

Cristina Maccalli, MSc., Ph.D.

Cristina Maccalli is a Principal Investigator at the laboratory of Immune Biological Therapy, Division of Translational Medicine, Research Department of Sidra Medicine, Doha, Qatar.

Cristina obtained in 1990 a master's degree in Biological Sciences and then, in 1996, a Ph.D. in Applied Genetics at the University of Milan, Italy. She has carried out her post-doctoral research programs at the National Cancer Institute in Milan, Italy and then, at the Surgery Branch, National Cancer Institute, NIH, Bethesda, MD, USA. From 2003 until mid 2007 she worked as investigator at the Istituto Superiore di Sanita' Rome, Italy. In 2007 Cristina joined as Senior Investigator the Unit of Immuno-biotherapy of Melanoma and Solid Tumors at the San Raffaele Foundation Scientific Institute, Milan, Italy. In 2013 she contributed to set up in the context of the Italian Network for Biotherapy of Tumors-(NIBIT) a novel laboratory dedicated to the identification of biomarkers for cancer patients through the design of standardized and validated immune-monitoring assays. In October 2015 Cristina joined the Research Department at Sidra Medicine. Her research interest lies in the area of immunology, tumor immunology and immunotherapy, with main focus on: i. the development of cell-based therapy for cancer patients and ii. the functional and immunological characterization of cancer stem cells and of the associated mechanisms of resistance to immunotherapy.

Cristina is author/co-author of 67 original peer-reviewed publications and 6-chapter books.

In 2019 she acted as chair of the conference "Engineered Immune Cells in Cancer Immunotherapy: from Discovery to "Off-the-Shelf" Development" held on the 15-17th of February 2019, in Doha Qatar. She is also co-chair of the Precision Medicine-Functional Genomics Conference-2021.

She serves since 2009 as member of Biomarker Working Group (Society of Immunotherapy of Cancer, SITC, USA). In 2020 she has been awarded of the SITC- "Team Science Recognition Award".

She is member of NIBIT since 2009.

She is Editor of the section of Translational Cancer Biology of The Journal of Translational Medicine (Nature Springer) and of the section Immune responses of Advances in Cancer Biology Metastases (Elsevier). She is active reviewer of a variety of international scientific journals (e.g., Journal of Immunology, Cancer Research, Clinical Cancer Research, Cancer Immunology

Immunotherapy, *Frontiers in Immunology*, *British Journal of Cancer*, etc.) or international funding programs. She has been lecturer at University of Verona, Magna Graecia University, Catanzaro, "Universita' degli Studi of Milano", Milan, Italy, Hamad Bin Khalifa and Weill Cornell Medicine-Qatar University, Doha, Qatar. Moreover, during 2010-2015 she has been speakers at educational courses for physicians and investigators on the topic of ImmunOncology in the context of NIBIT.