

Dr Lorena Passoni is a research scientist with a broad experience in many and diverse fields. Lorena trained as a Veterinary Medical Doctor at the University of Milan where she also undertook her PhD studies in "Biotechnology Applied to Veterinary Science". She, then, pursued postdoctoral training in basic immunology at Yale University (New Haven, CT, USA) in Dr Adrian Hayday's laboratory. At Yale, she published seminal studies on thymic T cell development, $\alpha\beta/\gamma\delta$ lineage commitment and $\gamma\delta$ T cell function. After four-year postdoc, she returned to Italy at the Italian National Cancer Institute (INT, Milan). Here, she began studying tumor immunology particularly cancer vaccines. Later on her fascination with the neuro-oncology started thanks to the collaboration with the Pediatric Oncology Unit aimed at finding alternative therapeutic strategies for neuroblastoma. Lastly, she joined Michela Matteoli's group at Humanitas Research Hospital (Milan) to develop translational and nanotechnology research programs for brain tumors.

Optional to organizer discretion:

She is married to a plant geneticist, they have one son and one daughter. She loves hiking with her dog.