

Curriculum vitae Simona Gallo

Personal details

Born in Turin

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Education

2012-2016 PhD in Molecular Medicine, University of Turin, Italy

2006-2011 Master's Degree in Molecular Biotechnology, University of Turin, Italy, 110/110 cum laude and mention

Professional experiences and current position

2021-pres Senior PostDoc Researcher (Assegnista di Ricerca), University of Turin

20017-2021 PostDoc Researcher, Candiolo Cancer Institute, FPO – IRCCS

2016-2017 PostDoc Researcher (Assegnista di Ricerca), University of Turin

2012-2016 PhD Student in Molecular Medicine, University of Turin

2011 Research Collaborator, Candiolo Cancer Institute, FPO – IRCCS

2008-2011 Thesis Student, University of Turin

Honors

2017 Travel Fellowship European Section of the International Society for Heart Research

2016 Research Fellowship (1 year) Fondazione Franco e Marilisa Caligara

2012 Research Fellowship (4 years) MIUR

Teaching activity:

2011-pres Biochemistry Teaching Assistant,

Nursing Faculty and Medical Radiology Faculty, University of Turin

2014-pres Subject-matter expert of Biochemistry, Dental Faculty, University of Turin

2014-pres Supervisor in Thesis Preparation, University of Turin

2017-pres Supervision of laboratory staff and students, University of Turin

Research main topics

Dr. Simona Gallo started her research training, as an undergraduate student, in 2008 within the cardiovascular research group led by Prof. Tiziana Crepaldi. She developed a strong expertise in in vitro and in vivo experimental models, molecular biology, and biochemistry. During the cardiovascular research experience, she developed solid experience in transcriptomic analysis studying cardiomyogenesis (Gatti, 2013) and heart failure in mouse models (Riess, 2011; Sala, Biomed Res Int 2016; Sala, J Mol Cell Cardiol 2016) and in patients (Galluzzo, Gallo, 2021). She published her first first-author original paper regarding the cardioprotective role of HGF-MET against hypoxic damage (Gallo, 2014). In 2016, after obtaining her PhD in Molecular Medicine, she put her expertise into CardioOncology by moving to the Candiolo Cancer Institute at Prof. Paolo Comoglio's group. The commitment of Dr. Gallo to cancer research started by studying the protection of the heart against chemotherapy-derived cardiotoxicity through the activation of MET downstream signaling (Gallo, Br J Pharmacol 2020; Gallo, Int J Mol Sc 2020). Thanks to the stimulating environment at Candiolo Cancer Institute she produced two papers in collaboration on different functions of MET in cancer (Modica, 2020; Altintas, 2022). She collaborated with the group of Dr. Denis Vivien (University of Caen, France) in writing a comprehensive review on the role of HGF-MET axis in the central nervous system (CNS, Desole, Gallo, 2021). Starting from these reflections, Dr Gallo hypothesized a mechanistic parallel in the way MET regulates glutamate-dependent activities in the CNS and in the neoplastic cellular function. The recent research activities of Dr. Gallo were thus inspired by emerging lessons from neuroscience field, and lead to her most important first-author original work demonstrating the invasive role of NMDAR/MET complex in TNBC cells (Gallo, 2022). This new research topic has stimulated in Dr. Gallo the wish to confirm her work in cancer research regarding the role of glutamate in cancer as indicated by her last comprehensive review on the topic (Gallo, 2023).

Participation in projects:

- 2019-pres (PI: Paolo Comoglio), Participant, “Novel MET genetic alterations: unexpected roles in cancer progression and resistance to targeted therapies”, AIRC
- 2018-2021 (PI: Paolo Comoglio), Participant, “Activation of the Met receptor as therapeutic tool in MS: a new neuroprotective mechanism involving the glutamatergic system”, Fondazione Italiana per la Sclerosi Multipla (FISM)
- 2014-2020 (PI: Tiziana Crepaldi) Participant, “New Biomarkers of Heart Failure”, CRT and Compagnia di SanPaolo
- 2012-2014 (PI: Tiziana Crepaldi) Participant, “Cardiac cachexia and cardiac effects of muscular atrophy: a cross-talk of autophagic wasting”, Association Francaise contre les Myopathies (AFM)
- 2012 (PI: Tiziana Crepaldi) Participant, “Study of the mechanisms involved in cardiac cachexia”, University of Turin (ex 60%)

Bibliometry (1994-present) (www.scopus.com)

H-index 10

Citations 490

Publications

- Gallo S**, Vitacolonna A, Crepaldi T. 2023. “NMDA Receptor And Its Emerging Role In Cancer”. *Int J Mol Sci.* 24: 2540.
DOI: doi: 10.3390/ijms24032540
- Altintas DM, **Gallo S**, Basilico C, Cerqua M, Bocedi A, Vitacolonna A, Botti O, Casanova E, Rancati I, Milanese C, Notari S, Gambardella G, Ricci G, Mastroberardino PG, Boccaccio C, Crepaldi T, Comoglio PM. 2022. “The PSI Domain of the MET Oncogene Encodes A Functional Disulfide Isomerase Essential For The Maturation Of The Receptor Precursor”. *Int J Mol Sci.* 23: 12427.
DOI: 10.3390/ijms232012427
- Gallo S**, Vitacolonna A, Comoglio P, Crepaldi T. 2022. “MET Oncogene Controls Invasive Growth by Coupling with NMDA Receptor”. *Cancers.* 14:4408.
DOI: 10.3390/cancers14184408
- Desole C*, **Gallo S***, Vitacolonna A, Vigna E, Basilico C, Montarolo F, Bardou I, Ali C, Maillason M, Crepaldi T, Comoglio P, Lemarchand E, Agin V, Roussel BD, Vivien D. 2021. “Engineering, Characterization, and Biological Evaluation of an Antibody Targeting the HGF Receptor”. *Front Immunol.* 12:775151. *These authors contributed equally to this work.
DOI: 10.3389/fimmu.2021.775151
- Desole C, **Gallo S**, Vitacolonna A, Montarolo F, Bertolotto A, Vivien D, Comoglio P, Crepaldi T. 2021. “HGF and MET: From Brain Development To Neurological Disorders”. *Front Cell Dev Biol.* 9: 683609.
DOI: 10.3389/fcell.2021.683609
- Galluzzo A*, **Gallo S***, Pardini B*, Birolo G, Fariselli P, Boretto P, Vitacolonna A, Peraldo-Neia C, Spilinga M, Volpe A, Celentani D, Pidello S, Bonzano A, Matullo G, Giustetto C, Bergerone S, Crepaldi T. 2021 “Identification of Novel Circulating Micrnas in Advanced Heart Failure by Next-Generation Sequencing”. *ESC Heart Fail.* 8:2907-2919. *These authors contributed equally to this work.
DOI: 10.1002/ehf2.13371
- Modica C, **Gallo S**, Chiriaco C, Spilinga M, Comoglio PM, Crepaldi T, Basilico C, Vigna E. 2020. "Molecular Engineering Strategies Tailoring the Apoptotic Response to a MET Therapeutic Antibody". *Cancers* 12: e741.
DOI: 10.3390/cancers12030741
- Gallo S**, Spilinga M, Casanova E, Bonzano A, Boccaccio C, Comoglio PM, Crepaldi T. 2020. “The Long-Lasting Protective Effect Of HGF In Cardiomyoblasts Exposed To Doxorubicin Requires A Positive Feed-Forward Loop Mediated By Erk1,2-Timp1-Stat3”. *Int J Mol Sci.* 21: 5258.
DOI: 10.3390/ijms21155258
- Gallo S**, Spilinga M, Albano R, Ferrauto G, Di Gregorio E, Casanova E, Balmativola D, Bonzano A, Boccaccio C, Sapino A, Comoglio PM, Crepaldi T. 2020. “Activation of the Met Receptor Attenuates Doxorubicin-Induced Cardiotoxicity in Vivo and in Vitro.” *Br J Pharmacol.* 177:3107-3122.
DOI: 10.1111/bph.15039

- Gallo S**, Vitacolonna A, Bonzano A, Comoglio P, Crepaldi T. 2019. “ERK: A Key Player In The Pathophysiology Of Cardiac Hypertrophy”. *Int J Mol Sci*. 20: E2164.
DOI: 10.3390/ijms20092164
- Sala V, Gatti S, **Gallo S**, Medico E, Cantarella D, Cimino J, Ponzetto A, Crepaldi T. 2016. “A New Transgenic Mouse Model Of Heart Failure And Cardiac Cachexia Raised By Sustained Activation Of Met Tyrosine Kinase In The Heart. *Biomed Res Int*. 2016: 9549036.
DOI: 10.1155/2016/9549036
- Sala V, **Gallo S**, Gatti S, Medico E, Vigna E, Cantarella D, Fontani L, Natale M, Cimino J, Morello M, Comoglio PM, Ponzetto A, Crepaldi T. “Cardiac Concentric Hypertrophy Promoted by Activated Met Receptor Is Mitigated in Vivo by Inhibition of Erk1,2 Signalling with Pimasertib.” *J Mol Cell Cardiol*. 93: 84–97.
DOI: 10.1016/j.yjmcc.2016.02.017
- Gallo S**, Sala V, Gatti S, Crepaldi T. 2015. “Cellular And Molecular Mechanisms Of HGF/Met In The Cardiovascular System”. *Clin Sci*. 129: 1173-1193.
DOI: 10.1042/CS20150502
- Sala V*, **Gallo S***, Gatti S., Vigna E., Ponzetto A., Crepaldi T. 2015 “Anti-Differentiation Effect Of Oncogenic Met Receptor In Terminally-Differentiated Myotubes”. *Biomedicines*. 3: 124-137. *These authors contributed equally to this work.
DOI: 10.3390/biomedicines3010124
- Gallo S**, Sala V, Gatti S, Crepaldi T. 2014. “HGF/Met Axis In Heart Function And Cardioprotection”. *Biomedicine*. 2: 247-262.
DOI: 10.3390/biomedicines2040247
- Gallo S**, Gatti S, Sala V, Comoglio PM and Crepaldi T. 2014. “HGF/Met Axis Has Anti-Apoptotic And Anti-Autophagic Function In Hypoxic Cardiac Injury”. *Receptor Clin Invest*. 1: 292-294.
- Gallo S**, Gatti S, Sala V, Albano R, Costelli P, Casanova E, Comoglio PM, Crepaldi T. 2014. “Agonist Antibodies Activating the Met Receptor Protect Cardiomyoblasts from Cobalt Chloride-Induced Apoptosis and Autophagy.” *Cell Death Dis*. 5: e1185.
DOI: 10.1038/cddis.2014.155
- Sala V, Bergerone S, Gatti S, **Gallo S**, Ponzetto A, Ponzetto C, Crepaldi T. 2014. “MicroRNAs In Myocardial Ischemia: Identifying New Targets And Tools For Treating Heart Disease”. *New frontiers for miR-medicine. Cell Mol Life Sci*. 71: 1439-1452.
DOI: 10.1007/s00018-013-1504-0
- Gatti S, Leo C, **Gallo S**, Sala V, Bucci E, Natale M, Cantarella D, Medico E, Crepaldi T. 2013. “Gene Expression Profiling Of HGF/Met Activation In Neonatal Mouse Heart”. *Transgenic Res*. 22: 579-593.
DOI: 10.1007/s11248-012-9667-2
- Sala V, **Gallo S**, Leo C, Gatti S, Gelb BD, Crepaldi T. 2012. Signaling To Cardiac Hypertrophy: Insight From Human And Mouse RASopathies. *Mol Med*. 18: 938-947.
DOI: 10.2119/molmed.2011.00512
- Riess I, Sala V, Leo C, Demaria M, Gatti S, **Gallo S**, Fitou A, Boero O, Levi R, Cuccovillo I, Molla F, De Angelis N, Staszewsky L, Latini R, Crepaldi T. 2011. “A Mouse Model for Spatial and Temporal Expression of HGF in the Heart.” *Trans Res*. 20: 1203–1216.
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