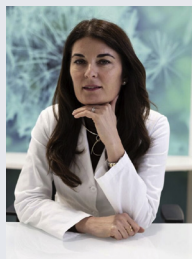


EDITORIAL



Meet our new editor: Professor Laura Rienzi



Laura Rienzi is a Senior Clinical Embryologist and Laboratory Director at the GENERA Centres for Reproductive Medicine in Rome, Marostica, Umbertide and Naples in Italy. Laura has academic degrees in biology from the University of Rome 'La Sapienza' and in reproductive medicine from the University of Padua. Since 2016, she has been adjunct Professor of Biotechnology at the University of Urbino, Italy.

Her clinical activity as embryologist started in Paris in 1994 with Jacqueline Mandelbaume and Michelle Plachot at the Centre for Reproductive Medicine, Hôpital Necker. She was a research fellow and it was these colleagues that first showed her a human oocyte at the microscope. In 1996, during one of the early workshops on intracytoplasmic

sperm injection (ICSI) in Brussels, Laura met the gynaecologist Filippo Ubaldi, an encounter that represented a turning point in her career. After collaborating together for 10 years at the European Hospital of Rome, in 2008 they accomplished their dream and founded the GENERA Centres for Reproductive Medicine.

In addition to being extremely active in educational, editorial, and clinical spheres, Laura's current areas of research interest include: IVF; ICSI; the morphology of human gametes, zygotes, and embryos in relation to their developmental ability and chromosomal constitution (preimplantation genetic testing); and cryopreservation of sperm, oocytes, and embryos.

Laura has been a member of the scientific board of the Geneva Foundation for Medical Education and Research (GFMER) Global Consultation on WHO Infertility Guidelines and President of the Italian Society of Embryology, Reproduction, and Research (SIERR), as well as having authored 154 articles, reviews, and book chapters (Scopus H-index 44). She is passionate about sharing her

knowledge, as evidenced by over 250 invitations to speak at national and international scientific meetings. In 2011 she was invited to give the *Human Reproduction* keynote lecture at the annual meeting of the European Society of Reproductive Medicine (ESHRE) describing her research on human oocyte vitrification.

Involved in a range of academic activities, she has supervised seven undergraduate students and two postdoctoral students to successful completion and is currently involved in tutoring and teaching activities for various Italian universities. She has also held several editorial positions: an Associate Editor for *Human Reproduction* and *Human Reproduction Update*, a member of the editorial board of *Focus on Reproduction* and Editor-in-Chief of *Current Trends in Clinical Embryology*. Laura is delighted to join the *RMBO* team and hopes to contribute to making *RMBO* a reference journal for scientists and embryologists.

Besides embryos, Laura loves travelling with her beloved children, strolling through the beauties of Rome and relaxing in the Tuscan countryside.

