



UNIVERSITÀ DI PAVIA



Florence Ruggiero
Group Leader
Institut de Génomique Fonctionnelle de Lyon
ENS de Lyon - UMR CNRS 5242
46, Allée d'Italie
69364 Lyon cedex 07 France
+33 (0) 426731358 / 615297453



- ✓ Antonella Forlino (head of the project) and Antonio Rossi (Univ Pavia),
- ✓ Mickael Briggs (Newcastle Univ) ,
- ✓ Paolo Bonaldo (Univ Padova),
- ✓ Tom van Agtmael (Univ Glasgow),
- ✓ Frank Zaucke (Goethe Univ),
- ✓ Laurence Legeai-Mallet (Imagine Institute)
- ✓ Florence Ruggiero (ENS de Lyon)

... are thrilled to announce that their project "CHANGE", submitted to the MSCA Doctoral Network 2021 call, is funded !

The Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions are the European Union's reference programme for doctoral education and postdoctoral training.

"CHANGE" research project is about connective tissue disorders and ageing (to learn more about the proposal, see abstract below).

Most importantly, this doctoral fellowship program will offers 10 PhD fellowships for international students including several secondment opportunities, to perform their research project in Europe in the partner's labs.

Abstract

The increased longevity in developed countries not necessarily goes hand in hand with amelioration of health and quality of life. Musculoskeletal, cardiovascular and neurodegenerative failure are not only hallmarks of the physical and cognitive decline in elderly people, but also represent common traits in several early-onset hereditary connective tissue (CT) disorders. These disorders represent a unique tool for the molecular investigation of such age-related pathologies due to the specific genetic disturbance of cellular homeostasis.

The scientific objectives of CHANGE are: (i) to investigate CT disorders to identify key pathways responsible for age related decline of physiological functions, being aware of gender differences (ii) to learn more about the interdependency of these pathways leading to stereotypic cellular responses including cellular senescence. This knowledge will pave the way for developing innovative treatment strategies for common diseases and frailty associated with ageing.

To this end, we will train and establish a network of 10 highly-skilled early stage researchers (ESRs) equipped with scientific expertise, transferable skills and societal and environment awareness as a foundation for their future careers.

To succeed, CHANGE has built a unique and multidisciplinary network of 7 renowned academic partners and 5 companies (including 2 non-academics as associated partners) working together to train 10 young scientists.

The ESR network will address the basic biology of ageing from an interdisciplinary perspective, by deeply investigating CT diseases to uncover the pillars of ageing and its multi-systemic signatures. Altogether, CHANGE will provide an integrative map of cellular/extracellular consequences of age-related changes in cartilage, bone, muscle and vasculature as consequences to precocious disease exposure.