

Licia Veronesi

Curriculum vitae

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She was born in Rome in 1966 and holds a degree in Medicine and Surgery from the University of Bologna. She specialized in Hygiene and Preventive Medicine at the University of Parma and has been a confirmed researcher at the same university since 2004. Since January 16, 2020, she has held the position of Associate Professor in the scientific disciplinary sector MED/42 – General and Applied Hygiene, at the University of Parma, Department of Medicine and Surgery, Laboratory of Hygiene and Public Health. She has been registered with the Order of Physicians and Surgeons of the province of Parma since March 2002. Between 2001 and 2011, she attended several courses in epidemiology and pharmacoepidemiology at the Istituto Superiore di Sanità. In 2012, she earned a diploma from "La Sapienza" University of Rome in "Statistical Methods for Biomedical Research and Practice." Her research has primarily focused on the epidemiology and prevention of infectious diseases. In her research, she conducted serological investigations to determine the presence of anti-hepatitis B antibodies in young adults, to assess the effectiveness of vaccination over time. Additionally, she studied the vertical transmission of HCV and the prevalence of CMV-positive neonates in the general population through viral DNA research on Guthrie cards.

As part of the active surveillance system for Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) and Poliomyelitis, she conducted studies to evaluate the immune status of different population subgroups. These included recently immigrated individuals, young adults, women during childbirth, and adopted children. She also investigated identifying and characterizing viruses as part of the OMS environmental surveillance program for enteroviruses and polioviruses.

She has been involved in virological and epidemiological surveillance of epidemic and pandemic influenza, specifically in the non-hospitalized pediatric population. These works focus on clinical and epidemiological aspects, including the estimation of influenza vaccination efficacy and prevention strategies, with a particular emphasis on healthcare workers. Since February 2020, she has expanded her research to include virological and epidemiological aspects of SARS-CoV-2 circulation in the province of Parma through the Respirivirnet-Influnet surveillance program. Research has been conducted in the field of dentistry to assess the biological risks involved, including the awareness among healthcare workers and the risk of contamination in dental offices. This study has established the baseline contamination levels and achievable standards through interventions on environmental matrices and healthcare workers. Furthermore, it has examined oral conditions in "fragile" populations such as the elderly and children with specific health conditions.

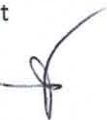
She has conducted research in the field of hospital hygiene, specifically in assessing the risks associated with Legionella in different healthcare settings such as hospital wards and dental outpatient clinics. She has also focused on monitoring the safety of care, with a special emphasis on environmental monitoring which includes air, water, and surfaces.

Studies in environmental epidemiology have examined the correlation between air pollution and health issues such as mortality, and urgent hospital admissions for specific DRGs, using time series methodology. Furthermore, research has investigated the impact of exposure to environmental toxins such as chlorination byproducts and PCBs from dietary sources on human health.

The investigation of preventive medicine in nutritional, sports, and general population contexts has focused on promoting healthy lifestyles.

In clinical settings, particularly in surgery and neurology, studies have been conducted to determine the prevalence rates of chronic degenerative diseases. Researchers have also explored potential strategies for enhancing the quality of care and quality of life for patients.

Her research activity is supported by 110 full publications in national and international journals, as well as numerous abstracts presented at national and international congresses and seminars. She has participated in and coordinated several funded projects. Currently, she is serving as the scientific coordinator for the "Surveillance of Healthcare-Associated Infections" project, which is a collaboration between the Parma University Hospital and the Department of Medicine and Surgery at the University of Parma. She also serves as the scientific coordinator for active surveillance of acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) and environmental surveillance of poliovirus circulation in the Emilia Romagna region at



the WHO Sub-National Laboratory for Hygiene and Public Health of the Department of Medicine and Surgery (DiMeC) at the University of Parma.

Furthermore, she is the scientific coordinator of the study on the "Microbiological Quality of Thermal Waters Used for Therapeutic Purposes and Their Protection from Contamination, as well as the Control of Legionella pneumophila in Healthcare and Thermal Waters in Care Units." This study is conducted in collaboration with Terme di Monticelli S.p.A (Parma) and the Department of Medicine and Surgery at the University of Parma (DiMeC). She is a member of the technical committee on the Waste-to-energy plant established by the Local Health Authority of Parma and the Expert Group of the Environmental Ethics Center of Parma.

She has worked as a teacher at the University of Parma in several programs like Speech and language therapy, Audioprothetic Techniques, Orthoptic and Ophthalmologic Assistance, Nursing (Piacenza branch), Environment and workplace Prevention Techniques, Sport Sciences, physical exercise and human health, and Dentistry and orthodontics. Currently, she teaches Epidemiology and Healthcare Organization in the Integrated Course of Hygiene, Public Health, and Health Policies for the third and fifth years of Medicine. She is also responsible for coordinating the Integrated Course on Principles of Prevention and Health Promotion, which includes the teaching of Hygiene and Public Health in the Healthcare Assistance program (Interuniversity program with the University of Modena and Reggio Emilia). She holds a position as a member of the Executive Committee for the first-level Master's program "Management for Coordination Functions in the Healthcare Professions Area" and the second-level Master's program "Clinical Risk Governance and Promotion of Healthcare Safety" at the University of Parma. In addition, she also teaches in medical specialization schools, such as Hygiene and Preventive Medicine and Occupational Medicine.

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