

# Ruggero De Maria

## Curriculum Vitae

Ruggero De Maria obtained his M.D. in Catania (1989) and completed the residence training in endocrinology in Palermo (1994). While working at the University of Rome “La Sapienza”, in the early scientific career he provided significant contributions to the understanding of the role of death signaling machinery in organ specific autoimmunity and in physiological conditions (Science, Science, J Exp Med, J Clin Inv, J, Immunol). Then, in 1997, he moved to the Department of Hematology, Oncology and Molecular Medicine at the Italian National Institute of Health, becoming Chairman of the department ten years later.

During these years, he defined the major mechanisms responsible for the negative regulation of hematopoiesis (Nature, Science, Blood, Cancer Res) and gained international recognition in oncology for discovering cancer stem cells in colorectal and lung cancer. The pioneer work on cancer stem cells included the discovery of chemotherapy resistance in cancer stem cells, together with the definition of the mechanisms responsible for cancer stem cell dissemination and metastasis formation (Nature, Cell Stem Cell, Cancer Res, Oncogene, Cell Death Diff). Other research interests comprise the study of microRNA and the microenvironment in solid tumors (Nat Med, Oncogene). Moreover, he has published several seminal articles on glioblastoma stem cells (Nature, Cell Stem Cell, Cancer Res, Cell Death Diff).

In 2011, he then became Director of the Regina Elena National Cancer Institute, before moving in 2016 to the Catholic University & Gemelli Polyclinic in Rome, where he is Director of the Institute of General Pathology. From 2013 he is the President of Alliance Against Cancer, the Italian association of comprehensive cancer institutes, while serving in the advisory boards of several important scientific organizations, including the National Foundation for Cancer Research, the Italian Association of Cancer Research, the Centre de Recherche Des Cordeliers and the Umberto Veronesi Foundation. From late 2016 he is President of the Human Genetics Foundation in Turin.

His research activities cover most of the areas of translational oncology, with a particular interest in the development of therapies for advanced solid tumors.