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EMPLOYMENT

Since 11/2021	Senior Investigator, Lymphoma Genomics, Institute of Oncology Research, Faculty of Biomedical Sciences, USI, Bellinzona, Switzerland
2009 – 2021	Postdoctoral Researcher, Lymphoma Genomics, Institute of Oncology Research, Faculty of Biomedical Sciences, USI, Bellinzona, Switzerland
2005 – 2009	Postdoctoral Researcher, Prostate Cancer Biology, Institute of Oncology Research, Bellinzona, Switzerland
2000 – 2004	PhD student, Barts and The London School of Medicine and Dentistry, Queen Mary University of London, London, United Kingdom
1999	Junior Data Analyst (6 months apprenticeship during 3 rd year of Bachelor's degree), Covance, Maidenhead, United Kingdom
1997	Research Apprentice (6 months apprenticeship during 1 st year of Bachelor's degree), Royal Free Hospital, Department of Haematology, Hampstead, London, United Kingdom

EDUCATION

2000 – 2004	PhD program in Molecular Biology, Queen Mary University of London, London, United Kingdom
1996 – 2000	BSc degree in Medical Biochemistry at Brunel University, London United Kingdom

OTHER EDUCATION

2021	Introduction to Single-cell Sequencing and Computational Analysis. Online symposium by Genomics Core, Leuven, Belgium
2020	Certificate of Achievement: First Steps with R in Life Sciences. Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics (SIB), Lausanne, Switzerland
2014	New concepts in B Cell malignancies: From molecular pathogenesis to personalized treatment. European School of Haematology, Thessaloniki, Greece
2014	Biostatistics Course. Lugano Regional Hospital, Cardiocentro, Lugano, Switzerland

2013	LyFE – Lymphoma Forum of Excellence. San Giovanni Hospital, IOSI, Bellinzona, Switzerland
2003	Home Office Personal Licence to carry out regulated procedures on mice. Home Office, London, United Kingdom.

MEMBERSHIPS

2023 – present	Active member of European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO)
2016 – present	Active member of American Association of Cancer Research (AACR)
2016 – present	Active member of Society of Hematologic Oncology (SOHO)
2015 – present	Member of Brunel Alumni Network
2015 – present	Member of Queen Mary University of London Alumni

PRESENTATIONS AT CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

2023	Poster presentation: MEN1703/SEL24, a potent PIM inhibitor, demonstrates promising anti-tumour activity in activated B cell like diffuse large B cell lymphoma, mantle cell lymphoma and marginal zone lymphoma cells.
2022	Poster presentation: Dual inhibition of EZH2 and histone deacetylases for the treatment of lymphomas with epigenetic aberrations. AACR Annual Meeting, New Orleans, USA.
2022	Poster presentation: Novel BCL2 inhibitors with anti-lymphoma activity. AACR Annual Meeting, New Orleans, USA.
2022	Novel HDAC6 inhibitors show anti-lymphoma activity alone and in combination with venetoclax and copanlisib. ESMO Targeted Anticancer Therapies Congress (virtual meeting).
2019	Poster presentation: The histone deacetylase inhibitor pracinostat and its metabolite SB991 are active as single agents and in combination with 5-azacitidine in acute myeloid leukemia cells. AACR-NCI-EORTC Molecular Targets and Cancer Therapeutics, Boston, USA.
2019	Poster presentation: The histone deacetylase inhibitor (HDACi) pracinostat modulates the transcriptome of diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL) cells and is active in combination with several targeted agents. Joint International Conference - Promises and challenges of developing new drugs in oncology, Milan, Italy
2019	Oral presentation: Effects of the histone deacetylase inhibitor pracinostat alone and in combination with targeted agents in preclinical models of lymphoma. Helsinn Healthcare SA, Lugano, Switzerland.
2018	Poster presentation: The novel histone deacetylase inhibitor pracinostat is an effective anti-lymphoma agent. AACR Annual Meeting, Chicago, USA.
2016	Poster presentation: The BET bromodomain inhibitor (BETi) OTX015 / MK-8628 upregulates miR-96-5p in diffuse large B-cell lymphomas. Society of Hematologic Oncology (SOHO) Annual Meeting, Houston, USA.

- 2015 Poster presentation: The BET bromodomain inhibitor OTX015 (MK-8628) affects the expression of microRNAs involved in the pathogenesis of lymphoma: in vitro and in vivo evidence. 13th International Conference on Malignant Lymphoma, Lugano, Switzerland.
- 2013 Poster presentation: Richter Syndrome promoter methylation differs from de novo diffuse large b-cell lymphoma. 12th International Conference on Malignant Lymphoma, Lugano, Switzerland.
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PATENTS AND HONOURS

- 10/2020 Mensah A, Spriano F, Pietra C, Lovati E, Bertoni F. Methods of using pracinostat in synergistic combinations to treat lymphoma. Application Number 63/091,741 Filing Date: October 14, 2020.
- 2000 Trevor Slater Memorial Prize for best performance by a final year Biochemistry student, Brunel University, London, United Kingdom
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TEACHING AND MENTORING

- 01/2023 Certificate of Competence in Lymphoma (CCL), cohort 6 - Postgraduate program for oncologists. Lecture on *Introduction to molecular biology*
- 11/2023 Women in Lymphoma educational webinar. Panellist for career development session on *Identifying and Pursuing Research Opportunities and Cooperative work.*
- 2005 – present Scientific proofreading of theses, manuscripts, presentations.
- 04/2008 Workshop in Molecular Biology for Medical Oncologists, ESMO TRU Translational Studies and New Drug Development in Oncology: The Laboratory-Clinical Interface. Lecture on *Molecular Biology.*
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SCIENTIFIC EDITORIAL AND REVIEWING ACTIVITIES

- Guest Editor Journal of Clinical Medicine Special Issue *Lymphomas: Current Approaches and Future Perspectives towards More Personalized Treatments*
- co-Guest Associate Editor Frontiers in Genetics, Research Topic *Tumor-immune Crosstalk in Hematologic Malignancies*
- Abstract Reviewer 64th American Society of Hematology (ASH) Annual Meeting
- Peer Reviewer BMC Cancer, Cancers, International Journal of Molecular Sciences, Hematological Oncology, Journal of Clinical Medicine, Journal of Cancer Research and Clinical Oncology, Experimental Hematology & Oncology, International Journal of Molecular Sciences, Life.
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PUBLICATIONS

1. Arribas AJ[^], Sara Napoli S[^], Cascione L, Bernabei L, Sartori G, Cannas E, Gaudio E, Tarantelli C, Mensah AA, Spriano F, Zucchetto A, Rossi FM, Rinaldi A, Castro de Moura M, Jovic S, Bordone Pittau R, Stathis A, Stussi G, Gattei V, Brown JR, Esteller M, Zucca E, Rossi D, Bertoni F. ERBB4-mediated signaling is a mediator of resistance to PI3K and BTK inhibitors in B cell lymphoid neoplasms. **Molecular Cancer Therapeutics** 2023 Dec 5:OF1-OF13. doi: 10.1158/1535-7163.MCT-23-0068. Online ahead of print. (^, equally contributed).
2. Giannuzzi D, Marconato L, Fanelli A, Licenziato L, De Maria R, Rinaldi A, Rotta L, Rouquet N, Birolo G, Fariselli P, Mensah AA, Bertoni F*, Aresu L*. The genomic landscape of canine diffuse large B-cell lymphoma identifies distinct subtypes with clinical and therapeutic implications. **Lab Animal (NY)**. 2022 Jul;51(7):191-202. (.*, co-corresponding authors).
3. Arribas AJA*, Napoli S[^], Cascione L, Sartori G, Barnabei L, Gaudio E, Tarantelli C, Mensah AA, Spriano F, Zucchetto A, Rossi FM, Rinaldi A, de Moura MC, Jovic S, Bordone Pittau R, Di Veroli A, Stathis A, Cruciani G, Stussi G, Gattei V, Brown JR, Esteller M, Zucca E, Rossi D, Bertoni F*. Resistance to PI3K inhibitors in marginal zone lymphoma can be reverted by targeting the IL-6/PDGFRA axis. **Haematologica** 2022 Nov 1;107(11):2685-2697. (^, equally contributed; *, co- corresponding authors).
4. Napoli S, Cascione L, Rinaldi A, Spriano F, Guidetti F, Zhang F, Cacciaputi MT, Mensah AA, Sartori G, Munz N, Forcato M, Bicciato S, Chiappella A, Ghione P, Elemento O, Cerchietti L, Inghirami G, Bertoni F. Characterization of GECPAR, a noncoding RNA that regulates the transcriptional program of diffuse large B cell lymphoma. **Haematologica** 2022 May 1;107(5):1131-1143.
5. Mensah AA, Spriano F, Sartori G, Priebe V, Cascione L, Gaudio E, Tarantelli C, Civanelli E, Aresu L, Rinaldi A, Damia G, Lovati E, Zucca E, Stathis A, Pietra C, Bertoni F. Study of the anti-lymphoma activity of pracinostat reveals different sensitivities of DLBCL cells to HDAC inhibitors. **Blood Advances** 2021; 5(10): 2467.
6. Sartori, G., Napoli, S., Cascione, L., Chung, E., Priebe, V., Arribas, A. J., Mensah, AA., Dall'Angelo, M., Falzarano, C., Barnabei, L, Forcato, M., Rinaldi, A., Bicciato, S., Thome, M., & Bertoni, F. ASB2 is a direct target of FLI1 that sustains NF-κB pathway activation in germinal center-derived diffuse large B-cell lymphoma. **Journal Of Experimental & Clinical Cancer Research** 2021; 40(1): 357.
7. Napoli, S., Cascione, L., Rinaldi, A., Spriano, F., Guidetti, F., Zhang, F., Cacciapuoti, M. T., Mensah, AA., Sartori, G., Munz, N., Forcato, M., Bicciato, S., Chiappella, A., Ghione, P., Elemento, O., Cerchietti, L., Inghirami, G., & Bertoni, F. (2021). Characterization of GECPAR, a noncoding RNA that regulates the transcriptional program of diffuse large B cell lymphoma. **Haematologica**, 10.3324/haematol.2020.267096. Advance online publication.
8. Gaudio E*, Tarantelli C*, Spriano F, Guidetti F, Sartori G, Bordone R, Arribas JA, Cascione L, Bigioni M, Merlino G, Fiascarelli A, Bressan A, Mensah AA, Golino G, Lucchini R, Bernasconi E, Rossi D, Zucca E, Stussi A, Stathis A, Boyd RS, Dusek RL, Bisht A, Attanasio N, Rohlf C, Pellacani A, Binascchi M, Bertoni F. Targeting CD205 with the antibody drug conjugate MEN1309/OBT076 is an active new therapeutic strategy in lymphoma models. **Haematologica** 2020; 105(11):2584-2591. doi: 10.3324/haematol.2019.227215. (*, equally contributed)
9. Priebe V*, Sartori G*, Napoli S, Chung EYL, Cascione L, Kwee I, Arribas AJ, Mensah AA, Rinaldi A, Ponzoni M, Zucca E, Rossi D, Efremov D, Lenz G, Thome M, Bertoni F. Role of ETS1 in the transcriptional network of diffuse large B cell lymphoma of the activated B cell-like type. **Cancers** 2020 Jul 15;12(7):1912. doi: 10.3390/cancers12071912. (*, equally contributed).
10. Spriano F, Gaudio E, Cascione E, Tarantelli C, Melle F, Motta G, Priebe V, Rinaldi A, Golino G, Mensah AA, Aresu L, Zucca E, Pileri S, Witcher M, Brown B, Wahlestedt C, Giles F, Stathis A, Bertoni F. Antitumor activity of the dual BET and CBP/EP300 inhibitor NEO2734. **Blood Advances** 2020; 4 (17): 4124–4135.

11. Mensah AA*, Cascione L*, Gaudio E, Tarantelli C, Bomben R, Bernasconi E, Zito D, Lampis A, Hahne JC, Rinaldi A, Stathis A, Zucca E, Kwee I, Gattei V, Valeri N, Riveiro ME, Bertoni F. Bromodomain and extra-terminal domain inhibition modulates the expression of pathologically relevant microRNAs in diffuse large B-cell lymphoma. **Haematologica** 2018;103(12):2049-2058. (*, equally contributed).
12. Cascione L*, Rinaldi A*, Brusca A, Tarantelli C, Arribas A, Kwee I, Pecciarini L, Mensah AA, Spina V, Chung EYL, Terzi di Bergamo L, Dirnhofer S, Tzankov A, Miranda R, Young KH, Traverse-Glehen A, Gaidano G, Swerdlow S, Gascoyne RD, Rabadan R, Ponzoni M, Bhagat G, Rossi D, Zucca E, Bertoni F. Novel insights into the genetics and epigenetics of MALT lymphoma unveiled by next generation sequencing analyses. **Haematologica** 2019 Dec;104(12):e558-e561. doi: 10.3324/haematol.2018.214957. (*, equally contributed).
13. Arribas AJ, Rinaldi A, Chiodin G, Kwee I, Mensah AA, Cascione L, Rossi D, Kanduri M, Rosenquist R, Zucca E, Johnson PW, Gaidano G, Oakes CC, Bertoni F, Forconi F. Genome-wide promoter methylation of hairy cell leukemia. **Blood Advances** 2019; 3 (3): 384–396.
14. Tarantelli C*, Bernasconi E*, Gaudio E, Cascione L, Restelli V, Arribas A, Spriano F, Rinaldi A, Mensah AA, Kwee I, Ponzoni M, Zucca E, Carrassa L, Riveiro ME, Rezai K, Stathis A, Cvitkovic E, Bertoni F. The BET Bromodomain inhibitor birabresib in mantle cell lymphoma: in vivo activity and identification of novel combinations to overcome adaptive resistance. **ESMO Open** 2018 Sep 26;3(6):e000387 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/esmoopen-2018-000387>. (*, equally contributed).
15. Bernasconi E *, Gaudio E*, Lejeune P, Tarantelli C, Cascione L, Kwee I, Spriano F, Rinaldi A, Mensah AA, Chung E, Stathis A, Siegel S, Schmees N, Ocker M, Zucca E, Haendler B, Bertoni F. Preclinical evaluation of the BET bromodomain inhibitor BAY 1238097 for the treatment of lymphoma. **British Journal of Haematology** 2017: 178(6): 936-948. (*, equally contributed)
16. Mensah AA, Kwee I, Gaudio E, Rinaldi A, Ponzoni M, Cascione E, Fossati G, Stathis A, Zucca E, Caprini G, Bertoni F. Novel HDAC inhibitors exhibit pre-clinical efficacy in lymphoma models and point to the importance of *CDKN1A* expression levels in mediating their anti-tumor response. **Oncotarget** 2015 Mar 10;6(7): 5059-71.
17. Arribas AJ*, Rinaldi A*, Mensah AA, Kwee I, Cascione L, Martinez-Climent JA, Oscier D, Arcaini L, Baldini L, Marasca R, Thieblemont C, Souliere J, Forconi, F, Zamo' A, Bonifacio M, Mollejo M, Facchetti F, Dirnhofer S, Ponzoni M, Bhagat, Piris MA, Gaidano G, Zucca E, Rossi D, Bertoni F. DNA methylation-profiling identifies two splenic marginal zone lymphoma subgroups with different clinical and genetic features. **Blood** 2015 Mar 19;125(12):1922-31. (*, equally contributed)
18. Boi M*, Gaudio E*, Bonetti P*, Kwee I, Bernasconi E, Tarantelli, Rinaldi A, Testoni M, Cascione L, Ponzoni M, Mensah AA, Stathis A, Stussi G, Riveiro ME, Herait P, Inghirami G, Cvitkovic E, Zucca E, Bertoni F. The BET Bromodomain inhibitor OTX015 affects pathogenetic pathways in pre-clinical B-cell tumor models and synergizes with targeted drugs. **Clinical Cancer Research**, 2015 Apr 1;21(7):1628-38. (*, equally contributed)
19. Bernasconi E, Gaudio E, Kwee I, Rinaldi A, Cascione L, Tarantelli C, Mensah AA, Stathis A, Zucca E, Vesci L, Giannini G, Bertoni F. The novel atypical retinoid ST5589 down-regulates Aurora Kinase A and has anti- tumour activity in lymphoma pre-clinical models. **British Journal of Haematology** 2015 Nov;171(3):378-86.
20. Mensah AA. Kongressberichte. 1st International Conference on New Concepts in B-Cell Malignancies: from molecular pathogenesis to personalized treatment. **Schweizer Krebsbulletin** 2015; 35(2): 201-203.
21. Bonetti P*, Testoni M*, Scandurra M, Ponzoni M, Piva R, Mensah AA, Rinaldi A, Kwee I, Tibiletti MG, Iqbal J, Greiner TC, Chan WC, Gaidano G, Piris MA, Cavalli F, Zucca E, Inghirami G, Bertoni F. Deregulation of ETS1 and FLI1 contributes to the pathogenesis of diffuse large B-cell lymphoma. **Blood**, 2013 Sep 26;122(13):2233-41. (*, equally contributed)

22. Rinaldi A, Mensah AA, Kwee I, Forconi F, Orlandi EM, Lucioni M, Gattei V, Marasca R, Berger F, Cogliatti S, Cavalli F, Zucca E, Gaidano G, Rossi D*, Bertoni F* (*, co-senior authors). Promoter methylation patterns in Richter Syndrome affect stem-cell maintenance and cell cycle regulation and differ from de-novo diffuse large B-cell lymphoma. **British Journal of Haematology** 2013; 163(2):194-204.
23. Mian M, Rinaldi A, Mensah AA, Rossi D, Ladetto M, Forconi F, Marasca R, Uhr M, Stussi G, Kwee I, Cavalli F, Gaidano G, Zucca E, Bertoni F. Large genomic aberrations detected by SNP-array are independent prognosticators of a shorter time to first treatment in chronic lymphocytic leukemia patients with normal FISH. **Annals of Oncology** 2013; 23: 729-735.
24. Li ZM, Spagnuolo L, Mensah AA, Rinaldi A, Bhagat G, Zucca E, Doglioni C, Ferreri AJM, Ponzoni M, Bertoni F. Gains of *CCND3* gene in ocular adnexal MALT lymphomas: an integrated analysis. **British Journal of Haematology** 2013; 160 (5): 719-722.
25. Li ZM, Rinaldi A, Cavalli A, Mensah AA, Ponzoni M, Gascoyne R, Bhagat G, Zucca E, Bertoni F. MYD88 somatic mutations in MALT lymphomas. **British Journal of Haematology** 2012 Sep;158(5):662-4.
26. Mensah AA, Rinaldi A, Ponzoni M, Canzonieri V, Uccella S, Rossi D, Bhagat G, Gaidano G, Zucca E, Bertoni F. Absence of *NOTCH1* gene mutations in MALT lymphomas. **British Journal of Haematology** 2012 May;157(3):382-4.
27. Mian M, Rinaldi A, Mensah AA, Rossi D, Ladetto M, Forconi F, Marasca R, Gattei V, Zucca E, Cavalli F, Gaidano G, Kwee I, Bertoni F. Del(13q14.3) length matters: an integrated analysis of genomic, FISH and clinical data in 169 chronic lymphocytic leukemia patients with 13q deletion alone or normal karyotype. **Hematological Oncology** 2012 Mar;30(1):46-9.
28. Rinaldi A, Mian M, Kwee I, Rossi D, De Ambrogi C, Mensah AA, Forconi F, Spina V, Cencini E, Drandi D, Ladetto M, Santachiara R, Marasca R, Gattei V, Cavalli F, Zucca E, Gaidano G, Bertoni F. Genome-wide DNA profiling better defines the prognosis of chronic lymphocytic leukaemia. **British Journal of Haematology** 2011; 154 (5): 590-599.
29. Kunderfranco P, Mello-Grand M, Cangemi R, Pellini S, Mensah AA, Albertini V, Malek A, Chiorino G, Catapano CV, Carbone GM. ETS transcription factors control transcription of *EZH2* and epigenetic silencing of the tumor suppressor gene *Nkx3.1* in prostate cancer. **PLoS One**. 2010 May 10;5(5):e10547. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0010547.
30. Cangemi R*, Mensah AA*, Albertini V, Jain A, Mello-Grand M, Chiorino G, Catapano CV, Carbone GM. Reduced expression and tumor suppressor function of the ETS transcription factor *ESE-3* in prostate cancer. **Oncogene**. 2008 May 1;27(20):2877-85. (*, equally contributed)
31. Mensah AA, Mulligan C, Linehan J, Ruf S, O'Doherty A, Grygalewicz B, Shipley J, Groet J, Tybulewicz V, Fisher E, Brandner S, Nizetic D. An additional human chromosome 21 causes suppression of neural fate of pluripotent mouse embryonic stem cells in a teratoma model. **BMC Developmental Biology** 2007 29; 7:131.
32. Rinaldi A, Kwee I, Poretti G, Mensah AA, Pruneri G, Capello D, Rossi D, Zucca E, Ponzoni M, Catapano C, Tibiletti MG, Paulli M, Gaidano G, Bertoni F. Comparative genome wide profiling of post-transplant lymphoproliferative disorders and diffuse large B-cell lymphomas. **British Journal Haematology** 2006; 134: 27-36.
33. McElwaine S, Mulligan C, Groet J, Spinelli M, Rinaldi A, Denyer G, Mensah AA, Cavani S, Baldo C, Dagna-Bricarelli F, Hann I, Basso G, Cotter FE, Nizetic D.. Microarray transcript profiling distinguishes the transient from the acute type of megakaryoblastic leukaemia (M7) in Down's syndrome, revealing PRAME as a specific discriminating marker. **British Journal of Haematology** 2004; 125: 729-42.
34. Groet J, McElwaine S, Spinelli M, Rinaldi A, Burtscher I, Mulligan C, Mensah AA, Cavani S, Dagna-Bricarelli F, Basso G, Cotter FE, Nizetic D. Down syndrome neonates with Transient Myeloid Disorder have acquired mutations in *GATA1* which do not prevent spontaneous complete remission. **The Lancet** 2003; 361: 1617-20.

Editorial and review articles

1. Mensah AA^{*}, and Mondello P^{*}. 2022. Harnessing the Molecular Fingerprints of B Cell Lymphoma for Precision Therapy" **Journal of Clinical Medicine** 2022; 11, 19: 5834. (^, equally contributed; *, co- corresponding authors)
2. Spina V^{*}, Mensah AA, Arribas AJ^{*}. Biology of splenic and nodal marginal zone lymphomas. **Annals of Lymphoma** 2021; 5: 6. (*, equally contributed)
3. Paduano F^{*}, Gaudio E^{*}, Mensah AA, Pinton S, Bertoni F, Trapasso F. T-Cell Leukemia/Lymphoma 1 (TCL1): an oncogene regulating multiple signaling pathways. **Frontiers in Oncology** 2018 Aug 13; 8: 317. (*, equally contributed).