

CURRICULUM

NAME: PAOLA FADDA

POSITION TITLE: Associate Professor of Pharmacology, Faculty of Medicine

EDUCATION/TRAINING

INSTITUTION AND LOCATION	DEGREE	Completion Date	FIELD OF STUDY
University of Cagliari	Ph.D.	07/1987	Biological Science
Department of Neuroscience, Faculty of Medicine, University of Cagliari, Italy.	Postgraduate traineeship	1987/1988	Pharmacology

1. Personal Statement

In my career, I was first trained in biochemical pharmacology as a graduate student and postdoctoral fellow and have more recently begun performing behavioral studies on animal models of mental disorders and neuropharmacology. Initially, the major focus of my research was on the investigation of the mechanism of action of antidepressant and antipsychotic drugs, along with the modulation of dopaminergic receptors in REM sleep deprivation and dopamine's interaction with the opioid systems. Furthermore, since one of the major interests of my group is the study of neurobiology of drug abuse, I have also contributed to study the opioid, dopaminergic and serotonergic systems and their cross talk with the endocannabinoid system as well as their reciprocal role in the neurobiology of psychiatric diseases, with an emphasis on co-morbidities (i.e. anxiety, schizophrenia and drug dependence). Guided by this, part of my research has been directed towards the study of the behavioral and neurochemical modifications induced by the administration of drugs acting on the central cannabinoid system in rats and mice. Building on these interests, I also spent several months at Aberdeen University (Scotland) performing a research project focusing on the effects of cannabinoids on cognitive function in rats. Over the last few years I have also extended my interests on the involvement of the endocannabinoid system into the neurobiology of eating disorders and some of these studies have recently been published.

B. Positions and Honors

1989-1997 Researcher, Center of Neuropharmacology, National research Council (CNR) University of Cagliari, (Italy).

1997-2006 Assistant Professor, Dept of Neuroscience, Faculty of Medicine, University of Cagliari, (Italy).

2000-2012 Researcher affiliated with the Center of Excellence 'Neurobiology of Addiction' University of Cagliari, Italy

July 2003 – December 2003 Visiting Scientist, Department of Biomedical Sciences, University of Aberdeen- Scotland UK

2006-present Associate Professor Dept. Biomedical Sciences, Faculty of Medicine University of Cagliari, (Italy)

2012-present Coordinator of the First Cycle Degree (Bachelor) of Nursing, Faculty of Medicine, University of Cagliari (Italy)

2012- present Coordinator of the Second Cycle Degree (Master) Science of Nursing and Midwifery, Faculty of Medicine, University of Cagliari (Italy)

Other Experiences, Service, and Professional Memberships:

Member of Society for Neuroscience

Member International Cannabinoid Research Society

Member Italian Society of Pharmacology

Member Italian Society of Neuropharmacology

Member Mediterranean Society of Neuroscience

Honors:

1988-1989

Postgraduate Fellow (FIDIA Research Laboratories-Abano Terme) Department of Neuroscience, University of

Cagliari.

08/ 2003 to 12/ 2003

Research Fellow Department of Biomedical Sciences, University of Aberdeen, Scotland UK

2004 – 2008

Research Assistant School of Medical Science (Biomedical Sciences), University of Aberdeen, Scotland UK

C. Contribution to Science

[Complete List of Published Work in MyBibliography:](#)

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/myncbi/1Pc20qPu7Rf5P/bibliography/48069600/public/?sort=date&direction=ascending>

D. Research Support

Active

2013-2016 Fratta (PI) Fadda (PI) University of Cagliari Department of Biomedical Sciences
Project fund **Role of the endocannabinoid system in drug dependence, psychiatric and eating disorders.**

Role Principal Investigator: this study using multidisciplinary approaches was aimed at investigating the role of Endocannabinoid System in different central disease with particular attention to mood disorders , effects of drug of abuse and disorders related to food consumption.

2013-2015 Chiamulera (PI) University of Verona (banner Joint Projects 2012) **New drugs of abuse: pharmacological investigations and characterization of**

methoxetamine, a recently introduced designer drug Role Co-investigator: the aim of the project is to characterize the neuropsychopharmacology profile of MXE as a drug of abuse. The hypothesis is that MXE shares addictive properties to KET.

2014-2015 Fadda (PI) Fondazione Banco di Sardegna (Bank of Sardinia

Foundation) **Assessment of the possible antidepressant effect of the PPAR alpha agonist clofibrate in animal models of depression and anxiety** Role Principal

Investigator: this study was aimed at investigating the antidepressant profile revealed by some PPAR alpha agonist to better understand their effects in the CNS.

Completed

2010-2012 Fratta (PI) Regional Council of Sardinia. **Effects of PPAR- α on nicotine addiction** Role Co-investigator: this study was designed to study the interactions between the PPAR- α and nicotine addiction.

2012-2013 Fratta (PI) Fondazione Banco di Sardegna (Bank of Sardinia Foundation). **Possible role of the endocannabinoid system in the**

pathophysiological processes responsible for Anorexia Nervosa Role Co-investigator: this project was designed at investigating whether experimentally induced Anorexia Nervosa cause significant alteration of the endocannabinoid system in brain areas important for the regulation of food intake and reward

2013-2014 Fadda (PI) Fondazione Banco di Sardegna (Bank of Sardinia Foundation). **Possible role of the endocannabinoid system in the**

pathophysiological processes responsible for the eating disorder of Binge

Eating Role Principal Investigator: principal aim of this study was to investigate the role

of the endocannabinoid system in a experimentally induced eating disorders such Binge Eating Disorder