

**AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL RESUME OF PROFESSOR  
FERDINANDO NICOLETTI**

## **Personal information**

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Prof. Ferdinando Nicoletti, **graduated in Medicine and Surgery** at the University of Catania in October 30<sup>th</sup> 1987 with a final mark of 110/110 with honours.

He obtained his **residency in Allergology and Clinical Immunology** at the Institute of Internal Medicine, Infectious Diseases and Immunopathology at the University of Milan in October 1990.

He has been **Assistant to Professor at the Institute of Microbiology** of the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery at the University of Milan from 1991 to 2001.

He became **Associate Professor of General Pathology** in July 2001 and has been serving in this role at the University of Catania from November 2001 to January 2007.

He has become **Full Professor of Medical Laboratory Sciences** on July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2006. He is Full Professor of Medical Laboratory Sciences at the School of Medicine of the University of Catania since February 2007.

Since 2011, Prof. Ferdinando Nicoletti is Full Professor of General Pathology and Immunology at the School of Medicine of the University of Catania, Italy

Prof. Ferdinando Nicoletti has been **Vice-President of ethical committee** of Cannizzaro Hospital in Catania during 2009.

Prof. Ferdinando Nicoletti has been **President of IACUC** of the University of Catania.

Prof. Ferdinando Nicoletti has served as **Scientific Committee Member** of **Scuola Superiore di Catania**.

Prof. Ferdinando Nicoletti has cofounded

**GaNiAI Immunotherapeutics**, Delaware, USA

**OncoNOx ApS** ([www.onconox.com](http://www.onconox.com)), Copenhagen, Denmark

**Aura Biopharm** ([www.aurabiopharm.com](http://www.aurabiopharm.com)), Oslo, Norway

#### **Prof. Ferdinando Nicoletti's experience in foreign Institutions**

Prof. Ferdinando Nicoletti is **external consultant at the Institute for Inflammation Research, Rigshospitalet University Hospital**, Copenhagen, Denmark, since 1999. He has been **Visiting Professor at the School of Medicine of the University of Belgrade, Serbia**, on 2004 and he is currently **Visiting Professor at the Tblisi State Medical University**.

#### **Prof. Ferdinando Nicoletti has acted as external reviewer for the following Institutions**

Swiss National Science Foundation

United States-Israel Binational Science Foundation,

Foundation Compagnia San Paolo

Datamonitor

**Prof. Ferdinando Nicoletti has participated at the following national and European projects fundraising up to 2.5 million euros.**

1. Development of carbon monoxide releasing molecules for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis (EU Seventh Framework Programme)
2. Strategie di uso di batteri probiotici, prodotti batterici e parassitari per la terapia di malattie autoimmuni e allergiche. (Istituto superiore di sanità)
3. Hardis (VALUTAZIONE DELL'ATTIVITA' IMMUNOMODULANTE DELLA TRANSFERRINA UMANA E DEL SUO IMPIEGO NELLA TERAPIA DI PATOLOGIE AUTOIMMUNI E INFIAMMATORIE.) (FAR)
4. Bausch & Lomb (Evaluation of the effects of systemic administration of cloricromene in a model of streptozotocin-induced diabetes in rat) (FAR)
5. Cosmo (VALUTAZIONE DELLA POTENZIALE ATTIVITA' ANTIANDROGENA LOCALE E SISTEMICA DI NUOVI DERIVATI DEL CORTEXOLONE, E DELLA LORO POTENZIALE ATTIVITA' SUL SISTEMA IMMUNITARIO) (FAR)
6. Effetti del trattamento con GITR:Fc nel modello di diabete di tipo 1 indotto in topi C57Bl6 da dosi multiple di streptozotocina (PRIN)

**Prof. Ferdinando Nicoletti has been collaborating to R&D in preclinical and clinical studies with pharmaceutical and biotechnology Companies**

Ablynx N.V. (Zwijnarde, Belgium)

Alfama (Lisbon, Portugal)

Amgen Inc., (Thousand Oaks, CA)

Androclus Therapeutics (San Diego, CA)

Cosmo Biotech, Lainate (MI) /San Diego (CA)  
Hoffman-La Roche, Basel Switzerland  
Leo Pharmaceutical, Ballerup, Denmark  
Merck Serono International SA (Geneva, Switzerland)  
Merck-Schering-Plough, New Jersey, USA  
Novartis, Basel, Switzerland  
Pfizer-Wyeth , NY, USA  
Puleva Biotech, Granada, Spain  
Sanofi-Aventis, Labege, France

Revenues of Prof. Nicoletti's lab from research assignment for investigator-sponsored studies has totalled 1.5 million euros

**Prof. Ferdinando Nicoletti has acted and acts as reviewer for the following journals**

Acta Paediatrica  
Basic and Clinical Toxicology & Pharmacology  
Cancer Letter  
Cancer Research  
Diabetologia  
Diabetes  
Endocrinology  
European Journal of Pharmacology  
Exp. Biol. Med  
International Journal of Immunopharmacology  
Journal of Chemotherapy

Journal of Immunological Methods

Journal of Molecular Medicine

Journal Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutic

PLOS One

PNAS

**Prof. Ferdinando Nicoletti is in the Editorial Board of the following journals**

Basic and Clinical pharmacology and Toxicology

European Journal of Pharmacology

Int. J. Molecular Medicine

Int. J. of Oncology

Molecules

Recent Pat Antiinfect Drug Discov

Journal of Carcinogenesis

**Prof. Ferdinando Nicoletti' s collaborations**

Prof. Yousef AL-ABED, Laboratory of Medicinal Chemistry, The Feinstein Institute for Medical Research, Manhasset, NY 11030, USA.

Prof. Salvatore ALBANI, Departments of Medicine and Pediatrics, University of California, San Diego, 9500

Prof. Klaus BENDTZEN, Institute of Medical Immunology, Rigshospitalet, Copenhagen, Denmark

Prof. Karsten BUSCHARD Bartholin Institutet, Rigshospitalet, 2100 Copenhagen, Denmark.

Prof. Mogens CLAESSION, Laboratory of Cellular Immunology, Department of International Health, Immunology and Microbiology, The Panum Institute, University of Copenhagen

Prof. Anne COOKE, Department of Pathology, Cambridge, UK

Dr. Ramon GOMIS, Endocrinology and Nutrition Unit, Hospital Clinic of Barcelona, Villaroel, Barcelona, Spain.

Prof. Masahiro ITOH , Department of Anatomy, Kagawa Medical University, Japan

Prof. PierLuigi Meroni, Pini Institute of Rheumatology, University of Milan, Italy

Dr Stellan SANDLER , Department of Medical Cell Biology, Uppsala University, Sweden

Professor Yehuda SHOENFELD, Dept. of Medicine B, Sheba Medical Center, Tel-Hashomer, 52621, Israel

Prof. Stanislava STOSIC-GRUJICIC, Department of Immunology, Institute for Biological Research Sinisa Stankovic, Belgrade, Serbia and Montenegro.

#### **Prof. Ferdinando Nicoletti's main field of interest**

Prof. Ferdinando Nicoletti has been working in the field of cellular and molecular immunology, immunopharmacology, toxicology and experimental oncology. Prof. Nicoletti's area of research has primarily focused on the development of novel approaches for the treatment of cancer and immunoinflammatory diseases, probably of autoimmune origin, such as autoimmune thyroiditis, systemic lupus erythematosus, orchitis, hepatitis, rheumatoid arthritis, sepsis and type 1 diabetes. To this aim, Prof. Nicoletti. Nicoletti has mastered and has been using well known rodent models of these diseases.

By using these models, Prof. Nicoletti has evaluated in *in vitro*, *ex vivo* and *in vivo* conditions the immunopharmacological activities of novel immunosuppressive drugs (fusidic acid, deoxyspergaulin, FK506, thymopentin, pidotimod, VGX-1027), specific antagonists of proinflammatory cytokines (anti-IFN- $\gamma$  antibody, soluble (s)IFN- $\gamma$  receptor, sIL-1 receptor, sTNF receptor, anti-IL-12 antibody, IL-18 binding protein), anti-CD30L mAb or of exogenously-administered cytokines (IL-10, IFN- $\gamma$ ).

More recently, Prof. Nicoletti has also studied the chemotherapeutic profile of novel anti-cancer drugs in *in vitro* and *in vivo* preclinical settings. Primary focus of Prof. Nicoletti's work in this field has been on the PI3K-AKT-mTOR axis in oncogenesis including the occurrence of mutation and the effects of the specific targeting of this axis with small chemical inhibitors.

Prof. Ferdinando Nicoletti is in the *Top Italian Scientists of VIA-Academy* ([http://www.topitalianscientists.org/Top\\_italian\\_scientists\\_VIA-Academy.aspx](http://www.topitalianscientists.org/Top_italian_scientists_VIA-Academy.aspx)). He has published more than 250 papers in peer reviewed journals and has reached an H-index of 57 (google scholar).

**Prof. Ferdinando Nicoletti's has been granted 6 patents**

#### **Professor Ferdinando Nicoletti's publications**

- 1) Nicoletti F, Speciale C, Sortino MA, Panetta MS, Di Giorgio RM, Canonico PL.: Estrogen effects on nigral glutamic acid decarboxylase activity: a possible role for catecholesterogen. *Eur J Pharmacol.* 1985 Sep 24;115(2-3):297-300
- 2) Nicoletti G., Olivieri S., Cammarata E., Nicoletti F., Tempera G.: Le infezioni microbiche nel tossicodipendente. *Giornale di Batteriologia, Virologia ed Immunologia*, 1986, LXXIX, 124-143
- 3) Nicoletti F., Di Mauro M., Stracuzzi S., Pane F., Steinsvag P.L.: Pevalenza di ICA e CF-ICA in familiari di diabetici di tipo 1. *Rassegna di Medicina Interna*, 1988, IX, 3-7
- 4) Lunetta M., Di Mauro M., La Bella G., Buttiglieri R., Nicoletti F.: The quick-acting effect of regular insulin is preserved in premixed protamine and soluble human insulin preparations. *Med. Sci. Res.* 17, 897-898, 1989.
- 5) Nicoletti F. Barcellini W., Di Mauro M., Steinsvag P.O., Lunetta M., Scalia G., Condorelli F., Stivala A.: Correlazione tra anticorpi anti betacellula pancreatica e anti cytomegalovirus in collaterali sani di diabetici di tipo 1. *G. Ital. Diabetol.*, 1989, 9, 165-166.
- 6) Nicoletti F., Meroni P.L., Barcellini W., Steinsvag P.O., Di Mauro M., Lunetta M., Pagano M., Consoli U., Zanussi C.: Enhanced percentage of CD5+ B lymphocytes in newly diagnosed IDDM patients. *Immunology Letters* 23, 211-216, 1989/90.
- 7) Nicoletti F., Caruso M., Di Mauro M., Stracuzzi S., Mancuso M., Scuderi G., Leonardi C., Pagano M., Lunetta M.: CD3+CD25+ cells, CD3+CD4+/CD3+CD8+ ratio, HLA alloantigen



association and ICA in type 1 (insulin-dependent) diabetes. *Med. Sci. Res.* 18, 679-681, 1990.

8) Nicoletti F., Scalia G., Lunetta M., Condorelli F., Di Mauro M., Barcellini W., Stracuzzi S., Pagano M., Meroni P.L.: Correlation between islet cell antibodies and anti cytomegalovirus IgM and IgG antibodies in healthy first-degree relatives of type 1 (insulin-dependent) diabetic patients. *Clin. Immunol. Immunopathol.*, 55, 139-147, 1990.

9) Nicoletti F., Meroni P.L., Landolfo S., Gariglio M., Guzzardi S., Barcellini W., Lunetta M., Mughini L., Zanussi C.: Prevention of diabetes in BB/Wor rats treated with monoclonal antibodies to interferon-gamma. *Lancet* 336, 319, 1990.

10) Barcellini W., Borghi M.O., Nicoletti F., Bonara P., Fain C., Meroni P.L. Combination of mutant EL-4 thymoma cells and EBV-infection in B lymphocyte activation a) EBV-infection of EL-4-activated lymphocytes. b) Use of EL-4 cells as feeders for lymphoblastoid cell lines. *J. Clin. Lab. Immunol.*, 33, 21-28, 1990.

11) Nicoletti F., Scalia G., Condorelli F., Stivala A., Leonardi C., Mattina A., Steinsvag P.O., La Rosa L., Lunetta M.: Anti-cytomegalovirus IgM and IgG antibodies, islet cell antibodies and gamma interferon serum levels in newly diagnosed IDDM patients. *Int. J. Immunopathol. Pharmacol.*, 4, 99-106, 1991.

12) Nicoletti F., Consoli U., Calogero D., Speciale A.M., Di Marco R., Leonardi C., La Rosa L., Lunetta M., Di Cataldo A., Meroni P.L.: Enhanced percentage of Leu M3+DR+ and Leu M3+CD25+ cells in newly diagnosed IDDM patients. *Autoimmunity*, 9, 255-259, 1991.

13) Nicoletti F., Meroni P.L., Barcellini W., Grasso S., Borghi M.O., Lunetta M., Di Marco R., Stefani S., Mughini L.: FK-506 prevents diabetes in diabetes-prone BB/Wor rats. *Int. J. Immunopharmacol.* 13, 1027-1030, 1991.

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15) Lunetta M., Di Mauro M., Nicoletti F., Mughini L.: Diabetogenic effect of naloxone in subjects with impaired glucose tolerance. *Med. Sci. Res.* 19, 737-738, 1991.

16) Barcellini W., Borghi M.O., Fain C., Del Papa N., Nicoletti F., Meroni P.L. Enrichment of IgG anti-DNA-producing lymphoblastoid cell lines by antigen-coated immunomagnetic beads. *Clin Immunol. Immunopathol.*, 65, 39-44, 1992.

17) Nicoletti F., Meroni P.L., Di Marco R., Grasso S., Barcellini W., Borghi M.O., Lunetta M., Mughini L., Menta R., Schorlemmer H.U., Zanussi C. The effects of deoxyspergualin on the development of diabetes in diabetes-prone BB rats. *Scand. J. Immunol.*, 36, 415-420, 1992

- 18) Nicoletti F., Meroni P.L., Di Marco R., Barcellini W., Borghi M.O., Gariglio G., Mattina A., Grasso S., Landolfo S. In vivo treatment with monoclonal antibody to interferon-gamma neither affects the survival nor the rate and onset of lupus nephritis in the MRL/lpr-lpr mouse. *Immunopharmacology*, 24, 11-16, 1992.
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- 21) Di Marco R., Condorelli F., Girardello R., Uslenghi C., Chisari G., Di Mauro M., Speciale A.M., Meroni P.L., Nicoletti F. Increased rate of survival in *Streptococcus pneumoniae*-infected rats treated with the new immunomodulator Pidotimod. *Scand. J. Infect. Dis.* 24, 821-823, 1992
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- 24) Barcellini W., Borghi M.O., Fain C., Nicoletti F., Menta R., Meroni P.L., Schorlemmer H.U., In vitro effects of deoxyspergualin (DSO) on human peripheral blood mononuclear cells. *EOS*, 13, 14-15, 1993.
- 25) Di Marco R., Carrabba I., Cavallaro V., Zaccone P., Stazzone C., Franco S., Cocuzza C., Nicoletti G., Nicoletti F.: The effect of cefepime on some immune parameters in vitro: lack of interference with mitogen-induced lymphoproliferation, immunoglobulin synthesis, IFN-gamma and IL-2 secretion and IL-2 receptor expression. *J.Chemother.* 5, 297-301, 1993.
- 26) Nicoletti F., Borghi M.O., Meroni P.L., Barcellini W., Fain C., Di Marco R., Menta R., Schorlemmer H.U., Bruno G., Magro G., Grasso S.: Prevention of cyclophosphamide-induced diabetes in the NOD/WEHI mouse with deoxyspergualin. *Clin. Exp. Immunol.* 91, 232-236
- 27) Tang H., Mignon-Godefroy K., Meroni P.L., Garotta G., Charreire J., Nicoletti F. The effects of a monoclonal antibody to interferon-gamma on experimental autoimmune thyroiditis (EAT): prevention of disease and decrease of EAT-specific T cells. *Eur. J. Immunol.* 23 275-278,

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- 30) Nicoletti F., Di Marco R., Barcellini W., Borghi M.O., Lunetta M., Mughini L., Meroni P.L., Protection from experimental autoimmune thyroiditis in CBA mice with the novel immunosuppressant deoxyspergualin. *Scand.J.Immunol.* 39, 333-336, 1994
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- 33) Nicoletti F., Zaccone P., Magro G., Barcellini W., Cavallaro V., Belli G., Cocuzza C., Di Marco R., Meroni P.L. The effects of thymopentin on the development of SLE-like syndrome in the MRL/lpr-lpr mouse. *Scand. J. Immunol.* 40, 549-56, 1994
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- 35) Piona A., La Rosa L., Tincani A., Faden D., Magro G., Grasso S., Nicoletti F., Balestrieri G., Meroni P.L.: Placental thrombosis and fetal loss after passive transfer of mouse lupus monoclonal or human polyclonal anti cardiolipin antibodies in pregnant naive BALB/c mice. *Scand J Immunol.*, 41, 427-32, 1995
- 36) Boissier M.C., Chiocchia G., Bessis N., Hajnal J., Garotta G., Nicoletti F., Fournier C TI: Biphasic effect of interferon gamma in murine collagen induced arthritis. *Eur J Immunol.* 25, 1184-1190, 1995
- 37) Nicoletti F., Zaccone P., Di Marco R., Magro G., Grasso S., Morrone S., Santoni A., Tempera G., Meroni P.L., Bendtzen K.: Effects of sodium fusidate in animal models of insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus and septic shock. *Immunology*, 85, 645-650, 1995

- 38) Patti F, Di Stefano M, De Pascalis D, Ciancio MR, De Bernardis E, Nicoletti F, Reggio A.: May there exist specific MRI findings predictive of dementia in multiple sclerosis patients? *Funct Neurol.* 1995 Mar-Apr;10(2):83-90.
- 39) Barcellini W., Rizzardi G.P., Borghi M.O., Nicoletti F., Fain C., Del Papa N., Meroni P.L.: In vitro type-1 and type-2 cytokine production in systemic lupus erythematosus: lack of relationship with clinical disease activity. *Lupus*, 5, 139-145, 1996
- 40) Nicoletti F., Patti F., Di Marco R., Zaccone P., Nicoletti A., Meroni P.L., Reggio A. Circulating levels of IL-1ra in patients with relapsing remitting multiple sclerosis are normal during remission phases but significantly increased either during exacerbations or in response to IFN-beta treatment. *Cytokine*, 8, 395-400, 1996
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- 42) Di Marco R., Zaccone P., Magro G., Grasso S., Lunetta M., Barcellini W., Nicolosi V.M., Meroni P.L., Nicoletti F. Synergistic effect of deoxyspergualin (DSP) and cyclosporin A (CsA) in the prevention of spontaneous autoimmune diabetes in BB rats. *Clin. Exp. Immunol.*, 105, 338-343, 1996
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- Garotta G. Prevention of spontaneous autoimmune diabetes in diabetes-prone BB rats by prophylactic treatment with antirat interferon-gamma antibody. *Endocrinology*, 138: 281-288, 1997
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Catania, 14/01/2020

Ferdinando Nicoletti

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ferdinando Nicoletti". The signature is written in a cursive style and is contained within a light gray rectangular box.