



Marco A. Cassatella, M.D.

Marco Antonio Cassatella [MAC, born in Gorizia (Italy)], received his M.D. (cum laude) from the University of Verona, Italy. After completing his residency in Clinical Biology, he moved to the Wistar Institute (Philadelphia, USA) as a post-doc in G. Trinchieri's and B. Perussia's laboratories, holding a fellowship from the Italian Association for Research against Cancer. MAC then joined the Institute of General Pathology directed by F. Rossi, at the Medical School of the University of

Verona, where he became Research Assistant in 1988, Associate Professor in 1992, and Full Professor in 2001. MAC has trained > 20 post-doctoral fellows that today have distinguished academic careers. Currently, MAC is Vice-Chairman of the Department of Medicine. MAC has been Council Member of the Italian Society of Immunology, Clinical Immunology and Allergology (SIICA) (2000-2004, 2005-2008, 2017-2021), Society for the Leukocyte Biology (SLB, 2010-2015), and European Society for Clinical Investigation (ESCI) (2002-2003); SIICA President from June 2021.

Marco Cassatella has organized three European "Phagocyte" Workshops (1999, 2003 and 2010); the II National Meeting of SIICA (2003); and the SLB 49th annual meeting and "Neutrophil 2016". He has been Steering Committee Member of the Joint Meeting of European National Societies of Immunology, ECI2006 in Paris (France), ECI2009 in Berlin (Germany) and virtual ECI2021; the 15th International Congress of Immunology, ICI2013 (Milan, Italy) and Local Organizer of the TOLL2011 meeting (Riva del Garda, Italy). As of 4-2021, MAC has authored > 200 publications listed in

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MAC's group has been always involved in studies focused on the mechanisms regulating, at molecular level, the effector functions of innate immunity cells. MAC's group greatly contributed to uncover the notion that neutrophils represent not only targets, but also sources of a variety of cytokines, even controlled by cell-specific molecular mechanisms. MAC's group has shown that neutrophils represent key cellular players in regulating angiogenesis, and that their responsiveness to PRR ligands is regulated at epigenetic levels. Other studies by MAC's group relate to the elucidation of the molecular mechanisms regulating NADPH oxidase activity and the role of CD16/FcγRIIIA in human Natural Killer (NK). More recently, MAC's group focused on the characterization of human "slanDCs", actually corresponding to the majority of CD16⁺⁺/CD14⁻ non-classical monocytes (slan⁺-monocytes), reporting their selective involvement in the nodal immune responses towards carcinoma cells, as well as their capacity to exert an efficient CD16-mediate ADCC and antibody-dependent phagocytosis (ADP) in tumor patients. MAC was honored with the the NUNC Tissue Culture prize (1997) and the "Bonazinga Award" from SLB (now SLB Legacy Award) in 2017.

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