

Dr. Francesca Oltolina was born in 1987 in Vercelli, Italy.

She got her Bachelor in Biotechnology in 2010 (score: 97/110) at the School of Medicine – Università del Piemonte Orientale (UPO) in Novara, Italy, her Master in Medical Biotechnology in 2012 (score: 110/110 *cum laude*) at UPO and her PhD in Biotechnology for Human Health, cycle XXVIII, in 2016 at UPO with a thesis entitled “Multifunctionalized Hydroxyapatite and Magnetic Nanoparticles as Carriers for Cancer Targeted Therapy”.

There, she was a post-doc fellow in the laboratory of Histology and her research fields were regenerative medicine, production of monoclonal antibodies as probes and biomimetic tools against tumor associated markers and nanomedicine. In that period, she was also involved in giving didactical laboratories, and assisting to exams.

She published 15 papers in scientific journals (ORCID number <http://orcid.org/000-0002-0613-6166> - Hirsch Index 7 – April 2020), a book chapter and she co-supervised several Bachelor and Master thesis students. She attended various European and International scientific meetings where she presented her results in oral presentations and in poster sessions. Among the prizes which she has been awarded with, the “Prof. Andrea Facchini Young Investigator Award” for the oral presentation entitled: “Human Cardiac Progenitor Cells Spheroids exhibit enhances engraftment potential” (2016), the ImmunoTools special Award 2014 and the 1st Prize Poster Competition and accommodation grant at 4th International School on Biological Crystallization carried out in Granada (2013).

Now, Dr. Oltolina is a MSCA-COFUND Athenea3i fellow at the Universidad de Granada (UGR) and she works in the Department of Microbiology on her project entitled “Novel TARgeted functionalized MAGnetoLIposomes for cancer Therapy (TAR-MA-LI-T)”. For this, she will develop a new drug delivery system based on magnetoliposomes. The results of her research could be the basis for future applications to improve people's health.

In 2019, Dr. Oltolina published a paper in collaboration with the group of Prof. Concepción Jiménez López about magnetic nanoparticles functionalized with monoclonal antibodies directed against a tumor biomarker and a chemotherapeutic agent. This paper entitled “Functionalized Biomimetic Magnetic Nanoparticles as Effective Nanocarriers for Targeted Chemotherapy” was published in the scientific journal “Particle & Particle System Characterization” and these previous and promising *in vitro* results have laid the basis for further studies, which will be developed in the project “TAR-MA-LI-T” aimed at discovering a possible translational application for cancer treatment.