



**Giulio Cossu**

Giulio Cossu received his MD degree from the University of Rome in 1997. He trained as a Fogarty post-doctoral at the Wistar Institute, University of Pennsylvania (1980-83), and then became Associate Professor at the Dept. of Histology and Medical Embryology of the University of Rome "La Sapienza". In 1991 GC was promoted full Professor and in 1993-4 was a visiting professor at the Pasteur Institute in Paris. In 2000 he was appointed Director of the "Stem Cell Research Institute" of the Hospital San Raffaele in Milan. In 2003 he was appointed as Scientific Coordinator of the newly created San Raffaele Biomedical Science Park of Rome, while maintaining his position in Milan. Since 2005 he is Professor of Histology and Embryology at the University of Milan. In 2008, he was appointed Director of the newly created San Raffaele Division of Regenerative Medicine.

Since 1997 GC has been elected EMBO Member; he has been President of the Italian Association of Cell and Developmental Biology (1998-2001), Member of the Directory Board of the International Society for Stem Cell Research (2003-2005) and Chairperson of the Stem Cell Committee in the European Society of Gene Therapy (2003-2005). GC is currently a Member of the Directory Board of the International Society for Differentiation. He is also Senior Editor of EMBO Molecular Medicine and member of the Editorial Board of Journal of Cell Science, Cell Death & Differentiation, International Journal of Developmental Biology and of Stem Cell Research. He is currently serving as Chairperson for Panel LS7 (Molecular Medicine) for the European Research Council. He is also member of the ISSCR Task force for Clinical Translation of Stem Cell Research

Giulio Cossu has a long lasting interest in the field of muscle cell and developmental biology. He discovered the myogenic potential of a bone-marrow derived, circulating progenitor cell (Ferrari et al., Science 279, 1528-1530, 1998). Recently he identified a novel population of vessel associated stem cell, the mesoangioblasts (Minasi et al. Development 129, 2773, 2002; Dellavalle et al. Nature Cell Biol. 9, 255, 2007) that proved effective in the treatment of a mouse and dog models of muscular dystrophy (Sampaolesi et al. Science 301, 487, 2003; Sampaolesi et al. Nature, 444, 574, 2006; Gargioli et al. Nature Medicine 14, 973, 2008). He is the PI of the first clinical trial with donor stem cells for muscular dystrophy.

GC is author of more than 150 peer-reviewed publications (including Cell, Science, Neuron, Nature, Nature Cell Biology, Nature Medicine, Nature Neuroscience, J. Clin. Invest., J. Cell Biol., Development, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, EMBO J. etc.); he has been invited as speaker in most meetings on myogenesis and on stem cells and has organized EMBO workshops and Gordon Conferences of this topic. He receives funding from many national and international agencies, such as Telethon, Duchenne Parent Project, Human Frontiers Science Organization, European Community, European Research Council, Muscular Dystrophy Association (USA), Association Francaise contra les Myopathies, etc.