



Maria Domenica Cappellini, MD, FRCP, FACP

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Maria Domenica Cappellini is Professor of Internal Medicine at the University of Milan and Chief of the Rare Diseases Centre at the Fondazione IRCCS Policlinico Hospital, Milan. She qualified as an MD in 1974 at the University of Milan, Italy and she obtained her PhD in Hematology in 1978. She has been active in the fields of thalassaemia, haemoglobinopathies, and the haem biosynthetic pathway for over 40 years. She has been research fellow at MRC Molecular Hematology Unit, John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford in 1981/82.

Prof. Cappellini has been an active researcher in the field of rare diseases, including thalassaemia, haemoglobinopathies, porphyrias and lysosomal diseases (mainly Gaucher and Fabry) for over 30 years. She has focused on the phenotypic expression of thalassaemia intermedia and identified the mechanisms underlying the thrombotic risks associated with the disease. She contributed to the characterization of the molecular defects of Thalassaemia globin genes in Italy; of note, she defined the genotypes and phenotypes of Italian patients with thalassaemia that became nationally important for prenatal diagnosis. Moreover, she focused recent studies on iron dysregulation in Gaucher disease. She is involved in most of the clinical trials for new therapeutic approaches to thalassaemia. She published a large number of peer-reviewed original articles (462) in these areas and is a regular contributor and invited speaker at national and international meetings.

She is the present chair of the European Gaucher Registry.

She is a member of a number of societies including:

the European Hematology Association (EHA), the American Society of Hematology (ASH), the Italian Society of Hematology (SIE), the Italian Society of Internal Medicine (SIMI), and the European Federation of Internal Medicine.

She is scientific advisor to the Thalassaemia International Federation (TIF) and contributes to establish guidelines for the clinical management of thalassaemias.

Professor Cappellini is Past-President of the European Federation of Internal Medicine (EFIM) and past chair of the ASH Scientific Committee on "Iron and Heme" (2016)

She is a Member of the *ESH Strategy Board* (European School Haematology), and Member of EHA's Fellowships & Grants Committee, EHA.

She is Honorary Fellow of RCP (Royal College Physicians) and ACP (American College Physicians).

She received a Sultan Bin Khalifa International Thalassaemia Award - Grand International Award, Abu Dhabi, Emirates (November, 2015) and "Precious Rubies" TIF (Thalassaemia International Foundation), Nicosia, Cyprus (May, 2015).