



Laura Sturla

Researcher

✉ laurasturla@unige.it

☎ +39 0103538131

Education and training

1998

Ph.D. in Molecular and cellular biotechnologies applied to medicine University of Brescia. Thesis title GDP-L-fucose metabolism in prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells.

1993

Degree in Biological Science at the University of Genova. Thesis title Immunization with erythrocyte carries of antigens involved in vaccines.

1988

Certificate of high school (Scientific Lycaenum) Genova

Academic experience

2012 - ONGOING

LS has obtained Italian National Scientific Habilitation as Associate Professor in Biochemistry (05-E1) in Molecular Biology (05-E2) and in Applied Biology (05-F1)

2006 - ONGOING

Permanent position as Assistan Professor of Biochemistry Department of Experimental Medicine University of Genova.

2004 - 2006

Researcher Position (FIRB Project) at the Department of Experimental Medicine University of Genova with a research study on Molecular recognition and cell function.

1999 - 2000

Post-doctoral position at the Department of Experimental Medicine University of Genova she studied the molecular basis of genetic syndrome LADII (Leucocytes Adhesion Deficiency Type II)

Teaching activity

Since 2018:

Biochemistry, “Physical Education Degree” , University of Genova.

Biochemistry of Muscle “Master Degree in Physical Education”, Università di Genova.

Biochemistry of aging, , “Physical Education Degree” , University of Genova.

Since 2009:

Laboratory for the physician in training, “Degree Course in Medicine and Surgery”, University of Genova

Since 2007:

Chemistry and Biochemistry, “Nursing Degree”, University of Genova.

Chemistry and Biochemistry, “Health Professions Degree”, University of Genova

Biochemistry II and Structural Biology+Laboratory, “Specialization Degree Course in Biotechnologies”, University of Genova

Postgraduate research and teaching activity

Supervision of PhD students, residents and post-doctoral fellows

2007-2012, LS has been a Tutor in PhD course in Biotechnology and Biochemistry.

Since 2018, she is a tutor in the PhD Course in Experimental Medicine.

Research interests

LS has a particular interest in molecular mechanisms of signal transduction, specially regarding the biochemistry of hormone abscisic acid (ABA). She has significantly contributed to the identification of human receptor of ABA, the protein LANCL2. ABA is present and active in animals cells, where it induces the activation of innate immune cells and plays a role in the regulation of glycemia. ABA stimulate insulin release from pancreatic beta cells and glucose uptake by adipose and muscle cells. The most recent results obtained by LS group shows that ABA induces browning of murine adipocytes *in vitro* and *in vivo* and ABA enhances glucose uptake by brown adipose tissue *in vivo*. This discovery will lead to the development of new therapeutic strategies to improve glucose tolerance under conditions of insulin resistance, metabolic syndrome and obesity. LS has acquired the most important techniques in biochemistry and molecular biology.