

CURRICULUM VITAE
MASSIMO PORRO

Professional Positions Held

- 1988 to present: Founder, CEO & CSO of BIOSYNTH S.r.l., Milano
and Rapolano Terme –SIENA-Italy
- 2016-2021: Co-Founder, CEO & CSO of VaxYnethic Srl, Milano
and Rapolano Terme, Siena-Italy
- 1986-1991: Special Consultant to the President of
PRAXIS BIOLOGICS Inc.-Rochester, NY-USA
(later incorporated in Wyeth, now Pfizer)
- 1985-1986: Director, Research and Development Bacterial Vaccines
and Large-scale Production
SCLAVO S.p.A.-SIENA, Italy
(now Glaxo Smith Kline)
- 1982-1984: Manager, Laboratories of R&D Bacterial Vaccines
SCLAVO S.p.A.-SIENA
- 1976-1981: Head, Research Laboratories for Bacterial Vaccines
Sclavo Research Center
SCLAVO S.p.A.-SIENA, Italy
- 1974-1975: Scientist at Laboratories for Bacterial Vaccines
Sclavo Research Center
SCLAVO S.p.A.-SIENA, Italy

Honorary Scientific Positions

1986-1987: Advisor at the WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (W.H.O.), Geneva (SW) for the development program of Glycoconjugate Bacterial Vaccines

International Experiences as *Visiting and Guest Scientist*

- 1985 “*Guest Scientist*” at the Japanese National Institute of Health, Tokyo-Japan, Dept. of Bacteriology (Dr Y. SATO)
- 1983-1984 “*Guest Scientist*” at the Harvard Medical School and at Boston University, Boston (MA), Dept. of Bacteriology and Molecular Genetics (Dr J.R. MURPHY and Dr A.M. PAPPENHEIMER)
- 1978 “*Guest Scientist*” at the Office of Biologics, Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Bethesda, MD-USA, Branch of Bacterial Polysaccharides (Dr J.B. ROBBINS and Dr C.E.FRASCH)
- 1978 “*Visiting Scientist*” at the Rockefeller University, New York-USA, Dept. of Bacteriology and Immunology (Dr E.C. GOTSCHLICH)

Education and Training

- 1984 Master on Solid-phase Synthetic Oligonucleotides and Recombinant Synthetic Oligomers at Harvard University, Boston (Mass)-USA
- 1983 Master on Solid-phase Synthetic Peptides at Boston University, Boston (Mass)-USA
- 1978 Master on Immunochemistry and Molecular Immunology at the Rockefeller University, New York (NY)-USA
- 1974 Degree in Chemistry and Pharmaceutical Technology “*Magna cum Laude*” at the University of Siena, Italy, Faculty of Pharmacy
- 1969 High School degree in Industrial Chemistry at the Technology Institute for Industrial Chemistry “G.e M. Montani” – Fermo, Italy

R&D Projects directed as *Project Leader*

1980-1982	The non-toxic mutant protein CRM197, cross-reactive with Diphtheria Toxin and Toxoid, as native carrier protein for glycoconjugate vaccines;
1981-1991	Oligosaccharide and Polysaccharide-based glycoconjugate vaccines;
1993 to present	Detoxification of the Lipid A moiety of Lipopolysaccharides by SAEP (Synthetic Anti Endotoxin Peptides) forming Endotoxoids as a new generation of LPS-based vaccines for pathogenic Gram-negative bacteria; Drugs based on SAEP as inhibitors of LPS in the activation of the pro-inflammatory cytokine cascade involving α TNF, IL1, IL6 and γ IFN Drugs based on SAEP as adjuvants of the conventional Antibiotic therapy
2010 to present	Semi-synthetic antigens expressing multiple epitopes for Gram-positive and Gram-negative encapsulated bacteria: a new generation of polyvalent vaccines for prevention of IMD and IPD using various carrier proteins;
2012-2018	Development of an “ad hoc” Algorithm-based strategy for using proteins of different structures (CRM197 vs. TT) in the molecular design of glycoconjugate vaccines for prevention of IMD and IPD
2015-2021	Endotoxoid L7 Conjugate as a broad-spectrum vaccine for <i>Group B meningococci</i>
2017 to present	Candidate vaccine for <i>C.difficile</i> based on bactericidal and antitoxic properties
2019 to present	Endotoxoid-based vaccines as a new generation of specific vaccines for the Pathogenic/Antibiotic-resistant bacteria <i>K.pneumoniae</i> , <i>E.coli</i> , <i>S.typhi</i>
2020 to present	<i>Nanostructured</i> Vector System for Bacterial and Viral Antigens

Scientific Presentations at International Meetings

About 20 scientific presentations in the field of :

Bacterial Vaccines; Immunochemistry of protein and carbohydrate antigens; Chemistry of glycoconjugates and peptides; Immunochemistry of synthetic peptides with restricted (cyclic) conformation for neutralizing the toxicity of the Lipid A structure in the bacterial Lipopolysaccharides.

INTERNATIONAL PATENTS

Author of 16 International Patents issued (1986 – 2021 ; whole list in the Company's web site)

Author of 1 International Patent Application (filed 2022)

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Author of 31 Articles published in the most authoritative scientific Journals having as topics: the mutant protein protein CRM197 as carrier for glycoconjugates of H. influenzae type b, N. meningitidis and S. pneumoniae capsular Ps; conformationally-restricted synthetic peptides mimicking the structure of antibiotics (SAEP); Lipid A and Lipopolysaccharides of Gram-negative bacteria; semi-synthetic antigens expressing multiple epitopes.

Author of 4 Chapters published in scientific Books covering synthetic and semi-synthetic antigens and SAEP.

MAIN BIBLIOGRAPHY BY ARGUMENTS

SAEP TECHNOLOGY

“Molecular Mapping and Detoxification of the Lipid A Binding Site by Synthetic Peptides”

Rustici A., Velucchi M., Faggioni R., Sironi M., Ghezzi P., Quataert S., Green B., Porro M.

Science, Vol.259,361-365,

1993

“Molecular Requirements of Peptide Structures Binding to the Lipid-A Region of Bacterial Endotoxins”

Velucchi M., Rustici A., Porro M.

Vaccines '94, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, 141-146

1994

“Structural basis of endotoxin recognition by natural polypeptides”

Porro M.

Trends in Microbiology, Vol. 2 (3): 65-66

1994

“Cyclic or linear conformations of sequences binding lipid A: does it really matter? “

Porro M., Aketagawa J., Velucchi M., Rustici A.

Trends in Microbiology, 2 , p.338.

1994

“Group of Peptides that act synergistically with hydrophobic antibiotics against Gram-negative enteric bacteria”

Vaara M. and Porro M.

Antimicrobial Agents and Chemotherapy, Vol. 40 (8), 1801-1805

1996

“Inhibition of LPS-induced systemic and local TNF production by a synthetic anti-endotoxin peptide (SAEP-2)”

Demitri M.T., Velucchi M., Bracci L., Rustici A., Porro M., Villa P., Ghezzi P.

Journal of Endotoxin Research, Vol.3 (6), 445-454

1996

“Natural and synthetic polypeptides that recognize the conserved lipid A binding site of lipopolysaccharides”

Porro M., Rustici A., Velucchi M., Agnello D., Villa P., Ghezzi P.

Endotoxin and sepsis: Molecular mechanism of pathogenesis, host resistance and therapy, John Wiley & Sons, New York, 316-324

1996

“Neisseria Meningitidis LOS micelle-based vaccine”

Velucchi M., Rustici A., Porro M.

Tenth International Pathogenic Neisseria Conference

Sept. 1996

“A model of Neisseria Meningitidis vaccine based on LPS micelles detoxified by synthetic anti-endotoxin peptides”

Velucchi M., Rustici A., Meazza C., Villa P., Ghezzi P., Tsai C-M., Porro M.

Journal of Endotoxins Research, Vol.4 (4), 261-272

1997

“LPS/lipid A binding synthetic peptides”

Porro M.

Endotoxin in health and disease, Marcel Dekker, New York, 403-411

1999

“Influence of synthetic antiendotoxin peptides on lipopolysaccharide (LPS) recognition and LPS-induced proinflammatory cytokine responses by cells expressing membrane-bound CD14”

Iwagaki A., Porro M., Pollak M.

Infection and Immunity, Vol. 68,(3), 1655-1663

2000

“Structure-Function Studies of Antimicrobial and Endotoxin Neutralizing Peptides”

Sylvie E. Blondelle, Jerala R., Lamata M., Moriyon I., Brandenburg K., Andrů J., Porro M., Lohner K.
Peptide Revolution: Genomics, Proteomics & Therapeutics
American Peptide Society

2003

“Endotoxin neutralizing Peptides”

Jerala R., Porro M.
Curr.Topics Med. Chem., Vol. 4, 1173-1184

2004

“Antimicrobial Peptides”

Porro M. & al
World Intellectual Property Organization
Publication Reference Number: WO 2008/006125 A1

Jan 17, 2008

CONJUGATION TECHNOLOGIES

Purification of capsular polysaccharides from contaminant LPS

“The biological and physico - chemical characteristics of meningococcus polysaccharide Group C prepared by two different methods of purification”

Porro M. & al.
J. Biol. Standard., 8: 7-13

1980

The non-toxic mutant diphtheria protein CRM197as new carrier for vaccines

“Immunogenic correlation between cross-reacting material (CRM197) produced by a mutant of C. diphtheriae and diphtheria toxoid”

Porro M. & al.
J. Infect. Dis., 142:716-724

1980

Determination of group-specific polysaccharides in multivalent vaccines

“Immuno-electrophoretic characterization of the molecular weight polydispersion of polysaccharides in multivalent bacterial capsular polysaccharide vaccines”

Porro M. & al.
J. Biol. Stand., 11:65-74

1983

Development of glycoconjugate vaccines combining the first generation of reductive amination with ester-activated linkers

“Immunochemistry of Meningococcal group B oligosaccharide-protein conjugates”

Porro M. & al.
Medicine Tropicale, 43:129-132
1983

“Specific antibodies to diphtheria toxin and type 6A Pneumococcal capsular polysaccharide induced by a model of semi-synthetic glycoconjugate antigen”

Porro M & al.
Molec. Immunol. 22: 907-919
1985

“A semi-synthetic glycoconjugate antigen prepared by chemical glycosylation of pertussis toxin by a meningococcal group C oligosaccharide hapten”

Porro M & al.
Develop. Biol. Standard., Karger S. Ed. Basel, Vol 61, pp 525-530
1985

Development of glycoconjugate vaccines with built-in multiple specificities

“A molecular model of artificial glycoprotein with predetermined multiple immunodeterminants for Gram-Positive and Gram-negative encapsulated bacteria”

Porro M. & al.
Molec. Immunol., 23 (4): 385-391
1986

“Artificial glycoproteins of predetermined multivalent antigenicity as a new generation of candidate vaccines to prevent infections from encapsulated bacteria: analysis of antigenicity versus immunogenicity”

Porro M.
Towards better carbohydrate vaccines Edited by R.Bell and G. Torrigiani, World Health Organization pp 279-306, John Wiley & Sons Publishers
1987

Development of glycoconjugate vaccines combining the second generation of reductive amination with ester-activated

“Strategies for type-specific glycoconjugate vaccines of Streptococcus pneumoniae”

Arndt B., Porro M.
Immunobiology of proteins and peptides, vol.VI. Edited by M.Z. Atassi, Plenum Press, New York, p. 129-148
1991

OTHER TOPICS

“Effects of Tryptic and Chymotryptic treatment on purified vibrio cholerae toxin”

Porro M. & al.

IRCS Medical Science: Biochemistry; Immunology and Allergy; Microbiology, Parasitology and Infectious Diseases, 3, p.205-206

1975

“New Hemolytic Method for Determination of Antistreptolysin O in Whole Blood”

Porro M. & al.

Journal of Clinical Microbiology, Vol. 8 n° 3, p.263-267

1978

“Modifications of the park-Johnson Ferricyanide Submicromethod for the Assay of reducing groups in Carbohydrates”

Porro M., Viti S., Antoni G., Neri P. & al.

Analytical Biochemistry 118, 301-306

1981

“Ultrasensitive Silver-stain method for the detection of Proteins in Polyacrylamide Gels and Immunoprecipitates on Agarose Gels”

Porro M. & al.

Analytical Biochemistry, Vol.127 N°2, p.316-321

1982