

## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

### **PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Walter Fries, born on 05.06.1958 in Nuremberg (Germany)  
Citizenship: Italian  
Private address: Via Gagini 4,  
98122 Messina, Italy  
private: Phone: ++39/090/48814; mobile: ++39/3384435787

### **PRESENT ACADEMIC RANK AND POSITION**

Full Professor of Gastroenterology,  
Head of the Clinical Unit of Gastroenterology and Chronic Bowel Disorders since 2010  
Dept. of Clinical and Experimental Medicine  
Policlinico Universitario “G Martino”  
University of Messina  
Via Consolare Valeria, 1  
98125 Messina – Italy  
Phone ++39/090/2212380, fax ++39/090/2212373, e-mail: fwalter@unime.it

### **SUPPLEMENTARY POSITIONS**

#### Local (Province of Messina and Sicily)

- July 2012 nomination by the regional health care authorities as representative of HUB-center, Policlinico “G. Martino” – Messina, of the regional network for the therapeutic management of Inflammatory Bowel Diseases concerning biologic therapies.
- October 2012 nomination by the regional health care authorities as representative for rare gastrointestinal disorders, Dept. of Clinical and Experimental Medicine, Policlinico “G Martino” – Messina.
- Local coordinator for the Policlinico “G. Martino” – Messina, of the IBD-Unit for the interdisciplinary approach for chronic inflammatory bowel disorders.
- Former President of the Section-Sicily of the Italian Society of Gastroenterology (SIGE) 2012-2018.
- Former member of the joint commission “teaching staff/students” of the Medical School of the University of Messina.

#### National (Italy)

- Chair of the Scientific Committee of the Italian Group for the Study of Inflammatory Bowel Diseases (Ig-IBD) 2010 – 2013; member of Ig-IBD since 2005.
- Member of the Directory Board of the National Organization for Accademic Gastroenterology teaching (UNIGASTRO) 2003-2006.
- Chairman of the National Union of Assistant Professors in Gastroenterology (CoNaRiGe) 2008-2014.

## **EDUCATION**

1979 – High School graduation  
1979 – 1987 Medical School of Padua (Italy)  
1987 – Medical degree  
1987 – Medical licensure for Italy  
1987 -1990 Research Internship at the University of Erlangen (Germany); Experimental Surgery  
1991 – 1994 – Gastroenterology Training at the University of Padua (Italy)  
1995 – 1996 - Fellowship in Gastroenterology, University of Padua  
1997 - 2014 – Assistant Professor of Gastroenterology, University of Messina (Italy)  
2014 -2019 -Associate Professor of Gastroenterology, University of Messina (Italy)  
since December 2019 Full Professor of Gastroenterology, University of Messina; Italy

## **PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS**

- Member of the American Gastroenterological Association since 2007
- Fellow of the American Gastroenterological Association since 2015
- Member of Italian Society of Gastroenterology (SIGE) since 1991; President of the Section-Sicily from 2012 - 2018
- Member of the European Crohn's and Colitis Organization (ECCO) since 2008
  - Participant of the ECCO workshop on mucosal Healing (2010/2011)
  - Participant of the European Society of Pathology (ESP)/ECCO Consensus meeting for histopathology of Inflammatory Bowel Diseases (2012/2013)
- Member of the Italian Group for the Study of Inflammatory Bowel Diseases (Ig-IBD) since 2006;
  - Chair of the Scientific Committee of the Ig-IBD 2010 – 2013
  - Scientific Director of the V Congress of Ig-IBD held in Naples, 2-03.12.2011

## **BOARD CERTIFICATION**

Gastroenterology 1994

## **CLINICAL PRACTICE INTERESTS**

Gastroenterology, Inflammatory bowel diseases, celiac disease, pancreatic diseases, therapy of IBD, clinics of IBD, epidemiology of IBD, metabolic bone disease.

## **BASIC RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Intestinal permeability, tight junctions, inflammation

## **SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITY**

Author of over 120 publications in international peer-reviewed journals concerning intestinal permeability (clinical and experimental), inflammation, and metabolic osteopathy in the course of gastrointestinal diseases, and clinical studies in IBD patients; total impact factor: ~250; h-factor: 37 (source Scopus, access January 2020).

Basic research

11 publications (among them in: Gastroenterology, Gut, Aliment Pharmacol Ther, Am J Physiol, etc) on topics related to experimental colitis and its impact on epithelial permeability; former studies, 12 publications, concerning the calcium metabolism and metabolic bone disease in different animal models.

Clinical research

Coordinator of a national study on IBD in the elderly. Collaboration in several Italian nationwide clinical studies on IBD therapy (e.g. prevention of post-surgery recurrence, biologics in RCU treatment, etc), and epidemiological studies on genetics, intestinal permeability, viral hepatitis, and celiac disease in IBD patients (published in Am J Gastroenterol, Inflammatory Bowel Disease, Clinical Gastroenterol Hepatol, Dig Liver Dis, J Crohns Colitis, etc. )

Actually involved in 3 ongoing observational international studies in IBD, in 2 international phase III studies and in 1 phase II study on biologic therapies in IBD.

**FUND RAISING**

2004 ministerial grant (PRIN - research project of national interest) (project n. 2004063577): predisposing factors for intestinal inflammation, intestinal permeability and genetic determinants.

2007 three-years third part funding for a PhD position (sponsor: Giuliani).

2009 research fundings for the project: *Ileal tight-junction (TJ) alterations in experimental colitis.* (sponsor: Schering-Plough)

2010 One-year funding for a research position on: *“Implementation of the national registry of IBD with emphasis on biologic therapies”* (sponsor: Abbot).

2012 One-year funding for a research position on: *“monitoring prognostic and predictive factors of inflammatory bowel diseases”* (Sponsor: Abbott)

2012 Liberal grant (Sponsor: MSD).

2013 Research grant: *“Evaluation of the outcome of surgery in Crohn’s disease”* (Sponsor: Ferring).

**TEACHING ACTIVITY, UNIVERSITY OF MESSINA**

School of Medicine

3<sup>rd</sup> year: lessons in Gastroenterological Physiopathology

4<sup>th</sup> year: lessons in Gastroenterology and tutorial activity

5<sup>th</sup> year: lessons in Evidence Based Medicine

Post-doc training

Teaching activity in several specialty training programs such as Gastroenterology, Gerontology, Internal Medicine, Rheumatology, Surgery and Hematology.

School of Dieticians (3<sup>rd</sup> year): Gastroenterology

School of Physiotherapies (2<sup>nd</sup> year): Gastroenterology

**TEACHING ACTIVITY, NON-ACCADEMIC**

Organization of CME courses for General Practitioners on Gastroenterology-related topics

Teaching activity in the regional education program for GP

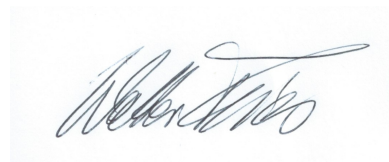
**EDITORIAL ACTIVITY**

Editorial Board (Contributing Associate Editors-in-Chief) of the “World Journal of Gastroenterology” dal 2010 (ISSN 1007-9327 (print) ISSN 2219-2840 (online)).

Editorial Board Member of “World Journal of Gastrointestinal Pathophysiology” since 2010 (online ISSN 2150-5330)

Editorial Board Member of “International Journal of Gastroenterology Disorders and Therapy (IJGDT)” since 2014 (online ISSN 2150-5330)

Editorial Board Member of “Gastroenterology Research and Practice” since 2018 (online ISSN: 1687-6121).



Messina 15.05.2021