Maria Serena Chiriacò, PhD

Maria Serena Chiriacò gained her master degree cum laude in Human Biology in 2008 at Università del Salento; from May 2009 to June 2012 she attended her PhD in "Intelligent Systems and Technologies" course at Università del Salento, Scuola Superiore ISUFI, Lecce- Italy, at the end of which she discussed her PhD thesis entitled "Protein EIS biosensors for on-chip diagnostics". Currently, she works as permanent researcher at Nanotec Lecce. She gained high-level experiences in the field of Lab-On-Chip devices for on-field diagnostics. Her skills vary from the design, fabrication and applications of electrochemical sensors to microfluidics and on-chip pre-treatment of biological samples, as confirmed by the publication of valuable papers in the field. Biological applications of the developed microfluidic and sensing platforms range from diagnostic tools to study biorecognition events (antigen/antibody, cell-cell, antibodies/cells interactions) to the detection of allergens or toxins from food or environmental samples, to the on-chip separation of particles. She has also expertise in optical, laser and soft lithography and in the employ of photosensitive polymeric materials for microfluidic applications. She is author of around ten oral contributions to international conferences, in some of which she gained special awards. She is also a reviewer for international leading journals in the biosensors sector like Biosensors and Bioelectronics, Lab on a Chip, Analytica Chimica Acta and Talanta. She is also project reviewer for International Research Funding Organizations. Thanks to the highly multidisciplinary environment in which she built her experience, she has been involved in the realization of national projects like Rinovatis, Onev, Safemeat, BioMag, concerning biological application of devices and in industrial projects ("Development of impedentiomentric biochip for gynaecological diagnosis" with Ekuberg Pharma – 2011). Maria Serena Chiriacò is co-author of around 25 scientific publications with H-index of 12 and she is PI of a European Project: "SMILE – A SAW-MIP Integrated device for oraL cancer Early detection" funded among ATTRACT-EU consortium and local coordinator for CNR NANOTEC unit of a National PRIN 2017 project: "Prostate cancer: disentangling the relationships with tumor microenvironment to better model and target tumor progression".

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