


EUROPEAN CURRICULUM VITAE FORMAT	
	
Personal Information	
Name	SARA PIZZI
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E-mail	sara.pizzi@eurac.edu ; sara.pizzi1@unimi.it
Nationality	Italian
Date of Birth	22/01/1994
Work Experience	
• January 2019 – September 2019	Internship Molecular Neurodegeneration Lab of Dr. Mattia Volta, Institute for Biomedicine, Eurac Research, Bolzano. Lab Project: Investigation of the modulatory role of LRRK2 kinase activity in synaptic transmission and autophagic pathways in different models of Parkinson's Disease.
• October 2017 – December 2018	Thesis Internship Laboratory of Prof. Graziella Cappelletti, Dipartimento di Bioscienze, Università degli Studi di Milano. Lab Project: Clarify the role of the interplay between alpha-synuclein and the microtubule system in Parkinson's Disease.
Education and Training	
• October 2019 - Present	PhD School in Molecular and Cellular Biology Dipartimento di Bioscienze, Università degli Studi di Milano Supervised by: Prof. Graziella Cappelletti (Dipartimento di Bioscienze, Università degli Studi di Milano, Milano) Dr. Mattia Volta (Institute for Biomedicine, Eurac Research, Bolzano) Research project: Unravelling the role of RIT2-LRRK2 interplay in lysosome biology: an insight in Parkinson's disease pathogenesis
• 2016 - 2018	Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy – Faculty of Sciences and Technologies Master degree in Biologia Applicata alla Ricerca Biomedica (110/110 <i>cum laude</i>)
• 2013 - 2016	Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy – Faculty of Sciences and Technologies Bachelor's degree in Scienze Biologiche (104/110)
• 2008 - 2013	Liceo Scientifico (Scientific High School) B. Russell, Garbagnate Milanese (MI), Italy (81/100)

Personal Skills and Competences	
Mother tongue	ITALIAN
Other Languages	ENGLISH
• Reading skills	Excellent
• Writing skills	Good
• Verbal skills	Good
	First Certificate in English, University of Cambridge, ESOL Examinations, Grade C
Social skills and competences	Excellent team spirit developed thanks to sport activities (Volleyball, Tchoukball), voluntary activities and working in research groups during training and work experiences. Good social and communication skills developed thanks to voluntary activities, training activities for children, High School and University counselling during Open Days, giving presentation during lab meetings and congresses.
Technical skills and competences	Technical Intracardial perfusion of mice; slicing mouse brain samples through vibratome and microtome; immunolabeling techniques for transmission electron microscopy (DAB, immunogold); sample processing for transmission electron microscopy (osmication, dehydration, epoxy resin embedding); ultra-thin sectioning with a diamond blade at the ultramicrotome; histochemistry; immunohistochemistry; immunocytochemistry; neuroblastoma cell lines culture; primary neurons culture; human iPSCs culture; differentiation of human iPSCs into dopaminergic neurons; confocal microscopy; live-cell imaging; biological sample lysis; SDS-PAGE; Western blotting; capillary electrophoresis immunoassay (Protein Simple WES system); bacterial transformation and culture; plasmid DNA extraction; agarose gel electrophoresis; cell transfection and nucleofection; RNA extraction; retro transcription; qPCR; droplet digital PCR. Digital Office suite (Word, Excel, Power Point), OriginPro, GraphPad Prism, ImageJ, Image Lab, basic Adobe Photoshop, NIS-Elements Viewer, Leica Application Suite X, Imaris, GPower.
Additional Information	
Courses	
January 2020	Winter School: Theory and practice in transmission and scanning electron microscopy. University of Pisa
Funding acquisition	
July 2022	Biochemical Society Student Bursary to attend Biennial International LRRK2 Meeting 2022 in Lille, France
Congress Communication	
March 2018	Neuronest, 2° meeting traslazionale del gruppo di ricerca strategico in neuroscienze de 'La Statale', Milano, Italy. Poster: Alessandra M. Calogero, Francesca Cantele, Samanta Mazzetti, Debora Modena, Sara Pizzi, Delia Tarantino, Elisabetta Onelli, Alessandra Moscatelli, Gloria Gagliardi, Giorgio Giaccione, Gianni Pezzoli, Isabelle Arnal, Alida Amadeo and Graziella Cappelletti.

	Interplay between alpha-synuclein and tubulin in health and disease: from pure protein to human brain
September 2020	SINS National Meeting of PhD Students in Neuroscience, "New perspectives in Neurosciences: Research Results of Young Italian Neuroscientists" Poster: Sara Pizzi, Alessandra M Calogero, Samanta Mazzetti, Mara De Leonardis, Julia Obergasteiger, Andrew A Hicks, Peter P Pramstaller, Graziella Cappelletti and Mattia Volta. Microtubule modulation and α-synuclein biology
January 2021	Welcome Genome Campus, Molecular Neurodegeneration and Therapeutic Approaches 2021, Virtual event. Poster: Sara Pizzi, Samanta Mazzetti, Alessandra M. Calogero, Julia Obergasteiger, Mattia Volta and Graziella Cappelletti. Microtubule modulation and α-synuclein biology
July 2022	Biennial International LRRK2 Meeting 2022, Lilliad, Univerité de Lille, France. Oral communication: Sara Pizzi, Julia Obergasteiger, Anne-Marie Castonguay, Corrado Corti, Martin Lévesque and Mattia Volta. A novel Rit2-LRRK2 interaction in lysosome processing
November 2022	XXXII Congresso del Gruppo Italiano per lo Studio della Neuromorfologia (G.I.S.N.) 2022 Oral communication: Sara Pizzi, Julia Obergasteiger, Anne-Marie Castonguay, Corrado Corti, Martin Lévesque and Mattia Volta. A novel Rit2-LRRK2 interaction in lysosome processing
Publications	
	Uberbacher C., Obergasteiger J., Volta M., Venezia S., Muller S., Pesce I., Pizzi S., Lamonaca G., Picard A., Cattelan G., Malpeli G., Zoli M., Beccano-Kellyh D., Flynn R., Wade-Martins R., Pramstaller P.P., Hicks A.A., Cowley S.A., Corti C. Application of CRISPR/Cas9 editing and digital droplet PCR in human iPSCs to generate novel knock-in reporter lines to visualize dopaminergic neurons. Stem Cell Res. 41: 101656 (2019).
	Obergasteiger, J., Frapporti, G., Lamonaca, G., Pizzi, S., Picard, A., Lavdas, A. A., Pischedda, F., Piccoli, G., Hilfiker, S., Lobbestael, E., Baekelandt, V., Hicks, A. A., Corti, C., Pramstaller, P. P., and Volta, M. Kinase inhibition of G2019S-LRRK2 enhances autolysosome formation and function to reduce endogenous alpha-synuclein intracellular inclusions. Cell Death Discov. 6, 45 (2020).
	Albanese, F., Mercatelli, D., Finetti, L., Lamonaca, G., Pizzi, S., Shimshek, D.R., Bernacchia, G., Morari, M. Constitutive silencing of LRRK2 kinase activity leads to early glucocerebrosidase deregulation and late impairment of autophagy in vivo. Neurobiol Dis. 159:105487 (2021).
	Amadeo, A.*, Pizzi, S.*, Comincini, A., Modena, D., Calogero, A.M., Madaschi, L., Faustini, G., Rolando, C., Bellucci, A., Pezzoli, G., Mazzetti, S., Cappelletti, G. The Association between α-Synuclein and α-Tubulin in Brain Synapses. Int J Mol Sci. 22(17):9153 (2021). *Equal contribution
	Obergasteiger J., Castonguay AM., Frapporti G., Pizzi S., Lobbestael E., Baekelandt V., Hicks A.A., Pramstaller P.P., Gravel C., Corti C., Levesque M., Volta M. RIT2 reduces

	<p>LRRK2 kinase activity and protects against alpha-synuclein neuropathology. bioRxiv doi: https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.10.21.348144 (2020). Currently under revision.</p>
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