

Personal information

First name / Last name

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Clotilde Castaldo

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Current Position

Dates

Name and address of employer

Main activities and responsibilities

Faculty, Full Professor

November 2022 – present

University of Naples Federico II (Italy), School of Medicine and Surgery, Dept. of Public Health

Coordinating Human Anatomy course for undergraduate/graduate students. Preparing and delivering Human Anatomy lessons to undergraduate/graduate students at a leadership level. Directing cardiac tissue engineering and regenerative medicine lab. Supervising, training and instructing undergraduate/graduate students in basic lab techniques applicable to the regenerative medicine. Writing grant proposals and scientific manuscripts for publications. Organizing national congresses and symposia at international meetings. Preparing presentations to be delivered at national or international scientific meetings.

Work experience

Dates

Occupation or position held

Name and address of employer

Main activities and responsibilities

April 2021 – November 2022

Associate Professor

University of Naples Federico II (Italy), School of Medicine and Surgery, Dept. of Public Health

Preparing and delivering Human Anatomy lessons to undergraduate/graduate students at a leadership level. Supervising, training and instructing undergraduate/graduate students in basic lab techniques applicable to the cardiac regenerative medicine. Planning and conducting in vitro and in vivo experiments for the development of bioconstructs of decellularized extracellular matrix and cardiac progenitor cells. Analyzing and interpreting results. Writing grant proposals and scientific manuscripts for publications. Preparing presentations to be delivered at national or international scientific meetings.

Dates

Occupation or position held

Name and address of employer

Main activities and responsibilities

January 2013 – April 2021

Researcher and Assistant Professor

University of Naples Federico II (Italy), School of Medicine and Surgery, Dept. of Public Health

Planning, supervising, and conducting in vitro and in vivo experiments for the development of bioconstructs for cardiac regenerative medicine. Writing grant proposals and scientific manuscripts for publications. Preparing presentations to be delivered at national or international scientific meetings. Preparing and delivering Human Anatomy lessons to undergraduate/graduate students.

Dates

Occupation or position held

Name and address of employer

Main activities and responsibilities

September 2018 – January 2019

Visiting Professor

International University of Gorazde, Zaklada Europe Foundation of Umag (Croatia), Department of European Studies Jean Monnet, Locarno (Switzerland)

Preparing and delivering Human Anatomy lessons to undergraduate students.

Dates

Occupation or position held

Name and address of employer

Main activities and responsibilities

September 2017 – November 2017

Visiting Professor

International University of Gorazde, Zaklada Europe Foundation of Umag (Croatia), Department of European Studies Jean Monnet, Locarno (Switzerland)

Preparing and delivering Human Anatomy lessons to undergraduate students.

Dates

Occupation or position held

Name and address of employer

Main activities and responsibilities

January 2016 – April 2016

Visiting Professor

Weill Cornell Medicine, Dept. of Neurological Surgery, Microneurosurgery Skull Base Lab, Cornell University, New York, NY (USA)

Dissection of the human brain white matter, supporting and supervising Neurosurgery residents in surgical approaches to the skull base.

Dates

Occupation or position held

April 2013 – May 2013

Research Fellow

Name and address of employer	Weill Cornell Medical College, Dept. of Neurological Surgery, Microneurosurgery Skull Base Lab, Cornell University, New York, NY (USA)
Main activities and responsibilities	Performing, adapting, and implementing Klingler's protocol for the dissection of the human brain white matter.
Dates	January 2005 - December 2012
Occupation or position held	Research Scientist
Name and address of employer	University of Naples Federico II (Italy), Dept. of Biological Morphological and Functional Sciences
Main activities and responsibilities	Planning and conducting in vitro and in vivo experiments on human adult stem cells and analyzing and interpreting results. Writing grant proposals and scientific manuscripts for publications, preparing presentations to be delivered at national or international scientific meetings.
Dates	January 2005 - December 2012
Occupation or position held	Faculty, Assistant Professor
Name and address of employer	University of Naples Federico II (Italy), Dept. of Biological Morphological and Functional Sciences
Main activities and responsibilities	Supervising, training and instructing undergraduate/graduate students in basic lab techniques applicable to the stem cell research. Delivering Human Anatomy lessons to undergraduate/graduate students at a leadership level.
Dates	November 2003 – January 2005
Occupation or position held	Senior Research Officer
Name and address of employer	University of Naples Federico II (Italy), Dept. of Biological Morphological and Functional Sciences
Main activities and responsibilities	Design and perform experiments; develop and adapt research techniques and protocols (stem cell culture, in vitro assays, immunohistochemistry and cytochemistry); collect, analyze and discuss the data with research supervisor or Principal Investigator; present research results at national and international meetings. Participate in publications and preparation of grant proposals.
Dates	November 2003 – November 2004
Occupation or position held	Adjunct Assistant Professor
Name and address of employer	University of Naples Federico II, School of Pharmacy
Main activities and responsibilities	Anatomy lectures, seminars, and examination.
Dates	April 2001 – January 2003
Occupation or position held	Post-doctoral Research Fellow
Name and address of employer	New York Medical College, Dept. of Medicine, Cardiovascular Research Institute, Valhalla, NY (USA)
Main activities and responsibilities	Basic research on mouse and human adult cardiac stem cells. Performing, adapting and implementing immunohistochemical and immunocytochemical protocols, cell culture techniques and in vitro assays. Observing, analyzing, and documenting immunostaining by confocal microscope, preparing microscopy images for publication. Assisting in preparation of original papers for publication.
Dates	October 1998 – March 2001
Occupation or position held	Senior Teaching Assistant
Name and address of employer	University of Naples Federico II, School of Medicine and Surgery
Main activities and responsibilities	Perform experimental protocols and procedures, analyze, and interpret the data. Participate in Human Anatomy laboratories, seminars, and examination.
Education and training	
Date	November 2015 - October 2018
Title of qualification awarded	Philosophy Doctor in Morphogenesis and Tissue Engineering, PhD degree awarded with honors
Principal subjects/occupational skills covered	Development of a biological scaffold from adult human skin for cardiovascular repair and regeneration
Name and type of organisation providing education and training	School of Doctorate in Biology and Molecular Medicine, Sapienza University, Rome
Date	May 2014

Principal subjects/occupational skills covered	Plastination Workshop Silicon S-10 Standard Method: training course on plastination of human specimens, organs, and whole body
Name and type of organisation providing education and training	Institute of Pathology, Clinic Schwabing, Munich Municipal Hospital Group, Munich, Germany
Date	March 2014
Principal subjects/occupational skills covered	Human ES/iPS (Embryonic Stem Cells/induced Pluripotent Stem Cells) Training Course
Name and type of organisation providing education and training	Miltenyi Biotec GmbH, Bergisch Gladbach, Germany
Dates	November 1999 – October 2003
Title of qualification awarded	Sports Medicine Physician, awarded with honors.
Principal subjects/occupational skills covered	Physiology, Nutrition of the Athlete, Kinesiology, Prevention of Athletic Injuries, Emergency Athletic Injury Care, Treatment & Rehabilitation of Athletic Injuries, Clinical Experiences in Sports Medicine
Name and type of organisation providing education and training	University of Naples Federico II, School of Medicine and Surgery
Dates	October 1998 – August 1999
Title of qualification awarded	Medical Licensure
Principal subjects/occupational skills covered	Post-graduate training in internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology, pediatrics, and surgery for acquisition of clinical competence
Name and type of organisation providing education and training	Azienda Ospedaliera Federico II Teaching Hospital and A. Cardarelli Hospital, Naples (Italy)
Dates	November 1991 – October 1998
Title of qualification awarded	Medical Doctor (MD)
Principal subjects/occupational skills covered	According to Medicine and Surgery curriculum
Name and type of organisation providing education and training	University of Naples Federico II, School of Medicine and Surgery
Personal skills and competences	
Mother tongue(s)	Italian
Other language(s)	English, fluent spoken and written
Social skills and competences	Self-motivated, rigorous, and self-disciplined. Strong verbal and personal communication skills. Tolerant and flexible to different situations. Ability to establish and maintain good working relations with people of different nationality and cultural backgrounds.
Organisational skills and competences	Decision making, critical thinking, organizing, and planning. Problem analysis, use of judgement and ability to solve problems efficiently.
Computer skills and competences	Computer literate. Proficient in Microsoft Office tools (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher), Internet Explorer, Google Chrome, Adobe Photoshop (6, 7, CS), Microsoft OSs (Windows 95, 98, 2000, XP, 7, 10), statistical analysis and graphing (GraphPad Prism 5,6,8). Can cope with various problems and tasks, such as connecting hardware and installing software.
Driving licence	European A (motorcycles, issued in 2002) and B (cars, issued in 1992), both clean.
Additional information	

Professional memberships	Member of the Editorial Board of: - World Journal of Stem Cells - Open Access Journal of Science and Technology - World Journal of Biological Chemistry - International Journal of Biological Sciences and Applications Member of Teaching Board of Residency Programme in Sports Medicine, School of Medicine and Surgery, University of Naples Federico II, Italy. Member of Teaching Board of PhD Programme in Public Health and Preventive Medicine, School of Medicine and Surgery, University of Naples Federico II, Italy.
Scientific society memberships	Italian Society of Anatomists Italian Society of Immunohistochemistry Italian Federation of Cardiology European Society of Cardiology (ESC) ESC Working Group on Cellular Biology of the Heart ESC Working Group on Developmental Anatomy and Pathology ESC Working Group on Cardiovascular Regenerative and Reparative Medicine American Heart Association (AHA) AHA Council on Basic Cardiovascular Sciences.
Peer-reviewer:	Journal of Cellular and Molecular Medicine, Journal of Molecular and Cellular Cardiology, Clinical Anatomy, Stem Cells and Cloning: Advances and Applications, Research Reports in Clinical Cardiology, Cell Health and Cytoskeleton, Open Access Journal of Sports Medicine, PlosOne, Stem Cells Review Editor for: Frontiers in Cardiovascular Medicine Cardiovascular, Open Journal of Cell and Protein Science
Awards\Grants	February 2014 – January 2017: Research grant funded by the Italian ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR) (A Bioprocess for the optimization of 3D cardiosphere-based constructs for cardiac regenerative medicine). July 2009: Tebu-bio Young Researcher travel grant. February 2007 – February 2009: Research grant funded by the Italian ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR) (Mesenchymal Stem Cells (MSC) and Pluripotent Adult Mesenchymal Stem Cells (PMSC): biology, transplant immunomodulation and tissue engineering). September 2000: Young Scientist travel grant funded by the Italian Society of Histochemistry and Cytochemistry October 1999 - October 2003: EEC scholarship for Sports Medicine Residency.

PUBLICATION LIST

ARTICLES IN SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS:

1. Sacco, A.M., Castaldo, C., Di Meglio, F., Nurzynska, D., Palmeri, S., Spera, R., Gnasso, R., Zinno, G., Romano, V., Belviso, I. *The Long and Winding Road to Cardiac Regeneration*. **Appl Sci** (Switzerland). 2023, 13(16):9432.
2. Gesualdi, L., Berardini, M., Scicchitano, B.M., Castaldo, C., Bizzarri, M., Filippini, A., Riccioli, A., Schiraldi, C., Ferranti, F., Liguoro, D., Mancini, R., Ricci, G., Catizone, A. *ERK Signaling Pathway Is Constitutively Active in NT2D1 Non-Seminoma Cells and Its Inhibition Impairs Basal and HGF-Activated Cell Proliferation*. **Biomedicines**. 2023, 11(7):1894.
3. Spedicati, M., Ruocco, G., Zoso, A., Mortati, L., Lapini, A., Delledonne, A., Divieto, C., Romano, V., Castaldo, C., Di Meglio, F., Nurzynska, D., Carmagnola, I., Chiono, V. *Biomimetic design of bioartificial scaffolds for the in vitro modelling of human cardiac fibrosis*. **Front Bioeng Biotechnol**. 2022, 10:983872.
4. Belviso, I., Sacco, A.M., Cozzolino, D., Nurzynska, D., Meglio, F.D., Castaldo, C., Romano, V. *Cardiac-derived extracellular matrix: A decellularization protocol for heart regeneration*. **PLoS ONE**. 2022, 17:e0276224.
5. Romano, V., Belviso, I., Sacco, A.M., Cozzolino, D., Nurzynska, D., Amarelli, C., Maiello, C., Sirico, F., Di Meglio, F., Castaldo, C. *Human Cardiac Progenitor Cell-Derived Extracellular Vesicles Exhibit Promising Potential for Supporting Cardiac Repair in Vitro*. **Front Physiol**. 2022, 13:879046.
6. Belviso, I., Di Meglio, F., Romano, V., Montagnani, S., Castaldo, C. *Non-modified RNA-Based Reprogramming of Human Dermal Fibroblasts into Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells*. **Methods Mol Biol**. 2022, 2454, pp. 675-684.
7. Romano, V., Belviso, I., Cozzolino, D., Sacco, A.M., Schonauer, F., Nurzynska, D., Di Meglio, F., Castaldo, C. *Decellularization for the preparation of highly preserved human acellular skin matrix for regenerative medicine*. **J Vis Exp**. 2021, (175):e62935.
8. Romano, V., Tuzi, M., Di Gregorio, A., Sacco, A.M., Belviso, I., Sirico, F., Palmeri, S., Nurzynska, D., Di Meglio, F., Castaldo, C., Pizzi, A., Montagnani, S. *Correlation between official and common field-based fitness tests in elite soccer referees*. **J Funct Morphol Kinesiol**. 2021, 6(3):59.
9. Romano, V., Gallinoro, C.M., Mottola, R., Serio, A., Di Meglio, F., Castaldo, C., Sirico, F., Nurzynska, D. *Patent foramen ovale—a not so innocuous septal atrial defect in adults*. **J Cardiovasc Dev Dis**. 2021, 8(6):60.
10. Sirico F, Romano V, Sacco A, Belviso I, Didonna V, Nurzynska D, Castaldo C, Palmeri S, Sannino G, Della Valle E, Montagnani S, Di Meglio F. *Effect of Video Observation and Motor Imagery on Simple Reaction Time in Cadet Pilots*. **J Funct Morphol Kinesiol**. 2020, 5(4):89.
11. Putame G, Gabetti S, Carbonaro D, Di Meglio F, Romano V, Sacco AM, Belviso I, Serino G, Bignardi C, Morbiducci U, Castaldo C, Massai D. *Compact and tunable stretch bioreactor advancing tissue engineering implementation. Application to engineered cardiac constructs*. **Med Eng Phys**. 2020, 84:1-9. doi: 10.1016/j.medengphy.2020.07.018
12. Di Meglio F, Sacco AM, Belviso I, Romano V, Sirico F, Loiacono C, Palmeri S, Pempinello C, Montagnani S, Nurzynska D, Castaldo C. *Influence of supplements and drugs used for the treatment of musculoskeletal disorders on adult human tendon-derived stem cells*. **Muscles Ligaments Tendons J**. 2020, 10(3), pp. 376–384.
13. Carbonaro D, Putame G, Castaldo C, Di Meglio F, Siciliano K, Belviso I, Romano V, Sacco AM, Schonauer F, Montagnani S, Audenino AL, Morbiducci U, Gallo D, Massai D. *A low-cost scalable 3D-printed sample-holder for agitation-based decellularization of biological tissues*. **Med Eng Phys**. 2020, 85:7-15. doi: 10.1016/j.medengphy.2020.09.006
14. Belviso I, Angelini F, Di Meglio F, Picchio V, Sacco AM, Nocella C, Romano V, Nurzynska D, Frati G, Maiello C, Messina E, Montagnani S, Pagano F, Castaldo C, Chimenti I. *The Microenvironment of Decellularized Extracellular Matrix from Heart Failure Myocardium Alters the Balance between Angiogenic and Fibrotic Signals from Stromal Primitive Cells*. **Int J Mol Sci**. 2020; 21(21):7903.
15. Belviso I, Romano V, Sacco AM, Ricci G, Massai D, Cammarota M, Catizone A, Schiraldi C, Nurzynska D, Terzini M, Aldieri A, Serino G, Schonauer F, Sirico F, D'Andrea F, Montagnani S, Di Meglio F, Castaldo C. *Decellularized Human Dermal Matrix as a Biological Scaffold for Cardiac Repair and Regeneration*. **Front Bioeng Biotechnol**. 2020; 8:229.
16. Sirico F, Zappia M, Di Meglio F, Castaldo C, Nurzynska D. *Can we reduce the risk of adverse effects in selective neurolysis of the motor branches of musculocutaneous nerve? Evidence-based anatomy approach to the rescue of patients with muscle spasticity*. **Eur J Phys Rehabil Med**. 2020; 56(1):126-127.
17. Belviso I, Sacco AM, Romano V, Schonauer F, Nurzynska D, Montagnani S, Di Meglio F, Castaldo C. *Isolation of Adult Human Dermal Fibroblasts from Abdominal Skin and Generation of Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells Using a Non-Integrating Method*. **J Vis Exp**. 2020; (155)
18. Sirico F, Palmeri S, Gambardella F, Capuano E, Ferrari U, Baiocco V, Castaldo C, Di Meglio F, Nurzynska D. *Ankle Brachial Index in Different Types of Popliteal Artery Entrapment Syndrome: A Systematic Review of Case Reports*. **J Clin Med**. 2019; 8(12). pii: E2071.
19. Sacco AM, Belviso I, Romano V, Carfora A, Schonauer F, Nurzynska D, Montagnani S, Di Meglio F, Castaldo C. *Diversity of dermal fibroblasts as major determinant of variability in cell reprogramming*. **J Cell Mol Med**. 2019; 23(6):4256-4268.
20. Sirico F, Fernando F, Di Paolo F, Adami PE, Signorello MG, Sannino G, Bianco A, Cerrone A, Baiocco V, Filippi N, Ferrari U, Tuzi M, Nurzynska D, Di Meglio F, Castaldo C, D'Ascenzi F, Montagnani S, Biffi A. *Exercise stress test in apparently healthy individuals - where to place the finish line? The Ferrari corporate wellness programme experience*. **Eur J Prev Cardiol**. 2019; 26(7):731-738.

21. Putame G, Terzini M, Carbonaro D, Pisani G, Serino G, Di Meglio F, Castaldo C, Massai D. *Application of 3D Printing Technology for Design and Manufacturing of Customized Components for a Mechanical Stretching Bioreactor*. **J Healthc Eng**. 2019; 2019:3957931.
22. Sirico F, Castaldo C, Baiocco V, Marino N, Zappia M, Montagnani S, Di Meglio F, Nurzynska D. *Prevalence of musculoskeletal nerve variations: Systematic review and meta-analysis*. **Clin Anat**. 2019; Mar;32(2):183-195.
23. Boffito M, Di Meglio F, Mozetic P, Giannitelli SM, Carmagnola I, Castaldo C, Nurzynska D, Sacco AM, Miraglia R, Montagnani S, Vitale N, Brancaccio M, Tarone G, Basoli F, Rainer A, Trombetta M, Ciardelli G, Chiono V. *Surface functionalization of polyurethane scaffolds mimicking the myocardial microenvironment to support cardiac primitive cells*. **PLoS One**. 2018; 13(7):e0199896.
24. Castaldo C, Chimenti I. Cardiac Progenitor Cells: The Matrix Has You. **Stem Cells Transl Med**. 2018; Jul;7(7):506-510.
25. Sirico F, Bianco A, D'Alicandro G, Castaldo C, Montagnani S, Spera R, Di Meglio F, Nurzynska D. *Effects of Physical Exercise on Adiponectin, Leptin, and Inflammatory Markers in Childhood Obesity: Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis*. **Child Obes**. 2018; May/Jun;14(4):207-217.
26. Sirico F, Miressi S, Castaldo C, Spera R, Montagnani S, Di Meglio F, Nurzynska D. *Habits and beliefs related to food supplements: Results of a survey among Italian students of different education fields and levels*. **PLoS One**. 2018; 13(1):e0191424.
27. Iaconetta G, Solari D, Villa A, Castaldo C, Gerardi RM, Califano G, Montagnani S, Cappabianca P. *The Hypoglossal Nerve: Anatomical Study of Its Entire Course*. **World Neurosurg**. 2018; 109:e486-e492.
28. Di Meglio F, Nurzynska D, Romano V, Miraglia R, Belviso I, Sacco AM, Barbato V, Di Gennaro M, Granato G, Maiello C, Montagnani S, Castaldo C. *Optimization of Human Myocardium Decellularization Method for the Construction of Implantable Patches*. **Tissue Eng Part C Methods**. 2017; doi: 10.1089/ten.TEC.2017.0267
29. Sirico F, Ricca F, Di Meglio F, Nurzynska D, Castaldo C, Spera R, Montagnani S. *Local corticosteroid versus autologous blood injections in lateral epicondylitis: meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials*. **Eur J Phys Rehabil Med**. 2017; 53(3):483-491
30. Pagano F, Angelini F, Castaldo C, Picchio V, Messina E, Sciarretta S, Maiello C, Biondi-Zoccai G, Frati G, Meglio FD, Nurzynska D, Chimenti I. *Normal versus Pathological Cardiac Fibroblast-Derived Extracellular Matrix Differentially Modulates Cardiosphere-Derived Cell Paracrine Properties and Commitment*. **Stem Cells Int**. 2017; 2017:7396462.
31. Puzzo D, Raiteri R, Castaldo C, Capasso R, Pagano E, Tedesco M, Gulisano W, Drozd L, Lippiello P, Palmeri A, Scotto P, Miniaci MC. *CL316,243, a β 3-adrenergic receptor agonist, induces muscle hypertrophy and increased strength*. **Sci Rep**. 2016; 5:37504
32. Nappi F, Fraldi M, Spadaccio C, Carotenuto AR, Montagnani S, Castaldo C, Chachques JC, Acar C. *Biomechanics drive histological wall remodeling of neo-aortic root: A mathematical model to study the expression levels of ki 67, metalloprotease, and apoptosis transition*. **J Biomed Mater Res A**. 2016;104(11):2785-93
33. Nappi F, Spadaccio C, Castaldo C, Di Meglio F, Nurzynska D, Montagnani S, Chello M, Acar C. *Reinforcement of the pulmonary artery autograft with a polyglactin and polydioxanone mesh in the Ross operation: experimental study in growing lamb*. **J Heart Valve Dis**. 2014;23(2):145-8
34. Chiono V, Mozetic P, Boffito M, Sartori S, Gioffredi E, Silvestri A, Rainer A, Giannitelli SM, Trombetta M, Nurzynska D, Di Meglio F, Castaldo C, Miraglia R, Montagnani S, Ciardelli G. *Polyurethane-based scaffolds for myocardial tissue engineering*. **Interface Focus**. 2014; 4(1):20130045
35. Postiglione L, De Santo L, Di Spigna G, Castaldo C, Guerra G, Ladogana P, Arcucci A, Calabrese D, Covelli B, Vitale S, Mele V, Montagnani S. *Cardiac remodeling in post-ischemic end-stage human hearts: Involvement of extracellular matrix and angiogenesis-related molecules*. **World J Cardiovasc Dis**. 2013; 3:91-9.
36. Locci M, Nazzaro G, Miranda M, Salzano E, Montagnani S, Castaldo C, De Placido G. *Vaginal lactoferrin in asymptomatic patients at low risk for pre-term labour for shortened cervix: Cervical length and interleukin-6 changes*. **J Obstet Gynaecol**. 2013; 33(2):144-8.
37. Castaldo C, Di Meglio F, Miraglia R, Sacco AM, Romano V, Bancone C, Della Corte A, Montagnani S, Nurzynska D. *Cardiac fibroblast-derived extracellular matrix (biomatrix) as a model for the studies of cardiac primitive cell biological properties in normal and pathological adult human heart*. **Biomed Res Int**. 2013; 2013:352370.
38. Nurzynska D, Iruegas ME, Castaldo C, Müller-Best P, Di Meglio F. *Application of biotechnology in myocardial regeneration-tissue engineering triad: cells, scaffolds, and signaling molecules*. **Biomed Res Int**. 2013; 2013:236893.
39. Nurzynska D, Di Meglio F, Romano V, Miraglia R, Sacco AM, Latino F, Bancone C, Della Corte A, Maiello C, Amarelli C, Montagnani S, Castaldo C. *Cardiac primitive cells become committed to a cardiac fate in adult human heart with chronic ischemic disease but fail to acquire mature phenotype: genetic and phenotypic study*. **Basic Res Cardiol**. 2013; 108(1):320-333.
40. Nurzynska D, Di Meglio F, Castaldo C, Latino F, Romano V, Miraglia R, Guerra G, Brunese L, Montagnani S. *Flatfoot in children: anatomy of decision making*. **Ital J Anat Embryol**. 2012; 117(2): 98-106.
41. Di Meglio F, Nurzynska D, Castaldo C, Miraglia R, Romano V, De Angelis A, Piegari E, Russo S, Montagnani S. *Cardiac shock wave therapy: assessment of safety and new insights into mechanisms of tissue regeneration*. **J Cell Mol Med**. 2012; 16(4):936-942.
42. Di Meglio F, Castaldo C, Nurzynska D, Miraglia R, Romano V, Russolillo V, Langella G, Vosa C, Montagnani S. *Localization and origin of cardiac CD117-positive cells: identification of a population of epicardially-derived cells in adult human heart*. **Ital J Anat Embryol**. 2010; 115(1/2): 71-78.

43. Di Meglio F, Castaldo C, Nurzynska D, Romano V, Miraglia R, Bancone C, Langella G, Vosa C, Montagnani S. *Epithelial-mesenchymal transition of epicardial mesothelium is a source of cardiac CD117-positive stem cells in adult human heart*. **J Mol Cell Cardiol**, 2010; 49(5): 719-27.
44. Di Meglio F, Castaldo C, Nurzynska D, Romano V, Miraglia R, Montagnani S. *Epicardial cells are missing from the surface of the heart with ischemic cardiomyopathy - a useful clue about the self-renewal potential of adult human heart?* **Int J Cardiol**, 2010; 145(2): e44-46.
45. Castaldo C, Di Meglio F, Nurzynska D, Romano G, Maiello C, Bancone C, Müller P, Böhm M, Cotrufo M, Montagnani S. *CD117-positive cells in adult human heart are localized in the subepicardium and their activation is associated with laminin-1 and $\alpha 6$ integrin expression*. **Stem Cells**, 2008; 26(7): 1723-1731.
46. Della Corte A, Quarto C, Bancone C, Castaldo C, Di Meglio F, Nurzynska D, De Santo LS, De Feo M, Scardone M, Montagnani S, Cotrufo M: *Spatiotemporal patterns of smooth muscle cell changes in ascending aortic dilatation with bicuspid and tricuspid aortic valve stenosis: focus on cell-matrix signaling*. **J Thorac Cardiovasc Surg**, 2008; 135 (1): 8-18.
47. Nurzynska D, Di Meglio F, Castaldo C, Arcucci A, Marlingghaus E, Russo S, Corrado B, De Santo L, Baldascino F, Cotrufo M, Montagnani S: *Shock waves activate in vitro cultured progenitors and precursors of cardiac cell lineages from human heart*. **Ultrasound Med Biol**, 2008; 34 (2): 334-42.
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51. Cotrufo M, De Santo L, Della Corte A, Di Meglio F, Guerra G, Quarto C, Vitale S, Castaldo C, Montagnani S: *Basal lamina structural alterations in human asymmetric aneurismatic aorta*. **Eur J Histochem**, 2005 Oct-Dec; 49 (4): 363-70.
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54. Postiglione L, Ladogana P, Montagnani S, di Spigna G, Castaldo C, Turano M, Bruno EM, Di Meglio F, Riccio A, Rossi G: *Effect of Granulocyte Macrophage-Colony Stimulating Factor on extracellular matrix deposition by dermal fibroblasts from patients with scleroderma*. **J Rheumatol**, 2005; Apr; 32 (4): 656-64.
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