Curriculum Vitae

Nicola Specchio

DOB 5th of December 1974; SPCNCL74T05A662F

From the 1988 and 1993 I attended the Secondary School "Socrate", Major in Classics.

In 1999 I graduated in Medicine at the University of Bari, Bari, Italy, final dissertation: "Vigabatrin (VGB), Lamotrigine (LTG), and Gabapentin (GBP) in refractory partial epilepsy: an open comparative long-term study". The research was carried out at the Department of Neurological and Psychiatric Science, University of Bari.

Between 1996 and 1999 I was student's representative in the Faculty of Medicine, University of Bari.

Research collaboration started in 1994 when I intermittently attended the Institute of Pharmacological Research "Mario Negri", Milano for the study: "Risk in Epilepsy Study Group".

Between 1999 and 2004 I trained as a Neurologist at the Neurological Institute of the University of Bari, attending the general neurological ward, the Centre for the Study and Treatment of Epilepsy and the laboratory of neurophysiology. I acquired good experience in the management of patients with general neurological problems and above all in the clinical management of patients with epilepsy. This includes recording and interpretation of EEG and video- EEG, polysomnographic nocturnal sleep recordings, and knowledge of computer analysis of EEG. I was personally involved in some of the research program on treatment of epilepsies.

In 2000 I attended the King's College Hospital, London as research fellow where I participated to outclinic patients and epilepsy surgery meetings.

In 2001 I attended the "Neuroscience Unit, Institute of Child Health and Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children, University College London" as research fellow.

In 2004 I enrolled for a PhD course in Neuroscience at the "Department of Neurological and Psychiatric Science, University of Bari, Italy. In the same year I started my collaboration with Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital, IRCCS in Rome as Research Fellow under the supervision of Professor Federico Vigevano. During the years spent in Rome the research has been focused on classification and definition of epileptic syndromes, on genetics of epilepsy and epileptic encephalopathies. He has been particularly interested in idiopathic focal epilepsy. Working with professor Vigevano and his research group, he has also been exposed to genetic studies in families with idiopathic focal epilepsies, in the classification of epileptic syndromes and in the characterization of new epileptic syndromes such as Febrile Infection related epileptic syndromes (FIRES) and in PCDH19 related epilepsy syndromes (see published papers). Moreover he started to actively participate to the epilepsy surgery program for the characterization and presurgical evaluation of surgical candidates. Between October 2005 and June 2006 I attended the European Epilepsy Academy – Distance learning Course on Genetics of Epilepsy. Award the elective "Genetics of Epilepsy" of the European Certification in Epileptology for Medical Doctors.

In 2007 I completed the PhD course in Neuroscience with the maximum scores.

From 2008 to 2013 I had a Full position as a Consultant at Division of Neurology, Bambino Gesù Children Hospital, Roma.

Between 2009 and 2011 I attended the Master in Epileptology of the University of Ferrara, Italy.

Between 2012 and 2013 I attended with success the Executive Master in Healthcare & Pharmaceutical Administration (EMPHA), University LUISS Guido Carli, Business School, Italy.

Between the various tasks carried out successfully, I worked as a tutor in official courses of Clinical Neurology illustrating the concepts of semiotics, clinical and neurological therapy, electroencephalography, neurophysiopathology.

From the 2011 I am tutor for the Virtual Epilepsy Academy (VIREPA) of the International League Against Epilepsy leading the course on non-epileptic paroxysmal disorders. I contributed with academic lectures to several International Courses on Epilepsies and with the organization of the International Course on Drug Resistant Epilepsies – endorsed by the Commission of European Affair - that is held yearly in Italy in Tagliacozzo (AQ), and Video-EEG Course in Epilepsy that is held yearly in Madrid.

From 2014 I am Head of Epilepsy Unit at Department of Neuroscience, Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital.

I participated as invited speaker to several national and international congresses and workshops, and more recently to the 10th and 11th European Congress of Epilepsy (ECE) and to the 31st International Epilepsy Congress (IEC)

During the year 2014 I received the National Scientific Award in Neurology (Associate Professor in the field 06/D6) and in Child Neuropsychiatry (Associate Professor in the field 06/G1).

For the period 2011-2014 and 2014-2017 I was elected to the Board of Directors of the Italian League Against Epilepsy.

I actively participated to national and international research projects. I am Author/coauthor of 85 articles published in International scientific journals, 8 book chapters. Current h-index: 21.

I am habitual reviewer for the following journals: Epilepsia, Epilepsy Research, Brain Development, European Journal Neurology, European Journal of Paediatric Neurology,

Epileptic Disorders.

In September 2016 I received the Young Investigator Award from the Commission of European Affair of the International League Against Epilepsy.

From April 2017 I am member of the ILAE Nosology and Definitions Task Force.

Rome 24th of May 2017

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