

CURRICULUM VITAE
VALENTINA FAJNER

PERSONAL DATA

- Date of birth: 06/02/1989
- Email: valentina.fajner@gmail.com / valentina.fajner@student.unife.it

EDUCATION and TRAINING

From **November 2019**: student “Master in Giornalismo e Comunicazione Istituzionale della scienza”, University of Ferrara

2019: Digital Presentation Workshop, 18th-19th of November, IFOM, Milan

2018: Scientific communication workshop (Scienseed), 7th of November, Copenhagen, Denmark

2018: ‘Conversation for Exceptional leaders’ course (Promega), 5th-6th November, IFOM, Milan

2018: ‘*Drosophila melanogaster* models for neurodegenerative disease’ Workshop, 17th-20th April, Trieste

2018: **PhD in System Medicine (Molecular Oncology)**, University of Milan, IFOM (FIRC Institute of Molecular Oncology)

2016: Good Clinical Practice course, 8th-16th June, IEO, Milan, Italy

2013: **Master’s Degree in Pharmaceutical Biotechnology**, University of Bologna, Italy (Final Mark 110/110 cum laude)

2012: Summer School “Chemical and genomics-based strategies in the discovery of novel drug targets” (Final Mark 30/30 cum laude), Pharmacology Department, University of Bologna

2011: **Bachelor of Biotechnology**, University of Bologna, Italy (final mark 110/110 cum laude)

RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

From **March 2018**: **Postdoctoral fellow** at IFOM (FIRC Institute of Molecular Oncology, Milan, Italy)

2019: **President** of IFOM Postdoc Association (IPA), IFOM, Milan

2018: **Tutor** for the science dissemination program ‘Lo studente ricercatore’ (YouScientist), 25th of June the 5th of July, IFOM, Milan

2018: Member of the IFOM Postdoc Association (IPA), IFOM, Milan

2016: Member of the organizing committee of the IFOM social events for scientists networking

- 2014-2018:** PhD student at IFOM (FIRC Institute of Molecular Oncology, Milan, Italy). Supervisor: Dr. S. Polo. Project: "Characterization of physiological and pathological functions of E3 ligase Hecw in *Drosophila melanogaster*."
- 2013:** Internship in Genetics Department, University of Cambridge, UK. Supervisor: Dr Y. Kimata. Project: Investigating the molecular mechanisms of asymmetric cell division, using *Drosophila* neuroblasts (neural progenitor) as model system
- 2011:** Internship in the Laboratory of Microbiology and Virology, Experimental Pathology Department, University of Bologna, Italy. Supervisor: Dr. Laura Menotti. Project: improve the efficacy of an oncolytic Herpes Virus

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION PROJECTS and EXPERIENCE

- 2020:** 'FameLab-talking science' (Psiquardo), 20th of February and 23rd March, Milan
- 2019:** Pub talk for science communication at Ostello Bello, 10th of November, Milan
- 2019:** Participation to "Cell design" project, 1st -4th of October, IFOM, Milan
- 2019:** Scientific photo exhibit "Arte o Scienza? Immagini dalla ricerca", 27th- 29th of September, Trieste
- 2018:** Pub talk for science communication at the ENABLE conference 'The Promise of Future Medicine: From Research to Therapy, 7th-9th November, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2018:** Participation to IMAGINE project (Stem in the City), April, IFOM, Milan
- 2018:** 'FameLab-talking science' (Psiquardo), 28th of February, Padova
- 2017:** 'Researchers at school' project (Umberto Veronesi Foundation), 8th of May, Liceo E. Fermi, Bologna

PERSONAL SKILLS AND COMPETENCES

- Experience in events and soft skills courses organization, writing National/European research proposal, planning and development of research projects (scientific biological research), team work.
- Knowledge of the main bioinformatics tools: databases (PDB, UniProt, NCBI, Flybase, PubMed), bioinformatics programs (ClustalW, BLAST and Sequencer). Office packages (Word, Excel, Power Point), software for statistical analysis GraphPad Prism, graphic software (Illustrator, Adobe Photoshop, Krita), graphic tablet, basic use of WordPress platform and of video editing tools (iMovie).
- Knowledge of the main technique of molecular biology, biochemistry and cellular biology, confocal and fluorescence microscopy, fly genetics and dissection (*Drosophila melanogaster*)
- Languages: Italian (native speaker), English (proficient), French (basic).

AWARDS

2018: Prize for best short talk at the PROTEOSTASIS meeting, 22nd-24th February, Athens, Greece

2018: AIRC (Associazione Italiana per la Ricerca sul Cancro) fellowship.

2017: Poster prize at the 'PhD networking day', 19th October, Milan, Italy

2016: Poster prize at the Ubiquitin and Autophagy Conference, 4th-7th July, Frankfurt, Germany

2013: Erasmus Placement Scholarship.

SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

- (*in preparation*) **Hecw controls oogenesis and neuronal homeostasis by modulating phase transition of ribonucleoprotein particles.** Fajner V, Maspero E, Vaccari T, Polo S.
- *Methods in Enzymology*, 2019 (619). **Chapter Thirteen - Detection of ubiquitinated targets in mammalian and *Drosophila* models.** Maspero E, Fajner V, Weber J, Polo S.
- *FEBS letters*, 2017 Aug; 20 (17). **Targeting HECT-type E3 ligases – insights from catalysis, regulation and inhibitors.** Fajner V, Maspero E, Polo S.