

Annamaria VEZZANI

NAME		POSITION TITLE	
Annamaria VEZZANI, PhD		Head, Laboratory of Experimental Neurology	
EDUCATION/TRAINING			
INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE	YEAR(s)	FIELD OF STUDY
General Certificate of Education, Italy	BA	1974	Biological Sciences
University of Milan, Italy	Biol Sci Dr	1978	
Mario Negri Institute, Milan, Italy	PhD	1979-81	Neuropharmacology
University of Stockholm, Sweden	Post doc	1982	
Maryland Psychiatric Res. Ctr. Univ. Maryland, MD, US	Post doc	1983-84	
			Experimental Epilepsy

A. Positions and Honors

- 1985-1988, Senior Researcher at the Neuropharmacology Department, Mario Negri Institute for Pharmacological Research, Milan, Italy
- 1989-1997, Chief of the Unit of “Excitatory amino acids and neurodegenerative disorders”, Laboratory of Neuropharmacology, Mario Negri Institute for Pharmacological Research, Milan
- 1997-present, Head of the Laboratory of Experimental Neurology, Mario Negri Institute for Pharmacological Research, Milan, Italy
- Selected as a participant at the “12th International Summer School of Brain Research” held in Amsterdam, Netherlands, August 30-September 3, 1981.
- Selected as a participant at the “ETP autumn school” of the European Training Program in Brain and Behavioral research, held in Santa Margherita Ligure, Italy, September 20-26, 1987.
- Winner of a prize for the best presentation at the 5th European Neuropeptide Club Meeting, Lund, Sweden, June 5, 1995.
- Recipient of the John & Barbara Heffer Travel Fund Award, American Epilepsy Society, USA, 2002.
- Member of the Editorial Board of Epilepsy Currents, Epilepsy Res, Neuroscience
- Associate Editor of Epilepsia for Basic science
- Chair of the Commission on Neurobiology of the International League against Epilepsy (ILAE), 2006-2009

The present research is focused on the functional role of neuroactive peptides and inflammatory mediators in the etiopathogenesis of seizures and seizure-related neurodegeneration. Focus of the research is also on the mechanisms of pharmacoresistance and on preclinical development of novel antiepileptic treatments.

B. Ten selected peer-reviewed publications

1. Marcon J, Gagliardi B, Balosso S, Maroso M, Noé F, Morin M, Lerner-Natoli M, Vezzani A, Ravizza T. Age-dependent vascular changes induced by status epilepticus in rat forebrain: implications for epileptogenesis (2009) **Neurobiol Dis**, 34:121
2. Noè F, Pool AH, Nissinen J, Gobbi M, Bland R, Rizzi M, Balducci C, Ferraguti F, Sperk G, During MJ, Pitkänen A, Vezzani A. Neuropeptide Y gene therapy decreases chronic spontaneous seizures in a rat model of temporal lobe epilepsy (2008) **Brain**, 131:1506
3. Balosso S, Maroso M, Sanchez-Alavez M, Ravizza T, Frasca A, Bartfai T, Vezzani A. A novel non-transcriptional pathway mediates the proconvulsive effects of interleukin-1beta (2008) **Brain**, 131:3256
4. Marchi N, Guiso G, Caccia S, Rizzi M, Gagliardi B, Noè F, Ravizza T, Bassanini S, Chimenti S, Battaglia G and Vezzani A. Determinants of drug brain uptake in a rat model of seizure-associated malformations of cortical development (2006) **Neurobiol Dis**, 24:429
5. Balosso S, Ravizza T, Perego C, Peschon J, Campbell I, De Simoni MG, Vezzani A. TNF-alpha inhibits kainic acid-induced seizures in mice *via* p75 receptors (2005) **Ann Neurol**, 57: 804
6. Dube' C., Vezzani A., Behrens M., Bartfai T., Baram TZ. Interleukin-1beta contributes to the generation of experimental febrile seizures (2005) **Ann Neurol**, 57: 152.
7. Costantin L, Bozzi Y, Richichi C, Viegi A., Antonucci F, Funicello F, Gobbi M, Mennini T, Rossetto O, Montecucco C, Maffei L., Vezzani A and Caleo M. (2005) Antiepileptic effects of botulinum neurotoxin E. **J Neurosci**, 25: 1943
8. Richichi C, E-J. D. Lin, Stefanin D, Colella D, Ravizza T, Grignaschi G, Sperk G, During MJ and Vezzani A. Anticonvulsant and antiepileptogenic effects mediated by adeno-associated virus vector neuropeptide Y expression in the rat hippocampus (2004) **J Neurosci**, 24: 3051
9. Rizzi M, Caccia S, Guiso G, Richichi C, Gorter JA, Aronica E, Aliprandi M, Bagnati R, Fanelli R, D'Incalci M, Samanin R, Vezzani A. "Limbic seizures induce P-glycoprotein in rodent brain: functional implications for pharmacoresistance" (2002) **J Neurosci**, 22: 5833
10. Vezzani A., Moneta D., Conti M., Richichi C., Ravizza T., De Luigi A., De Simoni M.G., Sperk, Andell-Jonsson S., Lundkvist J., Iverfeldt K. and Bartfai T. Powerful anticonvulsant action of IL-1 receptor antagonist upon intracerebral injection and astrocytic overexpression in mice (2000) **Proc Natl Acad Sci USA**, 97: 11534