

Annamaria Vezzani

Annamaria Vezzani obtained her PhD degree in Neuropharmacology in Milano at the Mario Negri Institute for Pharmacological Research. She spent her post-doctoral period in Baltimore at the University of Maryland working on the mechanisms of seizures generation in experimental models of epilepsy. Additional post-doctoral periods were done at the University of Stockholm and at the Karolinska Institute. She was on sabbatical at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in 2002 in the laboratory of Developmental Epilepsy.

She studies the biochemical and molecular mechanisms involved in the etiopathogenesis of seizures disorders using experimental models of epilepsy. The present research is focused on the role of neuroactive peptides and inflammatory mediators in aberrant neuronal excitability underlying seizures. Focus of research is also on the mechanisms of pharmacoresistance. She has published over 140 original papers and several book chapters and reviews in peer-reviewed high impact scientific journals.

Since 1997 she is Head of the Laboratory of Experimental Neurology in the Department of Neuroscience at the Mario Negri Institute for Pharmacological Research, Milan, Italy.

She is member of the Editorial Board of *Epilepsy Currents*, *Epilepsy Res*, *Epilepsy and Treatments and Neuroscience* and she has been for 8 years Associate Editor of *Basic Science for Epilepsia*.

She has been appointed of the Chair of the Commission on Neurobiology of International League Against Epilepsy (2005-2009) which is promoting initiatives for improving translational research in epilepsy. She is now member of the Commission on Neurobiology of the ILAE and of the AES International Affairs committee.

She received the Research Recognition Award for translational research in 2009 by the American Epilepsy Society.