



**Dr. Luana Licata**

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## **Curriculum Vitae**

### **Personal Statement:**

My scientific research activity focuses on the analysis of molecular interactions, both physical and causal, with the aim of understanding molecular mechanisms in various pathological contexts, such as cancer, infectious diseases, rare diseases and neurodevelopmental diseases. In particular, on the study of the impact of pathogenic variants on the function of proteins and their interactions, in order to identify the relationships between genotype and phenotype and characterize the molecular mechanisms underlying diseases to identify possible therapeutic strategies.

### **Education:**

1999 D.Sci. Master Degree in Biology, University of Palermo, Italy.

2004 Ph.D. in Biochemistry, Dept. of Structural Biology, Max Plank Institute of Biophysics, Frankfurt am Main, Germany issued by the Johann Wolfgang Goethe University, Frankfurt am Main, Germany.

### **Positions:**

1999	Visiting Scientist at the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, Rangos Research Centre, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, United States.
2006	Consultant at the Research and Technology Development Service (SDRR), Food & Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), Rome
2006-2007	Post Doc Position in Bioinformatics, Dept. of Biology, University of Rome Tor Vergata, Rome (Italy)
2008-2009	Consultant at the Agriculture Department, Crop and Grassland service (AGPC), Food & Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), Rome.
2008-2018	Research fellow position, Dept. of Biology, University of Rome Tor Vergata , Rome (Italy),
2019-2022	RTDA, Dept. of Biology, University of Rome Tor Vergata
2022	Senior project coordinator, Human technopole, Milano
2022-present	Assistant Professor, Dept. of Biology, University of Rome Tor Vergata.

### **Main research interests during the last years:**

- 1) Coordinator of the bioinformatic resource MINT, the Molecular INTERaction database (ELIXIR Core Data Resources and Global Core Biodata Resources) that provides standardized data on the physical interactions between biomolecules (proteins, nucleic acids, biomolecules and protein complexes).
- 2) I co-coordinate SIGNOR database, a resource that annotate causal and pathway relationships involving different biological entities (proteins, complexes, miRNAs, small molecules) and functionally link disease-associated genes via causal relationships.
- 3) Assessing pathogenic mechanisms of genes associated to Inflammatory Bowel Diseases involved in Colon Rectal Cancer progression.
- 4) Applying system biology approaches to characterize the molecular pathogenicity of variants associated with rare diseases.
- 5) Annotation and analysis of the main GPCR signaling axes and their deregulation in cancer and the Role of miRNAs in GPCR regulation and deregulations.

### **Publications:**

Luana Licata is co-author of 49 papers in international Journals indexed by PubMed (H index 27) and with a total number of 4,724 citations (Scopus). Complete List of Published Work at Europe PMC author profile: <https://europepmc.org/authors/0000-0001-5084-9000>