

Dario Finazzi

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- Dario Finazzi got his MD degree at the University of Brescia, where he completed the Specialization School in Biochemistry and Clinical Chemistry.
- He is now an Associate Professor in Molecular Biology at the University of Brescia, Italy.
- His expertise comprises a peculiar and synergistic combination of skills and longtime experience in molecular and cell biology.
- His training experience started at the Biotechnology Laboratory at the University of Brescia and continued as a visiting fellow at the Cell Biology and Metabolism Branch, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, USA, where he studied the mechanisms involved in the regulation of the intracellular protein trafficking.
- He became a clinical researcher at the University of Brescia/Spedali Civili di Brescia, and started to work on the biological functions of proteins involved in the pathogenesis of Alzheimer's disease, to investigate genetic aspect of neurodegenerative disorders and the processes controlling the systemic and cellular iron homeostasis and their involvement in neurodegeneration.
- He got interested in the study of the molecular mechanisms associated with neurodegenerative processes characterized by extensive iron accumulation in the brain.
- Moving from the expertise in the study of iron metabolism, he contributed to the investigation of the role of FTL mutant forms in the development of neuroferritinopathy.
- Then, he started the use of zebrafish models of NBIA disorders and investigated the biology of NBIA genes (pank2, coasy, c19orf12) either by knock-down and knock-out technologies. This granted the development of different disease models, which he is exploiting to investigate the processes underpinning these diseases and to set up reliable biological assays for pharmacological screenings.