

PERSONAL INFORMATION **Rita Bella** +39 0953782640 [rbella@unict.it](mailto:rbella@unict.it)

Sex: F | Date of birth : | Nationality: Italian

## WORK EXPERIENCES

(from 01/11/2022) Head, Subdepartmental Unit "Prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of cerebrovascular diseases"

(11/02/2022) Certified Course for Head of Departmental Units

(from 04/02/2010) Consultant Neurologist, Acute Cerebrovascular Diseases Unit – Neurology Unit  
Policlinico University Hospital "G. Rodolico – San Marco", Catania, Italy

- Head of Neurosonology Lab (certified Center for education and training of the Italian Society of Neurosonology and Cerebral Hemodynamics (SINSEC))
- Head, Cerebrovascular diseases Clinic (Center for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of cerebrovascular diseases and vascular cognitive impairment)

(from 1992 to 03/02/2010) Consultant Neurologist, Neurology Unit  
Policlinico University Hospital, Catania, Italy

from 01/10/2022 Full Professor, SSD MED 48, University of Catania

(from 30/09/2018 to 31/10/2022) Associate Professor, SSD MED/48, University of Catania

(from 2002 to 31/10/2017) Senior Researcher and Adjunct Professor of Neurology

Department of Neurological Sciences, University of Catania

1987-'89 Research grant "Neuroepidemiological survey on Sicilian population"

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

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- (from 2005 to 2007) Master of Science (Level II), Cerebrovascular Diseases  
"Sapienza" University of Rome, Italy
- (1988) Medical Speciality, Neurology  
University of Catania
- (1983) Medical Degree  
University of Catania

PERSONAL SKILLS

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- Mother tongue Italian
- Other languages English
- French

- Coordinator of the interdisciplinary neurosonological activities for screening the risk of stroke in patients with sickle cell disease and intracardiac shunt.
- Member of the Multidisciplinary Center for the Diagnosis and Therapy of Fabry's Disease and Organ Transplants, University of Catania.
- 2021: President-elect of the Italian Society of Neurosonology and Cerebral Hemodynamics (SINSEC).
- 2015-2019: Board member of the Italian Society of Neurosonology and Cerebral Hemodynamics (SINSEC).
- Scientific coordinator of the Course of neurosonology, Catania, September 22-23, 2016.
- President of the 9<sup>th</sup> National Congress of the Italian Society of Neurosonology and Cerebral Hemodynamics (SINSEC), Catania, October 26-28, 2017.
- Scientific coordinator of the Course of Neurosonology, Catania, May 10-11, 2018.
- From 01/11/2020: President of the Physiotherapy Degree Course, University of Catania.
- Member of the Italian Alliance group for cardio-cerebrovascular diseases "Prevention of cerebrovascular diseases throughout the life course", Ministry of Health, General Directorate of Health Prevention.
- Member of the Academic Board, International PhD Programme of "Basic and Applied Biomedical Sciences";
- Former member of the Academic Board, International PhD Programme of "Research in Neurobiology"

Research activity	Study of cortical excitability and connectivity in psycho-cognitive and behavioral disorders associated with cerebrovascular, autoimmune, and sleep disorders. Identification of neurosonological markers in brain at risk for vascular dementia and prognostic factors of cerebrovascular disease in patients with Fabry's disease.
Teaching activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Master Degree Course in Rehabilitation Sciences of the Health Professions: preventive and rehabilitative medicine. Clinical Psychology and Rehabilitation (coordinator and president of the exam commission);</li> <li>• Degree Course in Neuropsychiatric Rehabilitation Techniques: Neurology. Graphic rehabilitation techniques I-II (coordinator and president of the exam commission);</li> <li>• Degree Course in Physiotherapy: general methodology of rehabilitation II; developmental neurology; neurophysiopathology; neurological rehabilitation; neuropsychological rehabilitation. Methodology and technique of geriatric rehabilitation; management in rehabilitation; Methodology and technique of uro-gynecological rehabilitation (coordinator and president of the exam commission);</li> <li>• Degree Course in Speech Therapy: communication in the developmental age;</li> <li>• Degree Course in Cardiovascular Pathophysiology and Cardiovascular Perfusion: Neurology;</li> <li>• Degree Course in Neurophysiopathology Techniques: electromyographic recording techniques; neurosonology;</li> <li>• Degree Course in Audioprosthetic Techniques: Neurology</li> <li>• Degree Course in Dietetics: Neurology</li> <li>• School of Specialization in Neurology</li>   <li>• Tutor of Residents in Neurology; Medical students; students of the Degree Course in Physiotherapy, Psychiatric Rehabilitation Techniques and Master Degree in Rehabilitation Sciences of Health Professions</li>   <li>• Excellent skills in the use of neurosonological and neurophysiological equipment.</li> </ul>
Bibliometric index	<p>She authored more than 200 publications (126 in international peer-reviewed journals)</p> <p>h-index 40 (Scopus)</p> <p>Total citations: 4.098 (Scopus)</p>
Research projects:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PO-FESR 20/2020 "RehaStart" project: research and development of technologies and methodologies for the implementation of highly economically and socially sustainable remote rehabilitation solutions (project code n. 08ME6201000222);</li> <li>• iHOSP: "Remote home medical assistance through an interactive smart medicine infrastructure" PO FESR 2014/2020 Action 1.1.5", CUP G59J18000510007;</li> <li>• 4FRAILTY, PNR 2015-2020 - Area of specialization: "technologies for living environments" CUP code E66C18000200005.</li> <li>• FIR 2014 "Human gaze monitoring from mobile devices to enable large-scale screening and diagnosis of ocular and neurodegenerative diseases: novel computational methods, tools and trial protocols" (project code 76531B).</li> <li>• PI_D (Department Coordinator) of the interdepartmental University plan called "PIACERI 2020-2022" (PLAN of incentives for University RESEARCH 2020/2022), entitled "FAMOUS-UNICT (FAbry's disease MultiOrgan Unit Study): Identification and monitoring of early multi-organ markers in Anderson Fabry's disease"</li>   <li>• Ministry of University and Scientific and Technological Research (60%) years 2002-2008.</li> </ul>

## Editorial Activity

- Associate Editor of the international scientific journal "Frontiers in Human Neuroscience"
- Academic Editor of the international scientific journal "Plos One"
- Section board "Molecular Neurobiology" of the "International Journal of Molecular Sciences"
- Author of the chapter "Trigger C12: Stroke in Hospital" within the Handbook "Global Trigger Tool", McGraw-Hill Publisher
- Author of SPREAD guidelines (Stroke Prevention and Educational Awareness Diffusion) "Cerebral stroke: Italian guidelines", 1999

## Scientific Societies

- Founding member of the Italian Society for Translational Research and Health Professions (SIRTEPS)
- Full member of the Italian Society of Neurology (SIN);
- Full member of the Italian Society of Neurosonology and Cerebral Hemodynamics (SINSEC)
- Full member of the Italian Stroke Association – Associazione Italiana Ictus (ISA-AII)
- Founding member of ALICe Sicilia (Associazione Italiana Lotta all'Ictus Cerebrale)

Personal Consent provided according with the regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data and repealing directive 95/46/EC (General data protection regulation) (OJ L 119 4.5.2016 p. 1).

Catania, 30/01/2023

Rita Bella

