

Ugo Perricone
PharmD, PhD

Dynamic and versatile Scientist with Chemoinformatics, Drug Design and Project Management expertise, capable to manage drug design project and attract grants.

ACTUAL EMPLOYMENT

January 2020 – Present: *Ri.MED Foundation* – **Group Leader in Molecular Informatics**

As Group Leader in Molecular Informatics at Ri.MED I'm responsible for the Drug Design and Bioinformatics group management. The group is currently working on the discovery of new potential anticancer and anti-inflammatory disease drugs with a focus on the hit identification, hit expansion and hit to lead process. The group has been also working on the use and development of AI tools for bioactivity prediction and drug repurposing. In the last 4 years I have been also responsible for the Compound Management facility.

PUBLICLY FUNDED GRANTS:

2024

- **PNRR-POC-2023-12377609:** N.1 Project 275,000 € (50% of budget for my group).

2022

- **PON Ricerca e Innovazione 2014-2020 (PONRI):** N.2 PhD Grants 120,000 €.

2019

- **PON Ricerca e Innovazione 2014-2020 (PONRI):** N.4 PhD Grants 240,000 €.
- **PON (PNR 2015-2020):** N.1 Project (PROGEMA) 275,000 €.
- **POR (P.O. FESR SICILIA 2014-2020):** N.1 Project (OBIND) 540,000 € (50% of budget for my group)

2018

- **PON Ricerca e Innovazione 2014-2020 (PONRI):** N.3 PhD Grants 180,000 €.

EDUCATION and QUALIFICATIONS:

Davidson College – edX May 2017: **Medicinal Chemistry: The Molecular Basis of Drug Discovery** Course in partnership with Novartis

University of Palermo January 2014-December 2016: **PhD (Doctor Europaeus) in Molecular and Biomolecular sciences (Pharmaceutical Sciences - Computational Medicinal Chemistry)** - Thesis Title: *Development and Optimisation of Computational Tools for Drug Discovery*

University of Vienna – Faculty of Pharmacy June 2015- June 2016: **PhD Visiting Student (Computational Medicinal Chemistry)**

CINECA November 2015: **High Performance Molecular Dynamics Course**

University of Genova May 2014: *School of Chemometrics*

SGS 2011 – **Auditor/Lead Auditor qualification for ISO 9001** Cepas accredited Course

ISIDA-Business School 2010: **Master in General Management**

University of Palermo 2007-2008: **M.Sc. in Mass Spectrometry** (grade: *top grade*)

University of Palermo 2006: **Official National Qualification as Pharmacist**

University of Palermo 1999-2006: Master's degree in **Chimica e Tecnologia Farmaceutiche (Pharmaceutical Chemistry)** (grade: *summa cum laude*)

University of Lille 2 Faculty of Pharmacy 2004-2005: **12 Month Erasmus project grant winner**

PERSONAL SKILLS AND COMPETENCES:

- Mother tongue: ITALIAN
- Other **languages** knowledge:
 - **English** *European Level C1*
 - **French** *European Level B2*
 - **Spanish** *European Level B1*
- **Computational chemistry Knowledge:**
 - COMPUTER-AIDED MOLECULAR DESIGN
 - CHEMICAL LIBRARIES CREATION AND ENUMERATION
 - MOLECULAR DYNAMICS (classical and biased)
 - AI applied to drug discovery
 - QSAR
 - CHEMOMETRICS - DATA MINING AND MACHINE LEARNING TECHNIQUES
- **Management skills and Knowledge:**
 - QUALITY MANAGEMENT (ISO 9001 STANDARDS, 6 SIGMA);
 - PROJECT MANAGEMENT
 - PUBLICLY FUNDED GRANTS

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS (Scopus Author ID: 56245391100):

Eva Viesi, Ugo Perricone, Patrick Aloy, Rosalba Giugno. **APBIO: bioactive profiling of air pollutants through inferred bioactivity signatures and prediction of novel target interactions.** *J Cheminform.* 2025 doi: 10.1186/s13321-025-00961-1.

Eva Viesi, Davide Stefano Sardina, Ugo Perricone, Rosalba Giugno. **APDB: a database on air pollutant characterization and similarity prediction.** *Database (Oxford).* 2023 doi: 10.1093/database/baad046.

Giada De Simone, Davide Stefano Sardina, Maria Rita Gulotta, Ugo Perricone. **KUALA: a machine learning-driven framework for kinase inhibitors repositioning.** *Sci Rep.* 2022 doi: 10.1038/s41598-022-22324-8

Isabella Mendolia, Salvatore Contino, Giada De Simone, Ugo Perricone, Roberto Pirrone, **EMBER—Embedding Multiple Molecular Fingerprints for Virtual Screening,** *Int. J. Mol.* <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijms23042156>

Nedra Mekni, Claudia Coronello, Thierry Langer, Maria De Rosa, Ugo Perricone, **Support Vector Machine as a Supervised Learning for the Prioritization of Novel Potential SARS-CoV-2 Main Protease Inhibitors**, *Int. J. Mol. Sci.* 2021, doi:10.3390/ijms22147714

Maria Rita Gulotta, Jessica Lombino, Ugo Perricone, Giada De Simone, Nedra Mekni, Maria De Rosa, Patrizia Diana, Alessandro Padova, **Targeting SARS-CoV-2 RBD interface: a supervised computational data-driven approach to identify potential modulators**, *ChemMedChem* 2020 Jul 23. doi: 10.1002/cmdc.202000259

Isabella Mendolia, M.D; Salvatore Contino; Ugo Perricone; Edoardo Ardizzone; Roberto Pirrone, **Convolutional Architectures for Virtual Screening**, 2020, *BMC Bioinformatics*, doi <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12859-020-03645-9>

Mendolia I., Contino S., Perricone U., Pirrone R., Ardizzone E., **A Convolutional Neural Network for Virtual Screening of Molecular Fingerprints**, *ICIAP 2019, (Book Chapter)*, doi: 10.1007/978-3-030-30642-7_36

PREVIOUS RELEVANT EMPLOYMENT AND EXPERIENCE:

- January 2018 – January 2020: *Ri.MED Foundation* – **Senior Scientist in Computer-Aided Drug Design**– Working as responsible for the group and the platform of Computer-Aided Drug Design.
- December 2016 – December 2017: *Ri.MED Foundation* – **Postdoc Scientist in Drug Design** (Computer Aided Drug Design) – Working on discovery and development of new potential anticancer and anti-neurodegenerative disease drugs.
- June 2016 – December 2016: *Ri.MED Foundation* – **Scientist in Drug Design** (Computer Aided Drug Design) – Working on discovery and development of new potential anticancer and anti-neurodegenerative disease drugs.
- January 2014-December 2016: PhD Student at *Università degli studi di Palermo*, **PhD in Molecular and Biomolecular sciences** (Computational Medicinal Chemistry)
- September-December 2013: **Pharmaceutical chemistry intern** at *Università degli studi di Palermo*. (Computational Medicinal Chemistry)
- September 2011-December 2013: **Chemistry and Biochemistry Teacher CESMO School**

PERSONAL INTERESTS

- Running – practitioner
- Okinawan Karate – practitioner
- Music - International experienced musician (Keyboards and Bass)
- Yoga and Pilates - practitioner

I AUTHORISE THE USE OF MY PERSONAL DATA IN COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATIVE DECREE 196/03