

# BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

**Pietro Francia, M.D.**

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**Current position** Cardiac electrophysiologist and assistant professor of Cardiology  
Department of Clinical and Molecular Medicine, University Sapienza  
Cardiology Unit, Azienda Ospedaliero-Universitaria Sant'Andrea, Rome (IT)

## Education, training, and fellowships

Type	Year	Institution	Director	Field
Graduation	2001	University Sapienza, Rome (IT)	A. Torsoli	Medicine
Cardiology Specialty	2005	University Sapienza, Rome (IT)	M. Volpe	Cardiology
Research fellowship	2002-2003	Cardiovascular Research Centre, University of Zurich (CH)	T. F. Luscher	Vascular biology
Clinical fellowship	2004	Arrhythmia and Electrophysiology Centre, IRCCS San Donato, Milan (IT)	R. Cappato	Electrophysiology
Clinical fellowship	2006-2007	Arrhythmia and Electrophysiology Centre, IRCCS San Donato, Milan (IT)	R. Cappato	Electrophysiology
Clinical and research fellowship	2022-2023	Electrophysiology Centre, Teknon Heart Institute, Barcelona (ES)	A. Berruezo	Electrophysiology

**Spoken languages** Italian, English (C1), French (C2), Spanish (C1)

## Certifications, scientific activities, and metrics

- European Heart Rhythm Association (EHRA) - Full certification in cardiac electrophysiology (2023)
- European Heart Rhythm Association (EHRA) - Member of the Selection Committee (2022-2024)
- Associate Editor - Frontiers in Cardiovascular Medicine: Cardiac Rhythmology Section (from 2022)
- Published papers: 103 (Scopus)                      H-index: 22 (Scopus)

## Personal statement

I am a cardiac electrophysiologist and assistant professor of Cardiology. My research career has been grounded in the study of sudden cardiac death, with a strong focus on cardiomyopathies. My journey in the scientific world began with a fascination for vascular biology. During the years 2002-2003, I had the privilege of working at the Cardiovascular Research Centre of the University of Zurich, under the mentorship of Prof. Thomas Luscher. During this time, I worked on endothelial dysfunction and the p66Shc signaling pathway, using genetically modified mice as experimental models. Driven by my evolving scientific interests and clinical pursuits in the realm of cardiac electrophysiology, I embarked on a pivotal chapter in my career by joining the Arrhythmia and Electrophysiology Centre of I.R.C.C.S. San Donato in Milan (2004 and 2006-2007). Working alongside Dr. Riccardo Cappato, I was involved in clinical and research endeavors spanning catheter ablation of atrial fibrillation, CRT, and sudden cardiac death. In 2008, I took up a permanent position as an assistant professor of cardiology and cardiac electrophysiologist at the Division of Cardiology, St. Andrea Hospital, Department of Clinical and Molecular Medicine, Sapienza University of Rome, under the direction of Prof. Massimo Volpe. This step marked a significant milestone in my academic journey, allowing me to continue my pursuit of excellence in the field. My commitment to expanding my knowledge and expertise led me to a transformative experience in 2022 when I spent a 12-month period at the EP lab of the Teknon Heart Institute in Barcelona, under the guidance of Dr. Antonio Berruezo. As a visiting professor and cardiac electrophysiologist, I engaged in cutting-edge clinical and research activities. These encompassed the exploration of substrates underlying ventricular arrhythmias in hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, the application of left atrial wall thickness guidance in catheter ablation of atrial fibrillation, and the innovative approach of cardioneuroablation for reflex syncope. My varied journey continues to drive my passion for advancing research and clinical approaches in cardiac arrhythmias.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pietro Francia', with a stylized flourish above the name.

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