAM 33. The work was carried out within AXXAM, a Biotech company located on the San Raffaele University campus.

2000-2001

Completed first year in Degree in Biotechnology, **University of Milan**, Milano, Italy.

1995-2000

Scientific Liceo “Bonaventura Rescigno”,
Roccapiemonte (Salerno), Italy.

Final grade: 100 out of 100. High School Degree.

SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

Technical skills

General recombinant DNA techniques including DNA isolation and cloning, PCR (including site directed mutagenesis), protein expression, purification and general analytical techniques; eukaryotic (mammalian/insect) cell culture and general cell biology techniques; experimental design, data analysis, troubleshooting and problem solving; compiling reports and presenting results.

Computer skills

General word processing, presentation and data analysis packages (Mac and PC); skilled user of bioinformatics techniques and tools.

Languages

Native Italian; very good French (written and spoken); very good English (written and spoken – currently carrying out my research project in an English-speaking country).

PRESENTATIONS

A. Palumbo, L. Hui and J.G. Wall. 2006. *Generation of Novel Enzyme Moieties for Use in Antibody Directed Enzyme Prodrug Therapy.*

Poster presentation at the San Raffaele Scientific Retreat; Bardolino (Verona), Italy; Feb. 19th-21st, 2006.

A. Palumbo, R. O'Dwyer, L. Hui and J.G. Wall. 2006. *Use of Directed Evolution to Generate a Novel Enzyme Moiety for Antibody Directed Enzyme Prodrug Therapy.*

Poster accepted for presentation at Biocat 2006: International Congress on Biocatalysis; Hamburg, Germany; Sept. 3rd-7th 2006.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- Member of the Consiglio Nazionale Studenti Biotecnologie (CNSB), Italy.
- Member of the Young European Biotech Network (YEBN).
- Co-founder, member and former vice-president of Kymera, the biotech student society in San Raffaele University.
- Collaborator and moderator for www.molecularlab.it, an Italian bioscience community.
- Oncology Scholar Travel Awards 2006 from Irish Cancer Society for attendance at Biocat 2006: International Congress on Biocatalysis (Hamburg, Germany; Sept. 2006).
- Additional interests: Music, Cooking, Travelling, Reading, Arts and Photography, Mythology, Natural Sciences, Swimming.

REFEREES

Dr. Gerard Wall,
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University of Limerick
Limerick, Ireland.
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Prof. Fabio Grohovaz,
Professor of Physiology and Dean of the
Biotechnology Degree,
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