

Paola Borella is Full Professor of General and Applied Hygiene (MED / 42) with affiliation to the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery of the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Department of Biomedical, Metabolic and Neural Sciences.

She teaches in the Degree of Medicine and Surgery two modules of Public Health and Hygiene, at III and IV year respectively, and at the fifth year she teaches Primary Care Organization and Prevention Pathways. These courses include both ex cathedra lessons and practical internships in the field.

She was Director of the School of Specialization in Hygiene and Preventive She continuously pursued lessons in the Master's and II Level Master's and in the Post-Hoc Courses, as well as holding numerous Seminars and Conferences on Research Topics in Up-to-date Courses and Conferences organized by Universities and Healthcare Facilities (USL companies and hospitals).

She was President of FESTEM (Federation of European Societies for Trace Elements in Medicine) and Responsible of Italian Satellite Center for Trace Element - Institute for Unesco Rovaltain, Valence, France. She is a member of the Italian Society of Hygiene) and of ESCMID (European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases) Study Group for Legionella Infections (ESGLI).

For her research activity, she develops and uses advanced analytical and statistical methods and collaborates with multidisciplinary groups, with institutional structures (Higher Institute of Health) and with foreign researchers.

She has been dealing for many years with health problems arising from exposure to toxic metals and other pollutants in both working groups and general population, and the protective role exerted by some micronutrients on chronic-degenerative pathologies. In recent years, she has also been interested in studying the health and sanitation problems of the dwellings, with particular reference to the health effects of environmental noxae and stress, and on epidemiological surveillance and control of Legionella infections. She was National Scientific Coordinator of three National Research Projects (PRINs) on Legionella Infections (MIUR Funds 2000-01, 2002-03, 2005-06).

She was the Coordinator of the UNIMORE working group of the national project "Development of structured NANO materials for the creation of Individual and Collective Protective Devices for the prevention of biological risk in hospitals (NANO-DISP) Bando Bric Inail (2016-2018)

At present she is Coordinator of the UNIMORE working group of the national project "Nanostructured materials for the prevention of biological risk: from design to verification of applicability and effectiveness in the health sector (NANOBIOSAN). Call Bric Inail 2019-2021 with field assessment tasks of the antibacterial and antiviral efficacy of new devices.

- Participant in the European project (Horizon 2020) HBM4EU which evaluates the relationship between humans and chemicals and human health to support the choice of suitable medical treatment and / or indicate the need to reduce the use of chemical agents (2017-2021 ).

She is the author or co-author of 218 publications, most in international journals with Impact Factor in the field of Public Health, with particular reference to the study of the relationship between environment and health.

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