

# Flavia Riccardo

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Date of birth: 7<sup>th</sup> December 1976

Nationality: Italian

## Main areas of expertise

- Communicable diseases
- Epidemiology and operational research
- Training
- Webdesign

## Medical Education

### July 2008 | **EWAR on the job training with WHO**

- On the job training on the development of thresholds for disease specific outbreak alert generation for use in Early Warning and Outbreak Response (EWAR) systems with the WHO CSR Subunit in Bangkok

### 2005-2008 | **PhD in infectivological sciences**

- University of Rome "La Sapienza" . Thesis accomplished and accepted by the academic reviewer panel. Dissertation is scheduled for May 2009.

### May 2007 | **H.E.L.P. Course (Health Emergencies in Large Populations)**

- General training on large scale emergencies with special focus on refugee health and applied field epidemiology held by the International Committee of the Red Cross, Health Action in Crisis WHO and the University of Geneva

### 2007 | **IHR implementation**

- Theoretical and Practical Course on the implementation of IHR2005 in Italy and reinforcement of cross-border alert and surveillance systems, held by the Italian MoH IHR Focal Points and the Italian Red Cross.

### August 2006 | **European course in Tropical Epidemiology (ECTE)**

- Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (certificate)

### May 2006 | **Transport of patients with highly contagious diseases**

- Training on the use of isolated transport systems ATI and STI with the Italian Air Force.



### **2004-2006 | Degree in Ultrasound imaging**

- The Italian School of Ultrasonography diploma in clinical echography with specific training in hydatid disease and hepatitis diagnosis and follow up.

### **October 2005 | Specialization in Infectious Diseases**

- University of Rome "La Sapienza" 60/60

### **July 2003 | Laboratory Diagnosis of blood and stool parasites**

- Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (certificate)

### **July 2001 | Degree in Medicine**

- University of Rome "La Sapienza" 110 cum laudem

## **Other Training**

### **2007 | UN department of safety and security**

- "Basic security on the field - staff safety, health and welfare" and "Advanced Security on the field"

### **2006 | Management of international crisis interventions from humanitarian diplomacy to international cooperation**

- Italian Association for Peace Operators United Nations (CABLIT)

### **2005 | Course of international humanitarian law for humanitarian operators**

- Institute of international humanitarian law (IHL) San Remo

### **2005 | Basic training course for international delegates of the Red Cross**

- Italian Red Cross Reggio Emilia

## **Experience**

### **October 2007 – October 2009 | Epidemiologist Public Health Specialist**

United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East | Health Department HQ Amman

In charge of operational research under the supervision of the Director of the Health Programme (involving study and database design, data collection, data insertion supervision, data cleaning and analysis and elaboration of study reports and scientific papers)

### **1<sup>st</sup> October 2008 – 30<sup>th</sup> October | Short term consultant**

WHO CSR Subunit | Bangkok Thailand

Update of training material and elaboration of a training module for the implementation of early warning and rapid outbreak response systems at country level.

### **January 2007 – July 2008 | Collaborating MD**

Italian Public Health Institute (Istituto Superiore di Sanità) , "Infectious Disease Epidemiology" Unit | Via Gianlorenzo Brancaccio, 34 - 00100 Rome

Contributed in the design of the project website ([www.episouth.org](http://www.episouth.org)) and in the main dissemination instruments of the project (the electronic bulletin) and in the elaboration and submission of scientific abstracts and posters that contributed to the project visibility. Participated to project Meetings and elaboration of minutes.

**April 2007 | Short term consultant**

WHO/MED POL and UNEP/MAP | Athens Greece

Contributed on technical issues partaking Communicable Disease hazards in the work-group: “Health Risks Associated with Tourist Establishments in the Mediterranean”.

**December 2005 – November 2006 | Project consultant South East Asia**

Italian Red Cross | International Health Relief and Development Unit HQ Rome

Elaboration of a surveillance system for communicable diseases in post emergency Sri Lanka, data base design, evaluation and monitoring of ongoing international health projects, comprehensive elaboration of health projects for the organization.

**December 2001 – October 2005 | Infectious Disease Residency**

University Hospital Policlinico Umberto I | Rome Italy

On Call duty on 5 wards (one pediatric ward and one tropical disease ward amongst them). Ward activity in an Infectious disease dept. Echography in a specialized unit (particular attention to hydatid disease and cronic hepatitis monitoring) Primary Health Education Campaigns in Middle and Upper Schools in the field of HIV/AIDS transmission prevention with two associations (ARCHE' and ANLAIDS).

**April 2005 – August 2005 | Communicable diseases medical officer**

Italian Red Cross | Batticaloa Sri Lanka

Establishment of a basic epidemiological surveillance system for communicable diseases with use of indicators of low hygiene in IDP camps in eastern Sri Lanka after the Tsunami of 2004. Charged with clinical consultation and laboratory diagnosis (Optic microscopy including Gram stain/ Zhiel Nielsen stain/ Giemsa/ stool exams.) of infectious and tropical diseases. Focal point for the Italian Red Cross in health sector coordination meetings with the Health District authorities and other International Organizations in the Field. Interim health director of a Red Cross medical post in Vakarai for a short period of time.

**January 2004 – July 2004 | Communicable diseases medical officer**

University of Rome “La Sapienza” | Dschang Cameroon

Medical officer of the Mingha Project (vertical prevention of HIV/AIDS in West Cameroon) with clinical and managerial duties. In charge of epidemiological monitoring of the project network of 12 health centers in two districts, charged with general consultations and clinical microbiology (parassitology and bacteriology using optic microscopy) in the dispensaries and of clinical follow up of infants, children and adults LWHA.

**Computer skills**

- Wordprocessor: Microsoft Word (Proficient)
- Database: Microsoft Access, Epiinfo (Proficient), SPSS (Working knowledge)
- Spreadsheet: Microsoft Excel (Proficient)
- Operating Systems: Microsoft Windows (all versions) (Proficient)
- Presentation: Microsoft Power point (Proficient)
- Programming: html, php, limited use of javascripts (Working knowledge for website design)

- Other software: Photoshop and other design software client and server side web management
- Computer hardware/Special equipment: Webmaster and webdesigner of an independent website on relief and development information sharing aimed at humanitarian workers: [www.choleracafe.com](http://www.choleracafe.com) now undergoing major update. The beta version is viewable at [www.choleracafe.com/newcholera/index.com](http://www.choleracafe.com/newcholera/index.com). Moreover I have designed a website dedicated to echinococcosis in collaboration with the university of Rome: [www.idatidosi.it](http://www.idatidosi.it).

## Language skills

- Mother Tongue 1 : Italian
- Mother Tongue 2 : English (international education and Proficiency Cambridge examination)

Other Languages	Speaking	Reading	Writing
French	Advanced	Advanced	Intermediate
Spanish	Basic	Basic	None
Arabic	Basic	None	None

## References

Name:	Address: Telephone: Fax:	E-mail: Occupation, business title:	Briefly indicate how you know this person:
<b>Dr. Laura Pacifici</b>	International Health Cooperation and Development office Italian Red Cross Rome (italy) +39 3351849807	<a href="mailto:lauraelena.pacifici@cri.it">lauraelena.pacifici@cri.it</a> Italian Red Cross health dept (HQ)	Supervisor during my work in the Italian Red Cross
<b>Dr. Bruno Di Vico</b>	University of Rome "Sapienza" Department of Infectious and Tropical Diseases +39 649970321	<a href="mailto:bruno_di_vico@hotmail.com">bruno_di_vico@hotmail.com</a> Head of the ultrasound unit and infectious disease ward	Direct supervisor of all clinical work conducted in the University Hospital Policlinico Umberto I of Rome
<b>Dr. Guido Sabatinelli</b>	UNRWA Health Department Bayader Wadi Seer Postal address: POBox 140157, Amman 11814, Jordan 00962 776760097	<a href="mailto:g.sabatinelli@unrwa.org">g.sabatinelli@unrwa.org</a> WHO Special Representative, Health Director of the UNRWA	Supervisor in my current post As Epidemiologist in UNRWA
<b>Dr. Augusto Pinto</b>	WHO CSR Subunit Bangkok Thailand	<a href="mailto:pinto@searo.who.int">pinto@searo.who.int</a>	Supervisor in Bangkok for a consultancy conducted in 2008

## Relevant publications

- S. Sanguigni, F. Riccardo, M. Bavastrelli, R. Binazzi. "Antiamoebic In Vitro Activity Of Pefloxacin" *Clinical Microbiology and Infection* Vol 8 Suppl 1, 2002.
- R. Binazzi; F. Riccardo; M. Bavastrelli; S. Sanguigni. "Subcutaneous Myiasis" *Microbiology and Infection* Vol 8 Suppl 1, 2002.
- R. Binazzi; F. Riccardo; M. Bavastrelli; S. Sanguigni. "Tunga Penetrans" *Microbiology and Infection* Vol 8 Suppl 1, 2002.
- F.G. De Rosa; G.A. Sharapova; F. Riccardo ; E.V. Eusalenko. "Infectious endocarditis in a series of 1527 autopsies: anatomic and clinical correlations" *Le Infezioni in medicina* , n.4, 224-229, 2002.
- K. Massaroni; F. Riccardo; B. Di Vico " Paziente Febbrile con vegetazione endocardica non endocarditica" *Giornale Italiano di Malattie Infettive* Vol 11 Suppl.1 2005 pg S77.
- C. Furlan, F. Paletti, V. Uwechie, K. Massaroni, F. Riccardo. "Necessità di follow-up serrato in pazienti HIV- HCV: studio preliminare su un campione di popolazione di confetti." *Italiano di Malattie Infettive* Vol 11 Suppl.1 2005 pg S88.
- G. Russo, A.M. Ialungo, M. Lichtner, F. Riccardo et al "Interventi per la Prevenzione della Trasmissione Materno Infantile (MTCT) di HIV al di fuori di trias clinici nei Paesi a risorse limitate: l'esperienza del Progetto "Mingha". *Italiano di Malattie Infettive* Vol 11 Suppl.1 2005 pg S 96.
- Basic International Emergency Setting Field Manual (Jan. 2006) presented at the Italian Red Cross Directive Council.
- L.E. Pacifici, F. Riccardo "Flashbacks Sri Lanka" 2006 ed. EriRAI.
- F. Riccardo, L. Pacifici, E. Scaroni et al. "CholeraCafe: an e-learning instrument for professionals involved in international health promotion in the fields of communicable disease prevention, surveillance and treatment" abstract number [R2331] *Clinical Microbiology and Infection* Vol 13 suppl. 1, 2007.
- F. Riccardo, L.E. Pacifici, A.G. De Rosa et al. "Epidemiological Surveillance: A Growing Role in Humanitarian Emergencies" *European Journal of Tropical Medicine and International Health* Vol. 12 Suppl. 1 May 2007 pg 183.
- L.E. Pacifici; F. Riccardo A.G. De Rosa et al. "General organizational issues in disaster health response" *Le Infezioni in Medicina* Suppl 2007 pg4-8
- L. Nardi, E. Scaroni, F. Riccardo et al. "New global challenges: the role of International Organizations" *Le Infezioni in Medicina* Suppl 2007 pg 9-13
- E. Scaroni, F. Riccardo, A.G. De Rosa et al. "Laws relevant to international missions of health cooperation" *Le Infezioni in Medicina* Suppl 2007 pg14-20

- A. Pacini, L.E. Pacifici, F. Riccardo et al. "Psychological perception of risk, infections and catastrophes. The greatest danger is human nature" *Le Infezioni in Medicina Suppl* 2007 pg 21-24
- A.G. De Rosa, A. Pacini, E. Scaroni, F. Riccardo et al. "Optimizing international humanitarian assistance through the definition of personal profiles: the role of graphology" *Le Infezioni in Medicina Suppl* 2007 pg 25-29
- G. Russo, F. Riccardo, E. Scaroni et al. "Infectivological population assistance: general issues" *Le Infezioni in Medicina Suppl* 2007 pg 30-37
- F. Riccardo, G. Russo, E. Scaroni et al. "Epidemiological surveillance for infectious diseases and humanitarian emergencies" *Le Infezioni in Medicina Suppl* 2007 pg 38-43
- L.E. Pacifici, F. Riccardo "Technology and communication for a new humanitarian intervention. Experimenting the website Cholera Café" in collaboration with the Forum per la Tecnologia della Informazione; the University of Rome "La Sapienza" and the Lazio Region. Editor Franco Angeli 225 page volume.
- B.Di Vico; P. Tanzilli; F. Riccardo; F. De Rosa. "Disseminated TB: is there still place for empirical treatment?" *Le Infezioni in Medicina Vol 15 Suppl 1* 2007 pg 152
- B.Di Vico; F. Riccardo; P. Tanzilli; F. De Rosa. "Linezolid in the treatment of polymicrobial osteomyelitis" *Le Infezioni in Medicina Vol 15 Suppl 1* 2007 pg 225
- Maria Grazia Dente, Flavia Riccardo, Massimo Fabiani, Alessia Ranghiasi, Gloria Nacca, Francesca Meduri e Silvia Declich "The european project Episouth and the italian project Epimed. A network of epidemiologists for the control of infectious diseases in the Mediterranean" *Notiziario dell'Istituto Superiore di Sanità Vol 21 - N 4 April* 2008.
- G. Sabatinelli, S. Pace-Shanklin, F. Riccardo, A. Khader "Facing socio-economic decline: delivering health to palestine refugees". *Babylon Tidsskrift om Midtøsten og Nord-Afrika* 6. årgang, nr. 1, 2008.
- Humaid Abu Mousa Salem, Yousef Shahin, Flavia Riccardo, Wafa'a Zeidan, Guido Sabatinelli "Detection rate of diabetes and hypertension among Palestine refugees". Accepted for publication in the *Eastern Mediterranean Health Journal*.
- Guido Sabatinelli, Stefania Pace-Shanklin, Flavia Riccardo, Yousef Shahin. "The Health Status of Palestine Refugees outside the occupied Palestinian territory" Accepted for publication in *The Lancet*
- Ali Khader, Haifa Madi, Flavia Riccardo, Guido Sabatinelli "Prevalence of anemia among UNRWA assisted Palestine refugee pregnant women in Gaza Strip and West Bank" under consideration for publication in *Public Health Nutrition*
- Musa Hindiyeh, Yair Aboudy, Mahmoud Wohoush, Lester M. Shulman, Daniela Ram, Tal Levin, Tamar Frank, Flavia Riccardo, Mohamad Khalili, Elias-Shlash Sawalha, Maysoun Obeidi, Guido Sabatinelli, Zehava Grossman, Ella Mendelson "Characterization of Large Mumps outbreak in Vaccinated Palestinian Refugees" accepted for publication in the *Journal of Clinical Microbiology*

## Teaching Experiences 2003-2007

- Primary HIV prevention in the form of teaching sessions in National Middle and High Schools for ANLAIDS and ARCHE' organizations since 2003.
- Primary HIV prevention in the form of teaching sessions for vulnerable people (pregnant women, adolescents) in rural west Cameroon January - July 2004.
- Teacher and organizer of courses on HIV/AIDS and vertical transmission prevention addressed to health workers in dispensaries in western Cameroon January - July 2004.
- Teacher and organizer of courses in Community Health and Hygiene in Sri Lanka for the Italian Red Cross in 2005.
- Collaboration with the Epidemiology and Public Health training modules of the Degree for radiology technicians of the University of Rome "Sapienza"
- Teaching sessions in the fields of health cooperation, access to drugs in poor resource settings, water and health in the Faculties of Medicine and Pharmacy of the University of Ferrara.
- Teacher for the II level Master in civil protection, emergencies and humanitarian aid organized by the University of Rome "La Sapienza" Faculty of Medicine in two sessions : "Communication during emergencies" and "Integration of different professions for a new disaster response".
- Teacher in the session dedicated to epidemiology and communicable disease control in the Italian Red Cross March 2007 Basic Training Course for International Red Cross Delegated (BTC). This is a universally accepted Red Cross certification necessary for acquiring the role of "International Red Cross delegate" in international missions.
- Teacher in the sessions dedicated to epidemiology and communicable disease control in developing countries in the first course: "Health in International cooperation - from emergency to public health", organized by the Italian Red Cross in May - June 2007 and awarded 50 credits of the Italian Ministry of Health for continuous medical education.