SUBJECT: 2018 Rita Levi Montalcini Prize

Dear Doctor De Rosa,

during the National Week of Multiple Sclerosis, the Italian MS Society, through its Foundation, will award the Rita Levi Montalcini Prize to a researcher. The prize was established in 1999 to recognize the commitment of valuable researchers in the field of multiple sclerosis and the impact of their studies on people with MS.

We are very pleased to inform you that Italian MS Society has assigned the 2018 Rita Levi Montalcini Prize to you with the motivation included in this letter.

The prize will be awarded to you in the morning of May 30th in Rome during the celebration of the World Multiple Sclerosis Day.

We are looking forward to your continuous contributions to give added value to the research on multiple sclerosis and to the Italian MS Society’s mission.

Best Regards

Mario A. Battaglia
Chairman of Italian MS Foundation
Veronica De Rosa - 2018 Rita Levi Montalcini Prize motivations

The Rita Levi Montalcini Prize was born in 1999 to recognize the commitment of young people in scientific research on multiple sclerosis.

With the Rita Levi Montalcini Prize the Foundation wants to exploit the extraordinary human capital represented by researchers as the true driving force for a world free of multiple sclerosis.

The Italian MS Foundation nominates doctor Veronica De Rosa for the assignment of the 2018 Rita Levi Montalcini Prize. The prize will be awarded in the morning of May 30th in Rome during the celebration of the World Multiple Sclerosis Day.

Doctor Veronica De Rosa is a CNR researcher, and she is currently working as a group leader at the Laboratory of Immunology, Istituto per l'Endocrinologia e l'Oncologia Sperimentale del Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche in Naples. She contributed significantly to the novel area of investigation recently defined as “immunometabolism” by demonstrating that leptin, an adipocyte-derived hormone, could influence susceptibility to multiple sclerosis in experimental models of the disease and in humans through an inhibition of Treg cell proliferation.

Veronica De Rosa started her training in 1999 in Experimental Immunology while a student at the School of Biotechnology, in University of Naples She developed her research work for her degree in the Laboratory of Immunology at the DBPCM, University of Naples. During her PhD Dr. De Rosa contributed to remarkable scientific achievements in the context of immune tolerance and metabolic regulation, particularly in the context of susceptibility to multiple sclerosis. Her recent studies have shown significant translational relevance for the metabolic manipulation of T cell tolerance and the control of Treg cell function in autoimmunity. Finally, very recently Dr. De Rosa developed a novel line of investigation on how epigenetic events and chromatin remodelling control Foxp3 expression in human Treg cells in normal and pathologic conditions such as MS. This completely novel and fully independent topic of investigation is the main goal of her current research for her Group at IEOS-CNR.

Doctor De Rosa is author of 48 original scientific papers on multiple sclerosis, of which 6 as a first name, 4 as last name and 4 international book chapter.

We believe that Dr. De Rosa is providing a significant added value to the research on progressive multiple sclerosis by her outstanding work in this field.