

## CURRICULUM VITAE

NAME : Sonya Vasto  
RESIDENCE : Palermo, Italy  
DATE OF BIRTH : 31/10/1971  
PLACE OF BIRTH : Gifhorn, German  
NATIONALITY : Italian

**ACCADEMIA** : **Diploma Scientific gymnasium, Palermo, Italy**  
(Awarded in 1990)  
: **University of Palermo, Italy**  
Degree in Biological Science, Molecular Biology specialty  
(Awarded in 1995)  
: **Professional qualification exam, University of Palermo**  
(Awarded in 1996)  
: **Diploma post-University in Virology and Bacteriology**  
(Certificate awarded in 2000)  
: **PhD in Immunopatology**  
(2004- April 2007)  
**University Grant**  
(2008-2009)  
: **Post-Doctoral Position**  
(2009-2011)

## WORK EXPERIENCES

: **Pathobiology and Biomedical Methodology Department, University of Palermo**  
Position: Post Doctoral researcher  
(2009-2011)

: **Teaching at the University of Palermo, Faculty of Pharmacy**  
Position: Contract Professor  
(January 2008- to date)

: **Pathobiology and Biomedical Methodology Department, University of Palermo**  
Position: PhD student  
(January 2004-April 2007)

: **Pathobiology and Biomedical Methodology department, University of Palermo**  
Position: Managing Editor, Immunity&Ageing, on-line journal  
(October 2004- to date)

: **Elsevier, Elsevier Journals, Amsterdam, The Netherlands**  
Position: Manager in Marketing Development Scientific databases  
(September 2003- January 2004)

: **Crucell Holland B.V., Leiden, The Netherlands**  
Position: Product specialist (Customer Support Department)  
(August 2001 – March 2003)

: **Crucell Holland B.V, Leiden, The Netherlands**  
Position: Scientist  
(January 1999 – July 2001)

: **Introgene, Leiden, The Netherlands (Acquired by Crucell)**  
Position: Research fellow  
(November 1997- December 1998)

: **Regional Water Drinking Control of Sicily (Regione Siciliana Azienda Unità Sanitaria Locale n. 6, Palermo, Italy)**  
Position: Assistant microbiologist  
(February 1996 – February 1997)

### **SELECTED CONFERENCE AND PRESENTATION**

- ✓ *5<sup>th</sup> Biogerontology Congress, INSTABUL 16-20Sep. 2006 – S.Vasto-Zinc and inflammatory/immune response in ageing*
- ✓ *E&HD, Estrogens & Human Disease Congress, ERICE 15-21 May 2006 – S.Vasto- Opposite role of pro-inflammatory alleles in longevity and atherosclerosis*
- ✓ *UABBA, Understanding aging Biomedical and Bioengineering approaches, Los Angeles, 27-29 June 2008- S.Vasto- Does parental longevity impact on the healthy ageing of their offspring? An immunological study*
- ✓ *5<sup>th</sup> International Meeting" Advances in antioxidants: molecular mechanisms, nutritional and clinical aspects" in Monastir/ Sousse (Tunisia) October 11<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008. - S.Vasto- Zinc and inflammatory/immune responses in ageing*
- ✓ *I Giornate Siciliane di Medicina Estetica - I Giornate Interregionali per il Sud ed isole di Medicina Anti-Aging 14 al 16 Novembre 2008 – S. Vasto- “Basi scientifiche dell’ Anti-Aging”*
- ✓ *Strategies for Engineered Negligible Senescence (SENS), Fourth Conference, Queens' College, Cambridge, England, 3<sup>rd</sup>- 7th September, 2009- S. Vasto; Parental longevity impacts on the healthy ageing of their offspring: Effects on blood and clinical chemistry parameters in centenarians' offspring*

### **LANGUAGES & SKILLS**

Italian : Mother tongue  
English : Good  
Dutch : Fair

- Manager at the wastewater treatment plants. Wastewater treatment and quality control (1996-1997)
- English language II, Business English, Toefl exam, Leiden University (1999-2000)
- Dutch language: level I-II, Oxford Language Center, Amsterdam (2001)
- Corporate English III & Presentation Techniques, Narwal Language Institute, Wassenaar (2002)
- Scientific journalism course, Centro studi & Confartigianato, Bologna

### **PUBLICATIONS**

1: Caruso C, Balistreri CR, Candore G, Carruba G, Colonna-Romano G, Di Bona D, Forte GI, Lio D, Listi F, Scola L, Vasto S. Polymorphisms of pro-inflammatory genes and prostate cancer risk: a pharmacogenomic approach. *Cancer Immunol Immunother.* 2009 Dec;58(12):1919-33.

2: Di Bona D, Vasto S, Capurso C, Christiansen L, Deiana L, Franceschi C, Hurme M, Mocchegiani E, Rea M, Lio D, Candore G, Caruso C. Effect of interleukin-6 polymorphisms on human longevity: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Ageing Res Rev.* 2009 Jan;8(1):36-42.

3: Vasto S, Carruba G, Candore G, Italiano E, Di Bona D, Caruso C. Inflammation and prostate cancer. *Future Oncol.* 2008 Oct;4(5):637-45.

4: Bulati M, Pellicanò M, Vasto S, Colonna-Romano G. Understanding ageing: Biomedical and bioengineering approaches, the immunologic view. *Immun Ageing.* 2008 Sep 3;5:9.

5: Racchi M, Uberti D, Govoni S, Memo M, Lanni C, Vasto S, Candore G, Caruso C, Romeo L, Scapagnini G. Alzheimer's disease: new diagnostic and therapeutic tools. *Immun Ageing.* 2008 Aug 13;5:7.

- 6: Di Bona D, Plaia A, Vasto S, Cavallone L, Lescai F, Franceschi C, Licastro F, Colonna-Romano G, Lio D, Candore G, Caruso C. Association between the interleukin-1beta polymorphisms and Alzheimer's disease: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Brain Res Rev.* 2008 Nov;59(1):155-63. Epub 2008 Jul 21.
- 7: Vasto S, Carruba G, Lio D, Colonna-Romano G, Di Bona D, Candore G, Caruso C. Inflammation, ageing and cancer. *Mech Ageing Dev.* 2009 Jan-Feb;130(1-2):40-5.
- 8: Candore G, Balistreri CR, Colonna-Romano G, Grimaldi MP, Lio D, Listi F, Scola L, Vasto S, Caruso C. Immunosenescence and anti-immunosenescence therapies: the case of probiotics. *Rejuvenation Res.* 2008 Apr;11(2):425-32.
- 9: Candore G, Balistreri CR, Caruso M, Grimaldi MP, Incalcaterra E, Listi F, Vasto S, Caruso C. Pharmacogenomics: a tool to prevent and cure coronary heart disease. *Curr Pharm Des.* 2007;13(36):3726-34.
- 10: Vasto S, Candore G, Listi F, Balistreri CR, Colonna-Romano G, Malavolta M, Lio D, Nuzzo D, Mocchegiani E, Di Bona D, Caruso C. Inflammation, genes and zinc in Alzheimer's disease. *Brain Res Rev.* 2008 Jun;58(1):96-105.
- 11: Vasto S, Candore G, Duro G, Lio D, Grimaldi MP, Caruso C. Alzheimer's disease and genetics of inflammation: a pharmacogenomic vision. *Pharmacogenomics.* 2007 Dec;8(12):1735-45.
- 12: Franceschi C, Motta L, Motta M, Malaguarnera M, Capri M, Vasto S, Candore G, Caruso C; IMUSCE. The extreme longevity: the state of the art in Italy. *Exp Gerontol.* 2008 Feb;43(2):45-52.
- 13: Capri M, Salvioli S, Monti D, Caruso C, Candore G, Vasto S, Olivieri F, Marchegiani F, Sansoni P, Baggio G, Mari D, Passarino G, De Benedictis G, Franceschi C. Human longevity within an evolutionary perspective: the peculiar paradigm of a post-reproductive genetics. *Exp Gerontol.* 2008 Feb;43(2):53-60.
- 14: Balistreri CR, Caruso C, Grimaldi MP, Listi F, Vasto S, Orlando V, Campagna AM, Lio D, Candore G. CCR5 receptor: biologic and genetic implications in age-related diseases. *Ann N Y Acad Sci.* 2007 Apr;1100:162-72.
- 15: Grimaldi MP, Vasto S, Balistreri CR, di Carlo D, Caruso M, Incalcaterra E, Lio D, Caruso C, Candore G. Genetics of inflammation in age-related atherosclerosis: its relevance to pharmacogenomics. *Ann N Y Acad Sci.* 2007 Apr;1100:123-31.
- 16: Vasto S, Mocchegiani E, Malavolta M, Cuppari I, Listi F, Nuzzo D, Ditta V, Candore G, Caruso C. Zinc and inflammatory/immune response in aging. *Ann N Y Acad Sci.* 2007 Apr;1100:111-22.
- 17: Vasto S, Colonna-Romano G, Larbi A, Wikby A, Caruso C, Pawelec G. Role of persistent CMV infection in configuring T cell immunity in the elderly. *Immun Ageing.* 2007 Mar 21;4:2.
- 18: Candore G, Balistreri CR, Listi F, Grimaldi MP, Vasto S, Colonna-Romano G, Franceschi C, Lio D, Caselli G, Caruso C. Immunogenetics, gender, and longevity. *Ann N Y Acad Sci.* 2006 Nov;1089:516-37.
- 19: Candore G, Balistreri CR, Campagna AM, Colombo A, Cuppari I, Di-Carlo D, Grimaldi MP, Orlando V, Piazza G, Vasto S, Lio D, Caruso C. Genetic control of immune response in carriers of ancestral haplotype 8.1: the study of chemotaxis. *Ann N Y Acad Sci.* 2006 Nov;1089:509-15.
- 20: Nuzzo D, Vasto S, Balistreri CR, Di-Carlo D, Listi F, Caimi G, Caruso M, Hoffmann E, Incalcaterra E, Lio D, Caruso C, Candore G. Role of proinflammatory alleles in longevity and atherosclerosis: results of studies performed on -1562C/T MMP-9 in centenarians and myocardial infarction patients from Sicily. *Ann N Y Acad Sci.* 2006 Nov;1089:496-501.
- 21: Candore G, Balistreri CR, Grimaldi MP, Vasto S, Listi F, Chiappelli M, Licastro F, Lio D, Caruso C. Age-related inflammatory diseases: role of genetics and gender in the pathophysiology of Alzheimer's disease. *Ann N Y Acad Sci.* 2006 Nov;1089:472-86.

- 22: Balistreri CR, Grimaldi MP, Vasto S, Listi F, Chiappelli M, Licastro F, Lio D, Caruso C, Candore G. Association between the polymorphism of CCR5 and Alzheimer's disease: results of a study performed on male and female patients from Northern Italy. *Ann N Y Acad Sci.* 2006 Nov;1089:454-61.
- 23: Vasto S, Candore G, Balistreri CR, Caruso M, Colonna-Romano G, Grimaldi MP, Listi F, Nuzzo D, Lio D, Caruso C. Inflammatory networks in ageing, age-related diseases and longevity. *Mech Ageing Dev.* 2007 Jan;128(1):83-91.
- 24: Candore G, Balistreri CR, Grimaldi MP, Listi F, Vasto S, Chiappelli M, Licastro F, Colonna-Romano G, Lio D, Caruso C. Polymorphisms of pro-inflammatory genes and Alzheimer's disease risk: a pharmacogenomic approach. *Mech Ageing Dev.* 2007 Jan;128(1):67-75.
- 25: Vasto S, Mocchegiani E, Candore G, Listi F, Colonna-Romano G, Lio D, Malavolta M, Giacconi R, Cipriano C, Caruso C. Inflammation, genes and zinc in ageing and age-related diseases. *Biogerontology.* 2006 Oct-Dec;7(5-6):315-27.
- 26: Candore G, Aquino A, Balistreri CR, Bulati M, Di Carlo D, Grimaldi MP, Listi F, Orlando V, Vasto S, Caruso M, Colonna-Romano G, Lio D, Caruso C. Inflammation, longevity, and cardiovascular diseases: role of polymorphisms of TLR4. *Ann N Y Acad Sci.* 2006 May;1067:282-7.
- 27: Balistreri CR, Vasto S, Listi F, Grimaldi MP, Lio D, Colonna-Romano G, Caruso M, Caimi G, Hoffmann E, Caruso C, Candore G. Association between +1059G/C CRP polymorphism and acute myocardial infarction in a cohort of patients from Sicily: a pilot study. *Ann N Y Acad Sci.* 2006 May;1067:276-81.
- 28: Candore G, Balistreri CR, Grimaldi MP, Listi F, Vasto S, Caruso M, Caimi G, Hoffmann E, Colonna-Romano G, Lio D, Paolisso G, Franceschi C, Caruso C. Opposite role of pro-inflammatory alleles in acute myocardial infarction and longevity: results of studies performed in a Sicilian population. *Ann N Y Acad Sci.* 2006 May;1067:270-5.
- 29: Candore G, Colonna-Romano G, Balistreri CR, Di Carlo D, Grimaldi MP, Listi F, Nuzzo D, Vasto S, Lio D, Caruso C. Biology of longevity: role of the innate immune system. *Rejuvenation Res.* 2006 Spring;9(1):143-8.
- 30: Vasto S, Candore G, Aquino A, Bulati M, Balistreri CR, Grimaldi MP, Ditta V, Colonna-Romano G, Lio D, Vitello S, Barbieri R, Caruso C. The nACHR4 594C/T polymorphism in Alzheimer disease. *Rejuvenation Res.* 2006 Spring;9(1):107-10.
- 31: Listi F, Candore G, Balistreri CR, Grimaldi MP, Orlando V, Vasto S, Colonna-Romano G, Lio D, Licastro F, Franceschi C, Caruso C. Association between the HLA-A2 allele and Alzheimer disease. *Rejuvenation Res.* 2006 Spring;9(1):99-101..
- 32: Vasto S, Malavolta M, Pawelec G. Age and immunity. *Immun Ageing.* 2006 Feb 24;3:2
- 33: Grimaldi MP, Candore G, Vasto S, Caruso M, Caimi G, Hoffmann E, Colonna-Romano G, Lio D, Shinar Y, Franceschi C, Caruso C. Role of the pyrin M694V (A2080G) allele in acute myocardial infarction and longevity: a study in the Sicilian population. *J Leukoc Biol.* 2006 Mar;79(3):611-5.
- 34: Vasto S, Caruso C. Immunity & Ageing: a new journal looking at ageing from an immunological point of view. *Immun Ageing.* 2004 Oct 29;1(1):1