FORMATO EUROPEO PER IL CURRICULUM VITAE



PERSONAL DATA

Name **ALESSANDRA SOLARI**

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Nationality Italian

25 MARCH 1957 Date of birth

Place of birth BORGO VAL DI TARO (PARMA), ITALY

Codice Fiscale SLRLSN57C65B042S

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Head, Unit of Neuroepidemiology, Scientific Directorate, Fondazione IRCCS 2014-present

Istituto Neurologico Carlo Besta (FINCB), Milan

Senior Neurologist, Unit of Neuroepidemiology, FINCB, Milan 1997-2013

Neurologist at Laboratory of Epidemiology, FINCB, Milan 1994-1997

Neurologist at Istituti Clinici di Perfezionamento, Milan 1990-1993

Neurologist at Department of Neurology, Fidenza Hospital (Parma) 1981-1982

EDUCATION

Hospital Management Certificate. Institute of Economics, Administration and 2005

Management, Milan Bicocca University

Post-graduation in Neurology, Specialty School in Neurology, University of Parma 1984

(summa cum laude)

Certified Medical Doctor, University of Parma 1981

1981 Degree in Medicine, Medical School, University of Parma (summa cum laude)

OTHER

Ethics Committee Area Vasta Emilia Nord, Reggio Emilia, Italy 2018- present

2011-2018 Executive Board Rehabilitation in MS Network, RIMS (www.eurims.org)

2010-2018 Co-chair, co-founder RIMS Special Interest Group "Patient Autonomy"

2008-2017 Scientific Committee of the Italian MS Society Foundation, FISM

Academic Editor for PLoS ONE and Frontiers Neurology. Member of the Editorial

Board of International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health—IJERPH

Teacher and invited speaker at several scientific seminars and international conferences (Charcot Foundation, Cochrane Collaboration, EAN/EFNS, Italian Ministry

of Health, NIH, Italian NMSS, US NMSS, UK NMSS, RIMS, WFN).

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Dr. Solari's main area of research is the validation of instruments and outcome measures (chiefly patient-reported outcome measures) for clinical, epidemiologic, and quality of care studies in neurological diseases, particularly multiple sclerosis (MS). Her other main interest is the design and conduction of independent randomised controlled trials (RCTs) mainly on rare diseases and complex interventions.

Quality of Life, Patient Satisfaction and Clinical Decision Making

Dr. Solari works is currently investigating methods of conducting outcomes research in studies on disease management and quality of care programs. As part of this field of research she is carrying out a prospective study on community-based cohort of MS patients, examining relationships between disease status, quality of life and health care utilization. She has also devised a structured information aid for people with newly diagnosed MS. Dr. Solari validated the Italian version of the 54-item MS Quality of Life (the most-used disease-specific health-related quality of life questionnaire); and a shortened version of the MSQOL-54 (MSQOL-29); the Italian version of the Chicago Multiscale Depression Inventory; and the Italian version of the Control Preference Scale, which was also devised in a revised electronic version (eCPS). Dr. Solari's team produced a short questionnaire on MS knowledge for patients and their significant others, the MS Knowledge Questionnaire (MSKQ), and, in collaboration with the team of Prof. C. Heesen (Hamburg-Eppendorf University) the risk knowledge questionnaire for relapsing-remitting MS (RIKNO). One further PROM validated and refined was the COSM (Comunicazione Medico-paziente nellala Sclerosi Multipla), probing patient satisfaction with MS diagnosis disclosure. Ongoing activities are the linguistic validation into Italian, German and Spanish of the following PROMs: the CompACT (Comprehensive assessment of Acceptance and Commitment Therapy processes) and the DDS (Drexel Defusion Scale).

Randomised Controlled Trials

Dr. Solari's experience in this area includes the design, management and analysis of phase II/III RCTs on rare diseases and complex interventions.

Chief investigator of the following: RCT trial to assess the efficacy of physiotherapy in people with MS; the CRIMS double-blind RCT on computer-aided retraining of memory and attention in people with MS; the SIMS-Trial (Effectiveness of a structured information interview in people with newly-diagnosed MS; ISRCTN81072971); PeNSAMI Trial (multicenter phase II/III single-blind randomized controlled trial of home-based palliative care vs.standard care for people with severe MS and their carers, and nested qualitative study; ISRCTN73082124). Co-chief investigator of the CMT-TRIAAL (multicentre double-blind placebo-controlled RCT of ascorbic acid treatment in Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease type 1a - granted by Telethon Italy and Agenzia Italiana del Farmaco) and CMT-TRAUK (CMT-Trial with Ascorbic acid United Kingdom- Granted by University College London and University College London Hospitals Trust). Member of the Steering Committee of the following: FIRST Trial (multicentre RCT on antiepileptic treatment started at first tonic-clonic seizure); Placebo-controlled double-blind RCT on idebenone in patients with Friedreich's ataxia; SMART trial (multicentre RCT on the efficacy of gabapentin in spinal muscular atrophy); SMA-Trip trial (double-blind placebo-controlled RCT on the efficacy of 4phenylbutyrate in spinal muscular atrophy); MAIN-Trial (multicentre randomised controlled study of azathioprine versus interferon beta in relapsing-remitting MS) granted by Agenzia Italiana del Farmaco.

GRANTS

1995 *FISM* - Randomized controlled clinical trial on the efficacy of physical rehabilitation in patients with MS

1996 *Italian Ministry of Health* - Randomized controlled clinical trial on the efficacy of physical rehabilitation in patients with MS

1997 FISM - Cross-sectional population study on health-related quality of life in MS patients 1997 Italian Ministry of Health - Validation of the Italian MS Quality of Life-54 Survey 2000 FISM - Short battery for cognitive assessment in MS patients: A national validation study 2001 US National MS Society - Randomized controlled clinical trial on the efficacy of computer-assisted cognitive rehabilitation in patients with MS (CRIMS trial)

GRANTS (CONTINUED)

2001 FISM - Accuracy of two MS-specific brief neuropsychological batteries compared to an evidence-based criterion

2002 FISM – Health-related quality of life of people with MS: The Italian MSQOL-54 Database and a longitudinal survey in the province of Milan

2005 US National MS Society - A structured information interview for people with newly diagnosed MS

2006 FISM - Responsiveness of MS-specific health-related quality of life measures

2007 FISM – Effectiveness of a structured information interview in people with newly-diagnosed MS (SIMS Trial)

2009 FISM – Participants' perspective on information aid for newly-diagnosed MS patients: a qualitative study within the SIMS-Trial (SIMS-Qual)

2009 FISM – A postal survey of self-assessed health of adults with MS and their significant others: long-term follow-up (POSMOS Study)

2010 *Hertie Foundation* – Autonomy preferences, risk knowledge and decision making performance in ms patients (AutoMS) (co-primary investigator: Cristoph Heesen, University of Hamburg, Germany)

2011 *FISM* — Autonomy preferences, risk knowledge and decision making performance in MS patients (AutoMS) (co-primary investigator: Cristoph Heesen, University of Hamburg, Germany) 2011 *FISM* — The Italian version of "The Motherhood Choice": A decision aid for women who are considering motherhood

2012 FISM — Home-based palliative care for people with severe multiple sclerosis: Developmental phase of the Palliative Network for Severely Affected Adults with MS in Italy (PeNSAMI) study

2013 FISM – Development of an abbreviated, computerized version of the MSQOL-54 (co-primary investigator: Rosalba Rosato, University of Turin, Italy)

2013 FISM – The Palliative Network for Severely Affected Adults with MS in Italy (PeNSAMI) Phase 2: A multicenter phase II/III single-blind randomized controlled trial of home-based palliative care vs. usual care for people with severe MS and their carers, and nested qualitative study 2015 FISM – Managing the transition (ManTra) - A multifaceted resource for persons with secondary progressive MS and their health professionals. Phase 1: Construction of the resource 2016 FISM - EAN Guideline on Palliative Care of People with Severe MS 2017 FISM – Italian set up of the program "REsilience and Activity every DaY for MS", of outcomes, and pilot assessment of efficacy using a mixed methodology (READY-It-MS) (Principal Investigator: Ambra M Giovannetti, PhD student at the Neuroepidemiology Unit FINCB, Milan / Psychology Unit University of Queensland, Australia)

PUBLICATIONS

Dr. Solari has published over 150 articles in peer-reviewed medical and scientific journals and has also contributed chapters to scientific-medical books. For a list of recent publications, see PubMed.

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Milan, 20 September 2019

ALESSANDRA SOLARI