

## **Professor Mariarita Bertoldi Biography**

Associate Professor of Biochemistry at the Department of Neuroscience, Biomedicine and Movement of the University of Verona, Italy. Her scientific interest spans from protein chemistry to enzymology. Even if she is involved in multiple research topics, from bovine pancreatic ribonuclease as a model for protein aggregation to peroxiredoxin-2, a novel essential redox enzyme for erythrocytes and central nervous system, her main scientific interest is the chemistry of vitamin B6 dependent enzymes, in particular aromatic amino acid decarboxylase. She gave important contribution to the understanding of the catalytic mechanism of the enzyme together with the unraveling of a peculiar oxygen-consuming side reaction. In the last years, she is interested in elucidating the structure-function relationships and the kinetics of variants of aromatic amino acid decarboxylase causing AADC deficiency. In her researches she undertakes multiple approaches: a classical biochemical approach using a combination of biophysical and biochemical methods together with a bioinformatics approach in collaboration with experts in the field. Her research activity is witnessed by several publications on international medium-high ranked journals. In 2002 she won the Young Investigator Prize by Mc Graw-Hill and The Italian Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Society. She has been invited speaker in several international and national scientific meetings.