

MARIELE GATTO, MD, PhD

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Publications (Pubmed): 142

H-index (Scopus): 39



Current position

Since 1/04/2023

Associate Professor for Rheumatology

Unit of Rheumatology

Dept of Clinical & Biological Sciences University of Turin

Professional experience

2021-2023

Full-time researcher

Unit of Rheumatology

Department of Medicine

University of Padova

2020-2021

Post-doctoral ResearcherProject: *Immunophenotyping and functional characteristics of B cells in patients developing arthritis following administration of checkpoint inhibitors*

Department of Rheumatology and Inflammation Research

University of Gothenburg

2016-2019

PhD student (Doctor Europeus)

University of Padova and Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin

Lab research at Prof. Thomas Dörner's B cell Lab

Thesis: *Novel Pathogenic Pathways and Therapeutic Implications in Lupus Nephritis: The Emerging Role of PTX3-Related Immunity*

Clinical activity

- Dr Gatto leads a specialized outpatient clinics dedicated to the diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up of patients with systemic connective tissue diseases and especially SLE
- Dr Gatto works at the inpatient clinic dedicated to systemic rheumatic diseases, where patients with acute conditions/disease relapses are admitted for diagnosis and treatment
- Rheumatology Day Hospital at home clinic

Research**Laboratory:**

- study of animal models (NZB/W F1 and MRL/lpr) in vivo, with a particular emphasis on exploring new pathogenetic pathways. This includes investigating experimental molecules administered for therapeutic purposes in these models.
- Identification of serological or tissue markers in patients with autoimmune rheumatic diseases, especially in systemic lupus erythematosus, for clinical stratification and prognosis.
- Isolation and phenotypic characterization of circulating microvesicles and clinical correlation in patients with autoimmune rheumatic diseases, particularly in idiopathic inflammatory myopathies.

Epidemiological Research:

- Cohort studies in patients with systemic lupus erythematosus.
- Focus on early treatment and prediction of response in SLE
- Phenotyping and disease trajectory in LN
- Identification of clinical factors predicting therapy response in patients with systemic autoimmune diseases.
- Identification of risk factors for the development of severe respiratory system involvement patterns in patients with idiopathic inflammatory myopathies.

Other ongoing activities:

- PI or SI in several RCT on SLE and LN
- Mentoring of medical students and residents in Rheumatology
- Coordinator of the Italian Society of Rheumatology (SIR) study group on Lupus Nephritis (2025-2027)

Scientific Collaborations

Karolinska Institutet, Sweden	Several ongoing studies on the characterization of SLE and LN patients <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clustering based on immunophenotyping - Drug response according to endotype - Drug-elicited modification in the B cell repertoire and clinical correlates - Characterization of the dual tissue-blood signature in lupus nephritis
3TR Horizon2020	Molecular diagnosis of patients with ARD (section: SLE)
ELUSIDATE protocol	Partner in the EUROPEAN LUpuS Inception-Cohort Developing initiATive
Belimumab registry/ BERLISS studies	Italian belimumab registry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SLE patients - Belimumab as initial treatment in LN
Voclosporin registry	Italian voclosporin registry in LN
REVEAL study	Partner in the use of real-life Anifrolumab nationwide study in Italy

Late Research grants

2023-2025	Local research award at University of Turin
2022-2023	Italian Ministry for Research Grant and EU endorsed project (PRIN) in Life Sciences (as PI): The role and characterization of circulating microvesicles as early predictors of development of autoimmune rheumatic diseases
2021	Italian Society of Rheumatology (SIR) 2021 best oral presentation “Early changes in circulating B cells portend flares in patients with SLE treated with belimumab”,
2021	Stiftelsen Professor Nanna Svartz funding (Sweden) Study of early B cell abnormalities in checkpoint-inhibitors related arthritis in patients with metastatic melanoma

Selected publications 2020-2025

1. **Gatto M**, Frontini G, Furlan C, Calatroni M, Cruciani C, Reggiani F, Bellis E, Iaccarino L, Sinico RA, Moroni G, Doria A. Three years is the minimal effective duration of sustained clinical remission which prevents impaired kidney function and damage accrual in lupus nephritis. *Ann Rheum Dis*. 2025 Apr;84(4):594-600.
2. **Gatto M**, Cruciani C, Bellis E, Pilo PFG, Radin M, Iaccarino L, Rossi D, Roccatello D, Iagnocco A, Doria A, Sciascia S. Administration of belimumab prior to standard immunosuppression in patients with early active lupus hinders accrual of new EULAR/ACR criteria within the first 12 months of treatment. *Lupus Sci Med*. 2025 Oct 22;12(2):e001662.
3. Franco C, Giannella A, Gasparotto M, Zanatta E, Ghirardello A, Pettorossi F, Rahmé Z, Depascale R, Ragno D, Bevilacqua G, Bellis E, Iaccarino L, Doria A, Ceolotto G, **Gatto M**. Circulating extracellular vesicles and small non-coding RNAs cargo in idiopathic inflammatory myopathies reveal differences across myositis subsets. *J Autoimmun*. 2024 Jul;147:103255.
4. **Gatto M**, Frontini G, Calatroni M, Reggiani F, Depascale R, Cruciani C, Quaglini S, Sacchi L, Trezzi B, Bonelli GD, L'Imperio V, Vaglio A, Furlan C, Zen M, Iaccarino L, Sinico RA, Doria A, Moroni G. Effect of Sustained Clinical Remission on the Risk of Lupus Flares and Impaired Kidney Function in Patients With Lupus Nephritis. *Kidney Int Rep*. 2024 Jan 19;9(4):1047-1056.
5. Rahmé Z, Franco C, Cruciani C, Pettorossi F, Zaramella A, Realdon S, Iaccarino L, Frontini G, Moroni G, Doria A, Ghirardello A, **Gatto M**. Characterization of Serum Cytokine Profiles of Patients with Active Lupus Nephritis. *Int J Mol Sci*. 2023;24(19):14883.
6. Parodis I, Gomez A, Lindblom J, Chow JW, Sjöwall C, Sciascia S, **Gatto M**. B Cell Kinetics upon Therapy Commencement for Active Extrarenal Systemic Lupus Erythematosus in Relation to Development of Renal Flares: Results from Three Phase III Clinical Trials of Belimumab. *Int J Mol Sci*. 2022 Nov 11;23(22):13941.
7. **Gatto M**, Bjursten S, Jonsson C, et al. Early increase of circulating transitional B cells and autoantibodies to joint-related proteins in patients with metastatic melanoma developing checkpoint inhibitor-induced inflammatory arthritis. *Arthritis Rheumatol*. 2023 May;75(5):856-863. doi: 10.1002/art.42406. Epub 2023 Mar 14. PMID: 3640957
8. **Gatto M**, Radice F, Saccon F, et al. Clinical and histological findings at second but not at first kidney biopsy predict end-stage kidney disease in a large multicentric cohort of patients with active lupus nephritis. *Lupus Sci Med*. 2022;9(1):e000689.
9. Parodis I, Gomez A, Chow JW, Borg A, Lindblom J, **Gatto M**. Early B Cell and Plasma Cell Kinetics Upon Treatment Initiation Portend Flares in Systemic Lupus Erythematosus: A Post-Hoc Analysis of Three Phase III Clinical Trials of Belimumab. *Front Immunol*. 2022;13:796508. doi:10.3389/fimmu.2022.796508.
10. Parodis I, Gomez A, Lindblom J, Chow JW, Doria A, **Gatto M**. Early Changes in B and Plasma Cell Subsets and Traditional Serological Markers as Predictors of SRI-4 Response to Therapy in Systemic Lupus Erythematosus. *Front Med*. 2022;9.
11. **Gatto M**, Saccon F, Andreoli L, et al. Durable renal response and safety with add-on belimumab in patients with lupus nephritis in real-life setting (BeRLiSS-LN). Results from a large, nationwide, multicentric cohort. *J Autoimmun*. 2021;124:102729.
12. **Gatto M**, Radu CM, Luisetto R, et al. Immunization with Pentraxin3 prevents transition from subclinical to clinical lupus nephritis in lupus-prone mice: Insights from renal ultrastructural findings. *J Autoimmun*. 2020;111:102443.
13. **Gatto M**, Saccon F, Zen M, et al. Early Disease and Low Baseline Damage as Predictors of Response to Belimumab in Patients With Systemic Lupus Erythematosus in a Real-Life Setting. *Arthritis Rheumatol*. 2020;72(8):1314-1324
14. **Gatto M**, Wiedemann A, Nomovi N, Reiter K, Schrezenmeier E, Rose T, Szelinski F, Lino AC, Valentino S, Ghirardello A, Dörner T, Doria A. Circulating Pentraxin3-Specific B Cells Are Decreased in Lupus Nephritis. *Front Immunol*. 2019 Jan 25;10:29

23rd January 2026

Motivation Letter: Renewal of Candidacy to the SLEuro Executive Committee

Dear Members of the SLEuro Executive Committee,

I am writing to express my motivation to renew my candidacy for the SLEuro Executive Committee. Being part of the Committee during the previous term has been a truly enriching experience, and I would very much like to continue contributing to SLEuro's activities and future direction.

My clinical and research work remains strongly focused on systemic lupus erythematosus and lupus nephritis, with the aim of translating immunological insights into better patient care. As Associate Professor of Rheumatology at the University of Turin, I am closely involved in both the daily management of patients with SLE and in collaborative clinical and translational research at national and European levels. This dual perspective has guided my engagement within SLEuro and continues to motivate my involvement.

Over the past years, I have particularly valued the collaborative and multidisciplinary spirit of SLEuro. I believe continuity within the Executive Committee is important to consolidate ongoing initiatives and to support the development of shared projects, especially those focused on patient stratification, treatment outcomes, and education of young clinicians and researchers.

I remain highly committed to SLEuro's mission and would be honored to continue serving on the Executive Committee, contributing with enthusiasm, scientific expertise, and a strong collaborative mindset.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,
Mariele Gatto, MD, PhD
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