

RITA CASADONTE

Proteopath GmbH
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Profile

Research Scientist/Team Leader with hands-on experience in MALDI profiling/imaging mass spectrometry for analysis of biomolecules in proteomic, drug distribution and predictive genomics studies.
Methods development for mass spectrometry imaging-based proteomics on formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded (FFPE) tissues to improve clinical characterization and diagnostic techniques in various fields of histopathological diagnostics including classification of tumors, metabolic diseases (amyloidosis), degenerated tissues (meniscus), and determination of infectious disease (periprosthetic membrane), to name a few. Expertise of in-situ protein identification.

Education

2007 *Ph.D. in Molecular Oncology: New Therapeutic Approaches*
Magna Græcia University of Catanzaro Catanzaro, Italy
Advisor: Dr. Giovanni Cuda
Thesis title: "Enrichment of Low Abundance Proteins from Human Serum using Immunoaffinity Column Coupled with cICAT and 2D LC-MS/MS Analysis"

Work experience

2011 – present Research Scientist/Team leader Trier, RP, Germany
Proteopath GmbH

- Leading mass spectrometry projects for analysis of biomolecules aiding in the optimal diagnosis and treatment of diseases.
- Cooperate with other researchers, pathologists, and specialists from other medical disciplines in projects focused on linking mass spectrometry with the core methods of diagnostic clinical pathology and producing several peer-reviewed publications from each project.
- Managing collaborators' expectations by providing scientific and technical recommendations highlighting the most appropriate analysis protocol.
- Laboratory training planning. Supervising undergraduate and doctoral theses.

2007- 2011 Postdoctoral Fellow
Vanderbilt University Nashville, TN, USA
Department of Biochemistry, Mass Spectrometry Research Center
Advisor: Dr. Richard M. Caprioli
Method development for imaging mass spectrometry of proteins and peptides from formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded lung tissue specimens to define clinically relevant molecular signatures of lung cancer.
Method development for imaging mass spectrometry investigation of oligonucleotide therapeutic drug in cancer tissue.