

Curriculum Vitae Francesco Bertolini, MD, PhD

Personal details

Date of birth: September 8, 1961

Place of birth: Milan, Italy

Citizenship: Italian

Address: Istituto Europeo di Oncologia (IEO), Laboratory of Hematology/Oncology, Via Ripamonti, 435 - Milan, Italy

Education

1986 MD - Medical Doctor, University of Milan, Italy.

1989 Board (specialization) in Clinical and Laboratory Hematology, University of Milan.

1993 PhD in Experimental Medicine, University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

Previous work experience

1989-1990 Visiting scientist at the Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, USA

1990-1995 Medical Assistant, Department of Hematology, Policlinico Hospital, Milan.

1995-1998 Vice-Director at the Division of Oncology of the Maugeri Foundation, Italy.

2022- today Adjunct Professor of Biological Sciences, University of Texas at El Paso, USA.

Current position

Dr. Bertolini is currently the Director of the Laboratory of Hematology/Oncology at the European Institute of Oncology in Milan, the largest comprehensive cancer center in Italy.

He takes care of patients and leads research programs in hematology/oncology, angiogenesis, immunotherapy, stem cell biology and transplantation.

Dr. Bertolini has published original research papers in different cancer-related fields, namely blood transfusion, stem cell transplantation, animal models of cancer, metronomic chemotherapy, anti-angiogenic and immune-therapy over a period of more than thirty years, generating robust networks with the international experts in these fields. These achievements were obtained combining the lead of a translational research laboratory (including animal models) with diagnostic and clinical activities, including care of cancer patients affected by hematological malignancies.

Major research achievements

In the 1985-1995 decade Dr Bertolini has developed and published a novel procedure for the preparation and storage of platelet concentrates that is currently in use in most transfusion centres worldwide. In the same timeframe he was also instrumental in the development of blood filters able to reduce alloimmunization and transfusion reactions.

From 1990 to 1998 he pioneered the field of cord blood collection and transplant. He realized in Milan the first EU cord blood bank and the first Italian cord blood transplants in patients. He also published procedures for ex vivo stem cell expansion and the first EU pilot clinical trial in the field.

From 1998 onward, at the European Institute of Oncology, Dr Bertolini published seminal studies about the biology of circulating endothelial cells and their progenitors, the development of metronomic chemotherapy and of anti-angiogenic therapies of cancer, the role of adipose tissue progenitors in cancer development and progression, and the development of optimal combinatorial therapies including checkpoint inhibitors. His research has led to novel biomarkers and to clinical protocols involving anti-angiogenic drugs in cancer. Dr Bertolini has also pioneered studies on the use of NSG mice in preclinical models of hematological diseases and solid tumors.

As of March 1st, 2023, dr. Bertolini has >268 full papers, >20,116 citations (Google Scholar; Scopus >11,896 citations), h-index 75 (Google Scholar; Web of Science h-index 58; Scopus h-index 58). One paper (FB first author) has >700 citations, 2 papers (FB first author) have >600 citations, 5 papers (3 of them with FB first or last author) has >500 citations, 7 papers (FB first or last author in 6 of 7) has >400 citations, 23 papers (9 out of 23 with FB first or senior author) have >200 citations (Google Scholar).