

Gea Oliveri Conti



📍 University of Catania– Department of Medica, Surgical Sciences and Advanced Technologies “G. F. Ingrassia” – Hygiene and Public health Section – Via Santa Sofia 87– 95123 Catania (Italia)

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🔗 <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=Jl5oYKQAAAAJ&hl=it&oi=ao>

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Date of birth 31/07/1973 | Nationality Italy

Current Position Temporary Researcher RTDb at University of Catania

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Summary

My research interests concern quali-quantitative studies of environmental health risks by a hygiene and public health point of view and environmental epidemiology using a combination of methodologies such as: sanitary and demographic population data, toxicological and ecotoxicological analysis, WHO validated software, U.S.EPA risk analysis approach, environmental contaminants databases. My focus has been on the development of preventive approach suggestions to prevent human diseases correlated to the human exposure to environmental contaminants. Applied research includes epigenetic, metabolomic and protein study on human, but also to characterization of environmental exposure and impacts on biota. I have been involved in several national and international projects aiming on environmental risk assessment (food, air, water, soil) to prevent human diseases both for classic and emerging contaminants. Since 2008, I am Researcher of the Environmental and Food Hygiene Laboratory (LIAA) accredited by ACCREDIA for 150 environmental parameters according UNI-EN-ISO17025 of Department of Medical, Surgical and Advanced Technologies “G.F. Ingrassia” of the Catania University for the scientific and technical training of young researchers working on environmental monitoring, and health and environmental risk assessment. Coauthor of the first patent for micro and nanoplastics in environmental matrices, and I have published more than 144 scientific papers in ISI journals on various topics in toxicology, ecotoxicology, environmental epidemiology and hygiene. I am expert consultant as epidemiologist for EU-NETVAL JRC-project and FAO for microplastics in food and environment.

Bibliometric Indicators

SCOPUS: h-index 41, documents 144
Google Scholar: h-index 46.

WORK EXPERIENCE

From 02/11/2021 to today

Temporary Researcher (b)

University of Catania – Department of Medica, Surgical Sciences and Advanced Technologies “G. F. Ingrassia”

- Study of the impacts of air, water, soil and food pollution on humans; applied and experimental ecotoxicology and toxicology, study of the toxicological effects of micro and nanoplastics on biota, including humans. Study of the effects of pollution through exposure to environmental matrices.
- Cotutor of 2 PhD students in Earth and Environmental Sciences of the University of Catania.

From 2018 to 2021

Temporary Researcher (a)

University of Catania – Department of Medica, Surgical Sciences and Advanced Technologies “G. F. Ingrassia”

- Study of the impacts of air, water, soil and food pollution on humans; applied and experimental ecotoxicology and toxicology, study of the toxicological effects of micro and nanoplastics on biota, including humans.
- Cotutor of 1 PhD student in Earth and Environmental Sciences of the University of Catania.

From 2008 to 2018

Postdoctoral Researcher

University of Catania – Department of Medica, Surgical Sciences and Advanced Technologies “G. F. Ingrassia”

- “Food risk assessment: exposure to Ochratoxin A through the consumption of grapes, wheat, pistachios and coffee” (Valutazione del rischio alimentare: esposizione a Ocratossina A attraverso il consumo di uva, grano, pistacchi e caffè”, DR del 31/12/2007 n.11952).
- “Monitoring of exposure to Bisphenol A in the healthy population of the Province of Catania” (Monitoraggio dell’esposizione al Bisfenolo A nella popolazione sana della Provincia di Catania” (DR. del 15 /01/2014 n. 98).

Risk assessment research which integrates the biochemical and metabolomic observations instrumental to the population study.

From 2015 to 2017

Consultant

Red Biotech S.r.L.

- “Preparation of immunoglobulin depleted colostrum”, Research and experimental development in the field of biotechnology.

2016

Visiting Researcher

- Harvard–MIT University, Boston, USA.
- Visiting researcher on “Department of Environmental Health” at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Harvard–MIT University. Landmark Center. Rm 404-M West 401, Park Drive, Boston MA 02215, USA. Direction of the research group for the development of the project of international importance entitled: "Evaluation of short and long term effects of air pollution on mortality and morbidity in cities of East Sicily, Italy".

FROM 2007 TO 2007

Tutor and Researcher

Consorzio Catania Ricerche, Via Antonino di San Giuliano, 262, Catania

- Tutor and Researcher respectively in the WO and RIC action of the POR Sicily project Measure 3.13 Project n. 1999/IT.16.1.PO.011/3.13/ 7.2.4 /339 Prot. 238 “Training for research in the field of remediation of contaminated sites” Action RIC e POR Sicily Measure 3.13 Project n.1999/IT.16.1.PO.011/3.13/ 7.2.4 /339 Prot.238 “Azione WO. The employment relationship was concluded with the research report entitled: "Control of the effectiveness of the remediation of sites contaminated by asbestos".

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

2002

Degree in Biological Sciences (Five-years)

University of Catania

- Experimental thesis: "MethylTerButyl Ether, a new emerging problem in atmospheric pollution".

2006-2007

Certified internship at the Functional Genomics Center of Catania, Section of Neurosciences, CNR.

2007

PhD in Applied Biomedical Sciences XIX Cycle

University of Catania

2009

National School "Analytical Methodologies in Mass Spectrometry"

University of Parma

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue(s)

Italian

Other language(s)

UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
Listening	Reading	Interaction	Speaking	
B2	B2	B2	B2	B2

English

Levels: A1/2: Basic user - B1/2: Independent user - C1/2 Proficient user

Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL AWARDS

2019

"Young Researchers Award" of the Italian Society of Hygiene "(SIH). Head of the project "Comparison between the various contributions to food exposure to micro and nanoplastics" during the "Days of scientific research and professional experiences of young people", Rome on 20 and 21 December 2019, Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Rome.

2021

"Best Researcher Award" (certificate n. 10232, January 2, 2021), International Research Awards on New Science Inventions, NESIN 2020 Awards, "for the Contribution and Honorable Achievement in Innovative Research Given under seal of the company", India.

2021

"Outstanding Scientist Award" by VDGGOOD Professional Association, International Scientist Awards on Engineering, Science and Medicine, 28 & 29-Aug 2021, Trivandrum, India

2021

"Best innovator woman" by Italian Association of Women Inventors and Innovators, 11/11/2021 Rome.

2010-2011	Teacher of "General and Food Hygiene" (5CFU - 50 hours - S.S. D. MED 42) in the integrated course of "Hygiene and Parasitology" of the Degree in Food Science and Technology as per DR of 05.10.2010 N. 6092
2011-2016	Lecturer for teaching the module "Techniques for monitoring and assessing the impact on the environment and on health from Biological Risk" (SSD MED / 42) as per DR of 1.07.2011 no. 3269 for the Second Level Master POR SICILIA ESF 2007/2013 of the University of Catania, entitled "Monitoring and assessment of mutagenic, carcinogenic and teratogenic environmental risk" , 1st and 2nd edition.
2012 today	Professor of General and Applied Hygiene for the Interclass Degree Course in Sociology and Social Service, Social Assistant Curriculum, Dept. of Political Sciences, University of Catania.
2015-2018	Professor of General and Applied Hygiene. Italian Center for Studies of Osteopathy (CSDOI). School recognized by the ROI: Italian Osteopaths Registry.
2018 today	Professor of General and Applied Hygiene for the Degree courses: (LM) of the Degree Course in Rehabilitation Sciences of the Health Professions (2CFU); General and Applied Hygiene (2 CFU) for the Degree in Speech Therapy (3CFU), General and Applied Hygiene for the Degree in Physiotherapy (2 CFU), School of Medicine, University of Catania.
2018-2021	Professor of General and Applied Hygiene for the Degree in Audioprosthetic Techniques (3CFU), School of Medicine, University of Catania.
2020 – today	Professor of "Biomarkers of environmental risk for cancer prevention", at the International Doctorate "Basic and applied Biomedical Sciences", Department of Biomedical and Biotechnological Sciences (BIOMETEC), University of Catania.
2019 today	Professor of "Applied General Hygiene - Public Health", 6 CFU, Master's Degree Course in Social Policies and Services (LM87) of the University of Catania.

PARTICIPATION AND / OR RESPONSIBILITY FOR PROJECTS IN THE LAST 10 YEARS

- **Direction** of the project "Evaluation of short and long term effects of air pollution on mortality and morbidity in cities of East Sicily, Italy" on the "Exposure, Epidemiology and Risk (EER) program" - Department of Environmental Health at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Harvard – MIT University. Landmark Center. Boston, MA 02215, USA. (2016-2020)
- **Participant** in the project "Valorisation of water resources for the optimization of aquaculture in the lake environment: creation of an intensive self-purifying model for fat in company reservoirs - sAMPEI, Measure 2.51 PO EMFF 2014-2020, 1.053.000, 00 euro, funded by the Regional Department of Agriculture, Rural Development and Mediterranean Fisheries - Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (2021-2023).
- **Participant** in the project "Study of the neurodegenerative potential of PM2.5 in animal and human cells". Financed through DR 3612 PON AIM Line 1. DD 407 of 27.02.2018 AIM attraction action 1.2 AXIS I NOP R I 2014-2020. Activity line 2 - CUP E 68D9001290001 AIM proposal 1887257, Activity line 2 Specialization: HEALTH 06 / M1 / MED42 (2020-2023).
- **Participant** in the project "Study of the possible role of microPLASTics of environmental origin in the etiopathogenesis of inflammatory bowel disease, colon-rectal carcinoma and major depression." - PLASTICROON (2020-2023). Funded through the 2020/2022 University Research Incentive Plan of the University of Catania (€ 68,000.00).
- **Participant** in the project "Innovative tools for the mitigation of water pollution from microplastics to safeguard the environment and health - ACQUAPLANET". NATIONAL RESEARCH AND INNOVATION OPERATIONAL PROGRAM - MISE, (2020-2023).
- **Participant** in the ShazzAn project "Industrial symbiosis for the reduction of CO2 emissions and its biochemical conversion into Algal biomass producing bioactive molecules for the prevention of Tumors. A synthesis between circular economy, health and environment" (2021-2024).
- **Participant** in the project "Smart algal bio-based process digital control systems for value all products development and biochemical CO2 conversion "SYMgreen Project, NATIONAL RESEARCH AND INNOVATION OPERATIONAL PROGRAM - MISE, 2021-2024 «Innovation» Line
- **Participant** in the project "Conversion of greenhouse gas (CO2) emissions into algal biomass for the production of bioactive anticancer substances. Implementation of green industrial symbiosis to support preventive medicine" - GrEEnoncoprev (2021-2024). - Axis IV of the PON Research and innovation 2014-2020 Education and research for recovery-REACT-EU-Ministerial Decree n. 1062 of 08.10.2021-GREEN

EXTRA-INSTITUTIONAL ROLES and ACTIVITIES and (in the last 10 years)

- 2019 today Expert member of the Interdisciplinary Waste and Health Committee (CIRS) set up at the Chamber of Deputies, Rome .

- 2019 today Componente del Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission come "Expert" - Epidemiology - "Official Invitation to the Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission Expert Meeting on chemical selection for the EU-NETVAL thyroid validation study.
- 2021 -2022 Expert Consultant for Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO, ONU).

FURTHER INFORMATION

Patents

- 2018 - Co-author of the Italian patent 10201800003337 (03/07/2018) "Metodo per l'estrazione e la determinazione di microplastiche in campioni a matrici organiche e inorganiche"
- 2019 - Submission of international patent PCT / IB2019 / 051838 del 7/03/2019 "Method for the extraction and determination of microplastics in samples with organic and inorganic matrices" accepted in 2020 South Korea, and 2022 EPO EU Patent

National Qualification ASN Full Professor/ Associated professor

- 2017 National Qualification Associated Professor (ASN-MUR) in Preventive Medicine and Public Health (06-M1-MED / 42).
- National Qualification of Full Professor (ASN-MUR) in Preventive Medicine and Public Health (06-M1-MED / 42).

Memberships

- Author of 29 Book Chapters for Italian and International Publishers
- Associated to Italian Society of Hygiene and Preventive Medicine (SIItI) since 2004
- Associated to European Public Health Association (EUPHA) since 2012
- Associated to Italian Innovator and investigator Women (ITWIIN) since 2021

Member of the editorial boards

- Member of the Editorial Boards of several impacted and indexed scientific journals impattate e indexate such as: Molecular Medicine Reports (IF. 2.952, Q2, Spandidos), International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health (IF. 3.390, MDPI), Hygiene (MDPI), The Open Journal of Public Health (IF. 0.670, Bentham), Frontiers in Bioscience Landmark (IF. 4.009, IMR), Scientific Reports, (IF. 5.134, Nature), Frontiers in Immunology (Frontiers, IF 7.561), Plos One (PLOS, IF 3.240) ecc...

Personal data

According to law 679/2016 of the Regulation of the European Parliament of 27th April 2016, I hereby express my consent to process and use my data provided in this CV

Date: Catania, 25 Januari 2023

Signature: Gea Oliveri Conti

