

## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

### **PAOLA ROCCA, MD**

Date of Birth: 9<sup>th</sup> August 1960

Place of Birth: Torino

Citizenship: Italy

## **EDUCATION**

High School: July 1979; score 60/60

University: Medical Degree, University of Turin, July 1985; score 110/110 cum laude, dissertation worthy for publication

Post-Doctoral Training: Residency in Psychiatry, University of Turin, July 1990, score 70/70 cum laude

Post-Doctoral Training: Residency in Neurology, University of Turin, July 1994, score 70/70 cum laude

## **ACADEMIC AND CLINICAL ACTIVITY**

Prof. Rocca has subsequently acquired the following academic positions:

- academic Researcher, Department of Neuroscience, Medical School, University of Turin, Italy.[October 2001 to December 31<sup>st</sup> 2004];
- associate professor, Department of Neuroscience, Medical School, University of Turin, Italy. [January 1<sup>st</sup> 2005 to September 30<sup>th</sup> 2011];
- full professor, Department of Neuroscience, Medical School, University of Turin, Italy [October 2011-present];

Currently she teaches at the medical school, at the dental school, at the psychology school, health-care professions school, residency and doctoral school.

Furthermore, she acquired the following academic roles:

- since 2011 member of Commissione Ricerca of the Medical School of the University of Turin;
- since 2012 member of the Research Committee of the Department of Neuroscience, "Rita Levi Montalcini";
- since March 2014 vice-Director for the Scientific Research of the Department of Neuroscience, "Rita Levi Montalcini";
- since May 2013 Coordinator for the Neuroimaging Committee;
- since November 2015 chief of the Neuroimaging Center- Centro Interdipartimentale di Studi Avanzati in Neuroscienze of the University of Turin (NIT).

Professor Paola Rocca has published more than one hundred papers in high-impact factor journals as well as many chapters in scientific publications. She is coauthor of Trattato italiano di psichiatria (Italian Psychiatric Essay).

She is an influential member of several scientific institutions, among them: Società Italiana di Psichiatria, SIP and Società Italiana di Psicopatologia, SOPSI. Particularly, from 2003 to 2006, she was the regional President of the Società Italiana di Psichiatria (Italian Society of Psychiatry) and currently she is a member of the Board of Directors of the SOPSI. Also, she regularly serves as a speaker, lecturer, and moderator at numerous national and international conferences and events.

As a clinician, Prof. Paola Rocca:

- since 1990, worked as Assistant, and Medical Manager of first level and Medical Manager with the assignment of Organization of Ordinary Ward and Service for Cognitive Impairments (G.S.U.) at the Department of Psychiatry;

- since April 2006 is the Responsible Manager of Struttura Semplice di Coordinamento a valenza dipartimentale “Coordinamento Assistenziale psichiatrico ospedale-territorio”;
- since August 2009 is chief of the Center for Treatment-Resistant Psychotic Disorders
- in 2017 set up the Center for Cognitive Rehabilitation at the Department of Neurosciences and Mental Health of the Azienda Ospedaliera Universitaria “Città della Salute e della Scienza” of Turin.

## **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

Department of Physiology, Medical School, University of Turin (Prof. S. Strata), where she studied the influence of inferior olive on flexor reflex activity. 1986: grant from European Training Program, she spent three months at the Department für Hirnforschung, University of Zurich.

In November 1986, she started to work as resident in Psychiatry, Department of Psychiatry, university of Turin. She collaborated in several projects in the field of Psychiatry and Clinical Psychopharmacology. She started also to work in the field of Biological Psychiatry, acquiring technical skills in biochemical research and molecular biology. To improve her skills in psychopharmacological research, she spent 8 months in Paris, Laboratoires d'Etudes et Recherches Synthelabo L.E.R.S. (Prof. S.Z.Langer).

Furthermore, she did research in clinical psychiatry and actually she is coordinator of the section of schizophrenia research at the Department of Neuroscience.

Her research interest can be summarized in two principal fields:

### **Psychiatry and Clinical Psychopharmacology.**

Her interest in Clinical Psychiatry Research is focused on schizophrenia and includes these specific areas of interest:

- study and classification of schizophrenia according to different patterns of symptoms/cognitive deficits;
- evaluation of depressive symptoms in schizophrenia with use of specific standardized scales;
- study of correlation between depressive symptoms and cognitive functions/functional outcome, subjective and objective quality of life and coping;
- study of delusion and cognitive pattern in acute and stable patients with schizophrenia, disorganized and paranoid type;
- social cognition: clinical, neuropsychological and neurobiological aspects;
- the impact of new and old antipsychotic drugs on cognitive functioning
- the impact of cognitive rehabilitation in global functioning

She is a member of the steering Committee of the Italian Network for Research on Psychoses (NIRP), a multi-center study on contributing factors to the real-world functioning in schizophrenia.

She participates in the integrated protocol of brain imaging. Lastly, has set up the center for cognitive rehabilitation.

Also, she studied psychopathology of depression, connection between dementia and depression in geriatric patients.

In the field of clinical psychopharmacology, her studies focus on use of psychiatric drugs in geriatric patients, and on efficacy and safety of new therapies in Anxiety Disorders, in Mood Disorders, and in Schizophrenia.

### **Biological psychiatry**

The focus of her studies in biological psychiatry was at first the creation of models on biological markers able to enhance the diagnostics and research of pathogenesis of psychiatric diseases. Later, she dealt with brain imaging, and currently her research effort is mostly focused on the analysis (by the use of fMRI techniques and high-resolution EEG) of brain activation of specific areas during specific cognitive tasks in patients with schizophrenia.