

## CURRICULUM VITAE (SHORT) PROF. PIERO PORTINCASA



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**Mission: "To encourage excellent, honest, highly innovative and sound clinical science through collaborations and mobility of young investigators across Europe and worldwide"**

**Bibliometric indices (May 2021)** <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=portincasa+p>

Author of >400 peer-reviewed articles  
 Editor of 5 books  
 Editor of 6 Journal issues  
 Author > 48 book chapters;  
 Total IF >2000  
 Best cited paper: Lancet 368; 230-39, 2006 (n=719 times)  
 Scopus total citations 8736, h-index 49  
 Google Scholar total citations 16064, H-index 69  
 WOS Total publications 644, total citations 8602, h-index 47

### Current appointments

- Full Professor Internal Medicine
- Chief, Division Internal Medicine Clinica Medica "A. Murri" (2016-), Dept. Biomedical Sciences & Human Oncology, University of Bari Medical School, Bari, Italy
- Chief interim, Division of Internal Medicine "D'Agostino", Policlinico Hospital, Bari
- March 2020-to date, Chief COVID/non-COVID Units Hospital Policlinico
- Director, Regional referral center for Familial Mediterranean Fever (FMF) (2017-)
- Director 4-yr Residency program Geriatrics (2016-)

### Education - Training

MD Degree (1981), Internist (1986), University of Bari Medical School. Research Fellow (Grant from Italian Ministry of University 1985-87) with Prof. R.H. Dowling at Guy's Hospital, London, UK on aspects of hepato-biliary pathophysiology. Assistant Professor at University of Bari Medical School (1991) leading basic and clinical studies on gastrointestinal motility and lipid homeostasis. Research Fellow and Staff Member with Prof. G.P. vanBerge-Henegouwen and Dr. K.J. van Erpecum at Academic Hospital Utrecht University, Netherlands (1993-95), Ph.D. Program. Associate Professor Internal Medicine at University of Bari (2001). Italian National Centre for Research (CNR) Fellowship (2005) at Harvard Medical School, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Boston, USA with Dr. D.Q.-H. Wang, Prof. J.T. LaMont in hepatobiliary lipidology, animal and human models of cholesterol cholelithiasis, gastrointestinal motility and enterohepatic circulation, methodology of research. Winner National Professorship of Internal Medicine, Bologna University, Italy (2010). Full Professor Internal Medicine Bari University, Italy (2015).

### Scientific achievements

- PhD (Utrecht University, Netherlands, 1995)
- Councillor PhD program Salute Pubblica, Medicina Clinica e Oncologia (cycle 35, 36, 37)(2019-21)
- Councillor PhD program SCIENZE DEL SUOLO E DEGLI ALIMENTI (cycle 30-34) (2013-2018)
- Past-director Residency programme in Internal Medicine 1 (2018-12)
- Visiting Professor ("I. Hatieganu" University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, 2009-)
- Past President European Society Clinical Investigation (ESCI) (2012-15)

- President ESCI Trust Foundation (2015-to date)
- Member Apulian Academy of Sciences
- National councillor (2013-17), Secretary (2015-17) Italian Society Internal Medicine (SIMI)
- President Apulian Section Italian Society Study Atherosclerosis (SISA) (2016-)
- Laurea H. Causa "C. Davila" University (Bucharest, Romania, 2013)
- Laurea H. Causa "I. Hatieganu" University (Cluj-Napoca, Romania, 2013)
- Laurea H. Causa University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Science and Technology (UMFST), Targu-Mures Romania (2018)
- American Gastroenterological Fellowship (AGAF) (2020)
- Recipient ESCI "A. Struyvenberg" Medal (2018)
- American Gastroenterological Association Fellowship (AGAF), 2019
- Member of several International Scientific Societies, Journal Editorial Boards, Honorary Member of the Romanian Society Gastroenterology and Hepatology (2012-)
- Mentor, panelist in Ph.D. programs University of Utrecht (Netherlands), Coimbra, Porto (Portugal), Pamplona (Spain).
- Mentor of 2 Early-stage foreign researchers (Foie Gras H2020 project, 2019-21)

### **Research Interests**

- **Prof. Portincasa has major research interests in the field of GASTROINTESTINAL MOTILITY, DIGESTION, NUTRIENTS, INTESTINAL PERMEABILITY, MICROBIOTA, GUT-LIVER AXIS, LIVER STEATOSIS AND LIPID METABOLISM, FOOD INTOLERANCE, CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE, CLINICAL AND FUNCTIONAL ULTRASONOGRAPHY, INFLAMMATORY MEDIATORS IN HEALTH AND DISEASE, RARE, GENETIC DISEASES (FAMILIAL MEDITERRANEAN FEVER). Since March 2020, he has been involved in issues related to COVID-19 (Lung, gastrointestinal tract, liver, metabolism, governance).**
- **He is actively involved in national/international academic-private networks to promote activities in the field of research training center for clinical studies and methodology of research, food composition and digestive properties, interaction food-microbiota, application of stable isotope tests and diagnostic/functional ultrasonography.**
- **Main academic international collaborations testified by scientific publications: Universities of Coimbra, Porto, Lisbon (Portugal), Saarbrücken (Germany), Warsaw (Poland), Cluj-Napoca, Targu-Mures, Bucarest (Romania), Einstein College of Medicine (New York, USA), Harvard Medical School (Boston, USA), Ludwig-Maximilian (Berlin, Germany), Pamplona (Spain), Lublin (Poland), Ghent (Belgium).**
- **Main private interactions: Aboca (San Sepolcro, Italy), Eurisko-Hitachi (Bari, Italy), Richen Force (Beijing, China)**
- He is leading a large group of residents, postgraduate PhD students in Italy and abroad.
- Application of ultrasonography in topics of internal medicine (gallbladder, liver, portal tract, spleen, stomach) in functional diseases.
- PI large studies on impaired gallbladder and gastrointestinal motility in gallstone patients & obese children, obese newborns, irritable bowel syndrome.
- Disrupted gastrointestinal motility and autonomic neuropathy in colonic inertia.
- Basic, translational, clinical research on diseases in lipid metabolism, enterohepatic circulation, hepatobiliary disorders, liver steatosis, bile acid metabolism, gastrointestinal motility permeability, microbiota, breath tests, nutritional aspects, Familial Mediterranean Fever and autoinflammatory disorders; metabolic disorders, intestinal microbiota, COVID-19 (epidemiological, clinical aspects)

- Isolation of family clusters with Familial Mediterranean Fever in Apulia and Basilicata, including the oldest patients in the world developing symptoms at age 86. Studies on genetic aspects of FMF and a novel blood-based test for functional diagnosis of FMF.
- Studies on COVID-19 pandemia
- First demonstration of a potent CCK- motilin-mediated prokinetic effect of cholestyramine alone on human gallbladder. Potential use of cholestyramine in the prevention/cure of cholesterol cholelithiasis.
- First demonstration/quantification of anhydrous cholesterol crystal in human bile (polarizing light microscopy).
- ApoE4 genotype influence on gallstone recurrence in humans.
- First demonstration ezetimibe prevents biliary cholesterol crystallization in mice and gallstone patients via inhibition of intestinal NPC1L1.
- Genetic and clinical studies on cholestatic liver diseases and liver steatosis in animal models and humans
- Original translational studies on aquaporin (AQP)-mediated water transport in intestine and liver.
- Development of novel breath tests for the study of gastrointestinal and liver functions
- Key role of mitochondrial function in physical exercise and liver diseases.
- First demonstration in humans that statins increase expression of the aquaporin channel AQP2 in urines, as marker of increased apical expression of AQP2 in the kidney collecting duct. Potential treatment of X-linked nephrogenic diabetes insipidus.
- Tribute to the Nobel Laureate in Chemistry 2003 Peter Agre, discoverer of the water transporters AQPs
- Contribution to epidemiological Italian studies on the fate of atrial fibrillation – The ARAPACIS study
- Large international study on genetic variants of NAV1.5 (channelopathies) in irritable bowel syndrome, role of sucrose-isomaltase genes and correlation genetic-symptoms.
- Study on intestinal permeability by innovative sugar-probe test, microbiota.
- Aspects of metabolic syndrome, fatty liver, lifestyles

### **Teaching**

- Undergraduate programme in Medicine (Italian/English: Medical Semeiology, Internal Medicine, Geriatrics)
- Postgraduate medical programs (Internal Medicine, Geriatrics, other specialties)
- Erasmus+ Delegate (School of Medicine 2000 and University of Bari -2015) for the mobility of undergraduate and postgraduate students
- Teaching coordinator 6-yr Degree Bari English Medical Curriculum (BEMC) since 2012
- Tutor-cotutor of Degree Theses and PhD Theses in Medicine and Biology in Bari and abroad
- Teacher for different Postgraduate Courses on Methodology of Research, Clinical Ultrasonography, Clinical Medicine

### **Clinical responsibilities**

- Internal Medicine (in- outpatients, clinical protocols in lipidology, gastrointestinal, cardiovascular, liver diseases, COVID, post-COVID, Familial mediterranean fever)
- Development of several diagnostic tests for the study of intestinal function, liver diseases.
- Implementation of diagnostic/invasive clinical ultrasonography
- Since February 2020: Head Divisions of Internal Medicine (total 40 beds) dedicated to COVID-19 patients

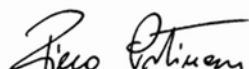
### **Main Research projects**

1. FEVER APULIAE - Febbre Mediterranea Familiare (FMF) in Puglia: studio del background genotipico, del microbiota intestinale e presentazione clinica. Outcome diagnostico-terapeutico e confronto con etnie differenti (70k euros). Region Apulia (Rare Diseases - all'art. 6 della l.r. n. 15 del 2018): 2019.
2. mtFoie Gras (RISE) (Horizon 2020). European Commission Program: Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions /Call: H2020-MSCA-RISE-2016 , RESEARCH AND INNOVATION STAFF EXCHANGE Proposal No: 734719 (54.000 euro): 2016.
3. Foie Gras (Horizon 2020 - Marie Curie Early Research Training). European Commission Program: Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions, Innovative Training Networks Programme/Call: H2020 — H2020-MSCA-ITN-2016/H2020-MSCA-ITN-2016, Proposal No: 722619 - - MSCA-ITN-ETN (516.122 euro): 2016; Vol. 3.2M (0.52M).
4. JPI HDHL DEDIPAC Knowledge Hub on Determinants of Diet and Physical Activity” (DEDIPAC KH EIO n. 240). Ministry of University (IT) INTEGRATED Research on Eating and Physical activity Interventions and Drivers” (INTREPID) (8000 euro). 2014.
5. UN Life Learning Project on Benefits of Physical Exercise and Lifestyles. Network Partnership with Gedik Universitesi, Istanbul, Turkey, July 2014. 2014.
6. Grant Alfa-Wassermann for research and innovation (2013b) 2013.
7. Grant Alfa-Wassermann for research and innovation (2013a) 2013.
8. Ministero della Salute (AIFA) (MRAR08P011) Cholesterol-lowering therapies for the treatment of nephrogenic diabetes insipidus (80.000 euro). 2013.
9. Fondazione Cassa Risparmio di Puglia. Studio mRNA sierici e fecali nei pazienti con carcinoma colon retto. Nuovo potenziale metodo di screening. Confronto con test standard di screening. (40.000 euro). 2012.
10. ERASMUS Intensive Programme 2011-12. Grant 2011-1-TR1-ERA10-27831. Canakkale (Turkey) 02-28 July 2012 (Coordinator Unit of Bari). 2012.

11. PhD Programme with Ministerio da Ciemcia, tecnologia e Ensino Superior FUNDACAO PARA A CIENCIA E A TECNOLOGIA - Portugal (code: SFRH/BD/62352/2009 - PTDC/DES/113580/2009). Effects of physical activity on mitochondrial function in humans"(Ines Concalves, 2011) Programme for 4-yr PhD. 2011.

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Bari 13.09.2021



## P. PORTINCASA – PAPERS IN JOURNALS WITH IMPACT FACTOR

1. Wang DQH, Portincasa P, Liu M, Tso P. Overcoming Ductal Block: Emergency ERCP and Sphincterotomy Plus Common Bile Duct Stenting Improves Therapeutic Outcomes in Severe Gallstone Pancreatitis. *Digestive Diseases and Sciences* 2021
2. Scardapane A, Villani L, Bavaro DF, Passerini F, Ianora AAS, Lucarelli NM, Angarano G, Portincasa P, Palmieri VO, Saracino A. Pulmonary Artery Filling Defects in COVID-19 Patients Revealed Using CT Pulmonary Angiography: A Predictable Complication? *Biomed Res Int* 2021;2021:8851736
3. Portincasa P, Di Ciaula A, Wang DQ. Longer Walking Distance, More Fat, Better Survival: Prognostic Indicators of Liver Cirrhosis. *J Gastrointest Liver Dis* 2021;30:8-12
4. Molina-Molina E, Shanmugam H, Di Ciaula A, Grattagliano I, Di Palo DM, Palmieri VO, Portincasa P. ((13)C)-Methacetin breath test provides evidence of subclinical liver dysfunction linked to fat storage but not lifestyle. *JHEP Rep* 2021;3:100203
5. Di Ciaula A, Portincasa P. Relationships between emissions of toxic airborne molecules and type 1 diabetes incidence in children: An ecologic study. *World Journal of Diabetes* 2021;12:673-684
6. Di Ciaula A, Portincasa P. Relationships between emissions of toxic airborne molecules and type 1 diabetes incidence in children: An ecologic study. *World Journal of Diabetes* 2021;12:673-684
7. Di Ciaula A, Carbone F, Shanmugam H, Molina-Molina E, Bonfrate L, Ministrini S, Montecucco F, Portincasa P. Adiponectin involved in portal flow hepatic extraction of 13C-metacethin in obesity and non-alcoholic fatty liver. *Eur J Intern Med* 2021
8. Cosola C, Rocchetti MT, di Bari I, Acquaviva PM, Maranzano V, Corciulo S, Di Ciaula A, Di Palo DM, La Forgia FM, Fontana S, De Angelis M, Portincasa P, Gesualdo L. An Innovative Synbiotic Formulation Decreases Free Serum Indoxyl Sulfate, Small Intestine Permeability and Ameliorates Gastrointestinal Symptoms in a Randomized Pilot Trial in Stage IIIb-IV CKD Patients. *Toxins* 2021;13:334
9. Carbone F, Ciaula AD, Pagano S, Minetti S, Ansaldo AM, Ferrara D, Belfiore A, Elia E, Pugliese S, Ostilio Palmieri V, Montecucco F, Vuilleumier N, Portincasa P. Anti-ApoA-1 IgGs predict resistance to waist circumference reduction after Mediterranean diet. *Eur J Clin Invest* 2021;51:e13410
10. Baldini F, Fabbri R, Eberhagen C, Voci A, Portincasa P, Zischka H, Vergani L. Adipocyte hypertrophy parallels alterations of mitochondrial status in a cell model for adipose tissue dysfunction in obesity. *Life Sci* 2021;265:118812
11. Asselta R, Paraboschi EM, Gerussi A, Cordell HJ, Mells GF, Sandford RN, Jones DE, Nakamura M, Ueno K, Hitomi Y, Kawashima M, Nishida N, Tokunaga K, Nagasaki M, Tanaka A, Tang R, Li Z, Shi Y, Liu X, Xiong M, Hirschfield G, Siminovitch KA, Canadian USBCC, Italian PBCGSG, Consortium U-P, Japan PBCGC, Carbone M, Cardamone G, Duga S, Gershwin ME, Seldin MF, Invernizzi P. X Chromosome Contribution to the Genetic Architecture of Primary Biliary Cholangitis. *Gastroenterology* 2021
12. 12. Altomare DF, Picciariello A, Di Ciaula A, Rinaldi M, De Fazio M, Portincasa P. Effects of temporary sacral nerve stimulation on gastrointestinal motility and function in patients with chronic refractory slow-transit constipation. *Tech Coloproctol* 2021;25:291-297. Zullo A, Fiorini G, Bassotti G, Bachetti F, Monica F, Macor D, Paoluzi OA, Scaccianoce G, Portincasa P, De Francesco V, Lorenzetti R, Saracino IM, Pavoni M, Vaira D. Upper Endoscopy in Patients with Extra-Oesophageal Reflux Symptoms: A Multicentre Study. *GE Port J Gastroenterol* 2020;27:312-317
13. 8. Wang HH, Portincasa P, Liu M, Tso P, Wang DQ. An Update on the Lithogenic Mechanisms of Cholecystokinin a Receptor (CCKAR), an Important Gallstone Gene for Lith13. *Genes (Basel)* 2020;11
14. 9. Wang HH, Lee DK, Liu M, Portincasa P, Wang DQH. Novel Insights into the Pathogenesis and Management of the Metabolic Syndrome. *Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology & Nutrition* 2020;23
15. 10. Wang HH, Bari O, Arnatt CK, Liu M, Portincasa P, Wang DQH. Activation of Estrogen Receptor G Protein–Coupled Receptor 30 Enhances Cholesterol Cholelithogenesis in Female Mice. *Hepatology* 2020
12. Vitellio P, Chira A, De Angelis M, Dumitrascu DL, Portincasa P. Probiotics in Psychosocial Stress and Anxiety. A Systematic Review. *Journal of Gastrointestinal and Liver Diseases* 2020;29:77-83
13. Van Gorp H, Huang L, Saavedra P, Vuylsteke M, Asaoka T, Prencipe G, Insalaco A, Ogunjimi B, Jeyaratnam J, Cataldo I, Jacques P, Vermaelen K, Dullaers M, Joos R, Sabato V, Stella A, Frenkel J, De Benedetti F, Dehoorne J, Haerynck F, Calamita G, Portincasa P, Lamkanfi M. Blood-based test for diagnosis and functional subtyping of familial Mediterranean fever. *Ann Rheum Dis* 2020;79:960-968
14. Vacca M, Celano G, Calabrese FM, Portincasa P, Gobbetti M, De Angelis M. The Controversial Role of Human Gut Lachnospiraceae. *Microorganisms* 2020;8
15. Stella A, Lamkanfi M, Portincasa P. Familial Mediterranean Fever and COVID-19: Friends or Foes? *Frontiers in Immunology* 2020;11:2443
16. Stachowska E, Portincasa P, Jamioł-Milc D, Maciejewska-Markiewicz D, Skonieczna-Żydecka K. The Relationship between Prebiotic Supplementation and Anthropometric and Biochemical Parameters in Patients with NAFLD-A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials. *Nutrients* 2020;12
17. Smyk W, Janik MK, Portincasa P, Milkiewicz P, Lammert F, Krawczyk M. COVID-19: Focus on the lungs but do not forget the gastrointestinal tract. *Eur J Clin Invest* 2020;50:e13276
18. Shanmugam H, Molina Molina E, Di Palo DM, Faienza MF, Di Ciaula A, Garruti G, Wang DQH, Portincasa P. Physical Activity Modulating Lipid Metabolism in Gallbladder Diseases. *Journal of Gastrointestinal and Liver Diseases* 2020;29:99-110
19. Rodriguez A, Catalan V, Ramirez B, Unamuno X, Portincasa P, Gomez-Ambrosi J, Fruhbeck G, Becerril S. Impact of adipokines and myokines on fat browning. *J Physiol Biochem* 2020
20. Puculek M, Baj J, Portincasa P, Sitarz M, Grochowski C, Radzikowska E. The morphology and application of stem cells in digestive system surgery. *Folia Morphologica* 2020
21. Portincasa P, Krawczyk M, Smyk W, Lammert F, Di Ciaula A. COVID-19 and nonalcoholic fatty liver disease: two intersecting pandemics. *European Journal of Clinical Investigation* 2020;n/a:e13338
22. Portincasa P, Krawczyk M, Machill A, Lammert F, Ciaula AD. Hepatic consequences of COVID-19 infection. Lapping or biting? *European Journal of Internal Medicine* 2020

23. Portincasa P, Di Ciaula A, Garruti G, Vacca M, De Angelis M, Wang DQ. Bile Acids and GPBAR-1: Dynamic Interaction Involving Genes, Environment and Gut Microbiome. *Nutrients* 2020;12
24. Morandi A, Zambon A, Di Santo SG, Mazzone A, Cherubini A, Mossello E, Bo M, Marengoni A, Bellelli G, Italian Study Group on D. Understanding Factors Associated With Psychomotor Subtypes of Delirium in Older Inpatients With Dementia. *J Am Med Dir Assoc* 2020;21:486-492 e7
25. Loconsole D, Passerini F, Palmieri VO, Centrone F, Sallustio A, Pugliese S, Grimaldi LD, Portincasa P, Chironna M. Recurrence of COVID-19 after recovery: a case report from Italy. *Infection* 2020;1-3
26. Iannuzzi L, Salzo AE, Angarano G, Palmieri VO, Portincasa P, Saracino A, Gelardi M, Dibattista M, Quaranta N. Gaining Back What Is Lost: Recovering the Sense of Smell in Mild to Moderate Patients After COVID-19. *Chem Senses* 2020;45:875-881
27. Iannuzzi L, Salzo AE, Angarano G, Palmieri VO, Portincasa P, Saracino A, Gelardi M, Dibattista M, Quaranta N. Gaining back what is lost: recovering the sense of smell in mild to moderate patients after COVID-19. *Chem Senses* 2020
28. Fruhbeck G, Fernandez-Quintana B, Paniagua M, Hernandez-Pardos AW, Valenti V, Moncada R, Catalan V, Becerril S, Gomez-Ambrosi J, Portincasa P, Silva C, Salvador J, Rodriguez A. FNDC4, a novel adipokine that reduces lipogenesis and promotes fat browning in human visceral adipocytes. *Metabolism* 2020;108:154261
29. Faienza MF, Corbo F, Carocci A, Catalano A, Clodoveo ML, Grano M, Wang DQH, D'Amato G, Muraglia M, Franchini C, Brunetti G, Portincasa P. Novel insights in health-promoting properties of sweet cherries. *Journal of Functional Foods* 2020;69
30. Faienza MF, Chiarito M, Molina-Molina E, Shanmugam H, Lammert F, Krawczyk M, D'Amato G, Portincasa P. Childhood obesity, cardiovascular and liver health: a growing epidemic with age. *World J Pediatr* 2020;16:438-445
31. Di Palo DM, Garruti G, Di Ciaula A, Molina-Molina E, Shanmugam H, De Angelis M, Portincasa P. Increased Colonic Permeability and Lifestyles as Contributing Factors to Obesity and Liver Steatosis. *Nutrients* 2020;12:E564
32. Di Ciaula A, Stella A, Bonfrate L, Wang DQH, Portincasa P. Gut Microbiota between Environment and Genetic Background in Familial Mediterranean Fever (FMF). *Genes (Basel)* 2020;11
33. Di Ciaula A, Portincasa P. The environment as a determinant of successful aging or frailty. *Mech Ageing Dev* 2020;188:111244
34. Di Ciaula A, Palmieri VO, Migliore G, Portincasa P, Group IMC. COVID-19, internists and resilience: the north-south Italy outbreak. *Eur J Clin Invest* 2020:e13299
35. Di Ciaula A, Baj J, Garruti G, Celano G, De Angelis M, Wang HH, Di Palo DM, Bonfrate L, Wang DQ-H, Portincasa P. Liver Steatosis, Gut-Liver Axis, Microbiome and Environmental Factors. A Never-Ending Bidirectional Cross-Talk. *Journal of Clinical Medicine* 2020;9:2648
36. Cerletti C, Colucci M, Storto M, Semeraro F, Ammolio CT, Incampo F, Costanzo S, De Bartolomeo G, Portincasa P, Barone M, Di Castelnuovo A, Semeraro N, Iacoviello L, de Gaetano G. Randomised trial of chronic supplementation with a nutraceutical mixture in subjects with non-alcoholic fatty liver disease. *Br J Nutr* 2020;123:190-197
37. Carratù P, Dragonieri S, Portincasa P. Right ventricular diastolic dysfunction might correlate with body mass index as well as with AHI in patients with obstructive sleep apnea syndrome. *Echocardiography* 2020;37:1701
38. Carratu P, Boffi R, Dragonieri S, Munarini E, Veronese C, Portincasa P. Covid-19 and ex-smokers: an underestimated prognostic factor? *Monaldi Arch Chest Dis* 2020;90
39. Carbone F, Di Ciaula A, Pagano S, Minetti S, Ansaldo AM, Ferrara D, Belfiore A, Elia E, Pugliese S, Palmieri VO, Montecucco F, Vuilleumier N, Portincasa P. Anti-ApoA-1 predicts resistance to waist circumference reduction after Mediterranean Diet. *Eur J Clin Invest* 2020:e13410
40. Caponio GR, Wang DQ, Di Ciaula A, De Angelis M, Portincasa P. Regulation of Cholesterol Metabolism by Bioactive Components of Soy Proteins: Novel Translational Evidence. *Int J Mol Sci* 2020;22
41. Caponio GR, Lorusso MP, Sorrenti GT, Marcotrigiano V, Difonzo G, De Angelis E, Guagnano R, Ciaula AD, Diella G, Logrieco AF, Montagna MT, Monaci L, De Angelis M, Portincasa P. Chemical Characterization, Gastrointestinal Motility and Sensory Evaluation of Dark Chocolate: A Nutraceutical Boosting Consumers' Health. *Nutrients* 2020;12
42. Bonfrate L, Di Palo DM, Celano G, Albert A, Vitellio P, De Angelis M, Gobetti M, Portincasa P. Effects of *Bifidobacterium longum* BB536 and *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* HN001 in IBS patients. *Eur J Clin Invest* 2020;50:1-10
43. Baldini F, Fabbri R, Eberhagen C, Voci A, Portincasa P, Zischka H, Vergani L. Adipocyte hypertrophy parallels alterations of mitochondrial status in a cell model for adipose tissue dysfunction in obesity. *Life Sci* 2020:118812
44. Baj J, Korona-Glowniak I, Forma A, Maani A, Sitarz E, Rahnema-Hezavah M, Radzikowska E, Portincasa P. Mechanisms of the Epithelial-Mesenchymal Transition and Tumor Microenvironment in *Helicobacter pylori*-Induced Gastric Cancer. *Cells* 2020;9
45. Baj J, Karakula-Juchnowicz H, Teresiński G, Buszewicz G, Ciesielka M, Sitarz E, Forma A, Karakula K, Flieger W, Portincasa P, Maciejewski R. COVID-19: Specific and Non-Specific Clinical Manifestations and Symptoms: The Current State of Knowledge. *Journal of Clinical Medicine* 2020;9
46. Baj J, Forma A, Sitarz M, Portincasa P, Garruti G, Krasowska D, Maciejewski R. *Helicobacter pylori* Virulence Factors-Mechanisms of Bacterial Pathogenicity in the Gastric Microenvironment. *Cells* 2020;10
47. Baj J, Brzozowska K, Forma A, Maani A, Sitarz E, Portincasa P. Immunological Aspects of the Tumor Microenvironment and Epithelial-Mesenchymal Transition in Gastric Carcinogenesis. *Int J Mol Sci* 2020;21
48. Altomare DF, Picciariello A, Di Ciaula A, Rinaldi M, De Fazio M, Portincasa P. Effects of temporary sacral nerve stimulation on gastrointestinal motility and function in patients with chronic refractory slow-transit constipation. *Techniques in Coloproctology* 2020
49. Zullo A, Fiorini G, Scaccianoce G, Portincasa P, De Francesco V, Vassallo R, Urban F, Monica F, Mogavero G, Amato A, Vaira D. Sequential therapy for first-line *Helicobacter pylori* eradication: 10- or 14-day regimen? *J Gastrointest Liver Dis* 2019;28:11-14
50. Vitellio P, Celano G, Bonfrate L, Gobetti M, Portincasa P, De Angelis M. Effects of *Bifidobacterium longum* and *Lactobacillus rhamnosus* on Gut Microbiota in Patients with Lactose Intolerance and Persisting Functional Gastrointestinal Symptoms: A Randomised, Double-Blind, Cross-Over Study. *Nutrients* 2019;11:1-15
51. Veloso CD, Belew GD, Ferreira LL, Grilo LF, Jones JG, Portincasa P, Sardao VA, Oliveira PJ. A Mitochondrial Approach to Cardiovascular Risk and Disease. *Curr Pharm Des* 2019;25:3175-3194

52. Unamuno X, Portincasa P, Fruhbeck G. A paradigm shift in bariatric surgery outcome evaluation? *Lancet Diabetes Endocrinol* 2019
53. Stella A, Portincasa P. Comment on: Improvement of MEFV gene variants classification to aid treatment decision making in familial Mediterranean fever-reply. *Rheumatology (Oxford)* 2019;kez574
54. Stella A, Cortellessa F, Scaccianoce G, Pivetta B, Settimo E, Portincasa P. Familial Mediterranean fever: breaking all the (genetic) rules. *Rheumatology (Oxford)* 2019;58:463-467
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