

PERSONAL INFORMATION



Paola Berchialla

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WORK EXPERIENCE	
01/07/2020-Present	Associate Professor in Biostatistics Department of Clinical and Biological Sciences, University of Torino, Torino (Italy)
01/07/2020-Present	Director of the Biostatistics area of the Center for Biostatistics, Epidemiology and Public Health (University Department Center) Department of Clinical and Biological Sciences, University of Torino, Torino (Italy)
01/10/2012–30/06/2020	Researcher Department of Clinical and Biological Sciences, University of Torino, Torino (Italy)
01/01/2007–30/09/2012	Postdoctoral fellow Department of Public Health and Microbiology, University of Torino, Torino (Italy)
01/01/2005–31/12/2006	Postdoctoral fellow Epidemiological Unit of the Regional Health Service, Piedmont Region, Grugliasco (Torino) (Italy)
01/08/2004–31/12/2004	Postdoctoral fellow Department of Statistics, University of Firenze, Firenze (Italy)
EDUCATION AND TRAINING	
08/07/2004	PhD in Applied Statistics University of Firenze, Firenze (Italy)
01/03/2003–01/12/2003	Scholarship at the Department of Statistics University of Oxford, Oxford (United Kingdom)
01/07/1999	BS in Mathematics University of Torino, Torino (Italy)
PERSONAL SKILLS	
Mother tongue(s)	Italian

	Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	
English	C1	C2	C1	C1	C1
Spanish	B2	C2	B1	B1	B1

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user - B1 and B2: Independent user - C1 and C2: Proficient user Common European Framework of Reference for Languages

Other positions Since January 2023 Biostatistician on the Ethics Committee of the IRCSS Candiolo (TO)

Since 2022 Biostatistician on the World Athletics Independent Research Ethics Committee

Since 2022 Biostatistician at the Ewing Sarcoma data dictionary Effort carried out by the Harmonization International Bone Sarcoma Consortium

Since 2021 Statistical Consultant of the Rehabilitation Working Group of the Italian Association of Pediatric Hematology and Oncology

Since 2021 Biostatistician at the Independent Data Safety Monitoring Committee (IDMSC) of the RAFTING trial (NCT number: NCT04866654).

Since 2020 Director of Biostatistics area of the Center for Biostatistics, Epidemiology and Public Health at the Department

Since 2019 Chair of the Working group "Machine Learning in Clinical Research" of the Italian Society of Medical Statistics and Clinical Epidemiology

Since 2018 Director of the Master in Advance Biostatistics for Clinical Research at the University of Padova

Since 2017 Faculty member of the PhD School in Translational Medicine G.B. Morgagni at the University of Padova

Job-related skills

I have an extensive experience of research in methodology for Clinical trials and observational studies. I was PI of the project **Rescuing Clinical Trials terminated prematurely for poor accrual** funded by the University of Torino and carried out in collaboration with the INSERM U872, Centre de Recherche des Cordeliers, Université Paris 5, Université Paris 6. Within the project I organized and taught the course on "**Bayesian Sample Sizing in Clinical Trials with Practical Applications**" for the VIII National Congress of the Italian Society of Medical Statistics and Clinical Epidemiology (SISMEC). In 2018 I presented the work "**Objective inference to adjust for baseline covariates in the analysis of RCTs for increasing efficiency**" at the 39th Society of Clinical Trials Annual Meeting, in May 2018, Portland, OR, US.

I was invited speaker at the Italian Society of Medical Statistics and Clinical Epidemiology Congress. Napoli, October 2022, with a talk on "Efficient clinical trials in healthcare emergencies: advantages and challenges in their design". I was invited speaker at the Uncertainty in the Science Workshop at the Polytechnic University of Milan in June 2022 with a talk on "Prediction of treatment outcome and modelling uncertainty in clinical trials under a personalized medicine perspective".

Since 2021 I am Biostatistician at the Independent Data Safety Monitoring Committee (IDMSC) of the RAFTING trial (NCT number: NCT04866654).

Following, the list of most recent protocols in which I have the role of leading statistician:

- 1. Mirror Neuron System and Rehabilitation: action observation can improve balance control in piediatric patients subjec to allogenic transplantation of hemopoietic stem cells? (2022)
- 2. Psycho-emotional impact of preoperative counseling in the context of cervicocarcinoma screening programs (2021)
- A Study Evaluating the Safety, Tolerability, Pharmacokinetics, and Preliminary Activity of ladademstat used alone and in combination with Idasanutlin or Ribociclib in the Treatment of Pediatric and Young Adult Patients with Relapsed/Refractory Solid Tumors (2021)
- 4. Obinutuzumab treatment for IgM-related polyneuropathies: a monocentric trial for interdisciplinary clinico-molecular characterization and evaluation of response (2022)
- 5. Fludarabine and Melphalan in combination with total marrow / lymphoid irradiation (TMI / TLI) radiotherapy in patients who are candidates for allogeneic stem cell transplantation with



reduced intensity conditioning (2021)

- 6. Cytorective surgery and pressurized intraperitoneal aerosol chemotherapy: feasibility and safety of the combined approach: PLUS Study (2021)
- 7. Maintenance therapy with Qarziba for patients in relapsed/refractory high-grade osteosarcoma after induction multimodal therapy a Phase II multi-center study (2021)
- 8. Validation of the Italian version of the lymphedema functioning, disability and health questionnaire for upper limb lymphedema (2020)
- 9. Observational Study in Adult Patients with Chronic Myeloid Leukemia who discontinue Tyrosine Kinase Inhibitors in Italy (2020)
- 10. Retrospective-Prospective Observational Study on the Rehabilitation Evaluation of Pediatric Patients suffering from oncological pathology (2018)
- 11. A Phase I, dose-escalation study of Cisplatin applied as Pressurized Intraperitoneal Aerosol Chemotherapy (PIPAC) for the treatment of peritoneal carcinomatosis (2017)

I organized the 1st Bayesian Day for Clinical Research Workshop with the following invited speakers: Beat Neuenschwander (Novartis), Gaëlle Saint-Hilary (Servier), Fulvio De Santis (Università La Sapienza), Fabio Rigat (GSK Pharmaceuticals R&D). Since 2015 I am member of the Ehtics Committee working group of the Italian Society of Medical Statistics and Clinical Epidemiology and I have participated to the survey on competencies of biostatisticians serving in Italian Ethics Committee (2018).

I have methodological background and experience in applying biostatistical and epidemiological methodologies.

As member of the **Health Behaviour in School-aged Children (HBSC)**, I am currently working on surveys on health related and wellbeing topics. HBSC Study is a cross-national survey on wellbeing and health behaviours in young people and it is conducted every four years in 44 countries and regions across Europe and North America in collaboration with WHO Regional Office for Europe. In particular, I am involved on development of the sampling design on the analysis of the data collected by producing tables and graphically displayed indicators as well as on the report draft.

As responsible of the unit based at the University of Torino for the project-Tender EFSA **Machine** Learning techniques applied in risk assessment related to food safety (2015-2017-OC/EFSA/AMU/2014/02) I am currently working on quantitative risk assessment applied to the field of food safety and toxicology.

I have extensively worked in the field of risk assessment/survey data analysis before, as team member and scientific leader of the following projects:

 European Project Surveillance System on Suffocation Injuries due to Foreign Bodies founded by the European Commission's Directorate General for Health and Consumer Policy (DGSANCO)

 Project of Great Relevance Italy-Argentina founded by the Italian of Ministry Affairs Establishment of an Italy-Argentina joint system of risk assessment to control foreign body injuries in children

I am currently Principal Investigator of the project **TrustAlert**, funded by Fondazione Compagnia San Paolo and Cassa Depositi e Prestiti, aimed at developing a pandemic preparedness alert system based on Artificial Intelligence.

I have developed skills in analysing data from registry and performing quantitative risk assessment using both standard statistical models and machine learning approaches. In particular, I have worked on defining the concept of risk profiles for consumer products, which has demanded developing methodologies of Risk Assessment based on classification trees (Berchialla, Bellussi et al. 2012) and Bayesian networks (Berchialla, Scarinzi et al. 2010). At the same time I have worked implementing risk estimation engines as web-based service relying both on non-machine learning models (Berchialla, Stancu et al. 2008) and Bayesian Networks (Berchialla, Gangemi et al. 2014) and developing recommendation guidelines from analysis of registry data.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Publications

Selected papers

 Vaira M, Robella M, Guaglio M, Berchialla P, Sommariva A, Valle M, Pasqual EM, Roviello F, Framarini M, Fiorentini G, Sammartino P, Ilari Civit A, Di Giorgio A, Ansaloni L, Deraco M. Diagnostic and Therapeutic Algorithm for Appendiceal Tumors and Pseudomyxoma Peritonei: A Consensus of the Peritoneal Malignancies Oncoteam of the Italian Society of Surgical Oncology (SICO). Cancers (Basel). 2023 Jan 24;15(3):728. doi: 10.3390/cancers15030728

- Robella M, Tonello M, Berchialla P, Sciannameo V, Ilari Civit AM, Sommariva A, Sassaroli C, Di Giorgio A, Gelmini R, Ghirardi V, Roviello F, Carboni F, Lippolis PV, Kusamura S, Vaira M. Enhanced Recovery after Surgery (ERAS) Program for Patients with Peritoneal Surface Malignancies Undergoing Cytoreductive Surgery with or without HIPEC: A Systematic Review and a Meta-Analysis. Cancers (Basel). 2023 Jan 17;15(3):570. doi: 10.3390/cancers15030570
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- Azzolina, D., P. Berchialla, D. Gregori, and I. Baldi. 2021. "Prior Elicitation for Use in Clinical Trial Design and Analysis: A Literature Review." International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health 18 (4): 1–21. <u>https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph18041833</u>.
- Azzolina, D., P. Berchialla, S. Bressan, L. Da Dalt, D. Gregori, and I. Baldi. 2022. "A Bayesian Sample Size Estimation Procedure Based on a B-Splines Semiparametric Elicitation Method." International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health 19 (21). https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph192114245.
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- Baldi, I., D. Azzolina, D. Chiffi, T. Barrella, M. Martinato, P. Berchialla, D. Gregori, and NEBICE (Network of Biostatisticians in the Ethics Committee) Working Group. 2018. "A Survey on Biostatisticians Serving in the Italian Ethics Committees." Epidemiology Biostatistics and Public Health 15 (3). https://doi.org/10.2427/12939.
- Basile, V., S. Puglisi, B. Altieri, L. Canu, R. Libè, F. Ceccato, F. Beuschlein, et al. 2021. "What Is the Optimal Duration of Adjuvant Mitotane Therapy in Adrenocortical Carcinoma? An Unanswered Question." Journal of Personalized Medicine 11 (4). https://doi.org/10.3390/jpm11040269.
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Book chapters

- Gregori D, Berchialla P Quality of Electronic Medical Records In: Statistical Methods in Healthcare, pp: 456-480. Eds: Faltin F, Kenett R, Ruggeri F. Wiley&Sons Ltd, Chichester, West Sussex. 2012
- Gregori D, Foltran F, Berchialla P, The Susy Safe Working Group. The Susy Safe Registry: data and evidences In: The Susy Safe Registry Data and Recommendations The Susy Safe Working Group 2013 Franco Angeli Ed Milano, Italy
- Gregori D, Berchialla P, the Susy Safe Working Group The Susy Safe Registry: evidence based guidelines In: The Susy Safe Registry Data and Recommendations The Susy Safe Working Group 2013 Franco Angeli Ed Milano, Italy
- Berchialla P, Gregori D The risk engine In: The Susy Safe Project Final Report 2005-2007 (eds) The Susy Safe Working Group 2009 Franco Angeli Ed Milano, Italy
- Projects 2023 present: PI of the project trustAlert funded by Compagnia San Paolo and Fondazione CDP (research consortium: University of Torino, Fondazione Bruno Kessler, Fondazione Links, Innovo s.r.I, University of Piemonte Orientale, ASL-CN2, Ospedale Cottolengo)
 - 2022 present: PI of the project Incorporating Patient Preference Studies into clinical research and decision models funded by the University of Torino
 - 2008 present: member of the Health Behaviours School-aged Children (HBSC) Study. HBSC is a cross-national survey on wellbeing and health behaviours in young people and it is conducted every four years in 44 countries and regions across Europe and North America in collaboration with WHO Regional Office for Europe. In Italy the Survey is carried out in collaboration with the Italian National Institute of Health
 - In 2020 I was involved in the survey Impact of the COVID-19 lockdown on psychological health and nutritional habits in Italy: #PRESTOinsieme study in collaboration with the Unit of Biostatistics and Epidemiology of the University of Padova and the Italian National Institute of Health
 - 2017 2019: PI of the project Rescuing Clinical Trials terminated prematurely for poor accrual funded by the University of Torino
 - 2015 2017: unit responsible of the Project Assistance to the Assessment Methodology Unit for Statistical Analyses, data management and ad hoc consultation upon request (Tender EFSA call OC/EFSA/AMU/2015/0)
 - 2020 2021: unit responsible of the Project Space in response to COVID-19 outbreak (EPICO19) funded by European Space Agency
 - 2014 2017: unit responsible for the project Machine Learning techniques applied in risk assessment related to food safety (Tender EFSA OC/EFSA/AMU/2014/02)
 - 2013 2015: member of the Torino Unit of the FIRB project Statistical modeling of environmental phenomena: pollution, meteorology, health and their interactions (Principal Investigator: Dr Francesca Bruno, University of Bologna
 - 2009 2011: member of the Project of Great Relevance Italy-Argentina founded by the Italian of Ministry Affairs Establishment of an Italy-Argentina joint system of risk assessment to control foreign body injuries in children (Italian Principal Investigator: Prof. Dario Gregori)
 - 2005 2009: member of European Project Surveillance System on Suffocation Injuries due to Foreign Bodies founded by the European Commission's Directorate General for Health and Consumer Policy (DGSANCO) (Principal Investigator: Prof. Dario Gregori)

Conferences Selected conference presentations



- AI, Network Medicine and Machine Learning: novel approach for precision medicine? XXIX Italian Congress of the Society of Diabetology, Rimini, October 2022. Invited speaker
- Efficient clinical trials in healthcare emergencies: advantages and challenges in their design. Italian Society of Medical Statistics and Clinical Epidemiology Congress. Napoli, October 2022. Invited speaker
- Prediction of treatment outcome and modelling uncertainty in clinical trials under a personalized medicine perspective. Uncertainty in the Sciences Workshop (Polytechnic University of Milan) June 2022. Invited speaker
- Big data and artificial intelligence in COVID-19 research, Winter School PhD Medical Student, University of Padova, May 2021. Invited speaker
- Can you believe the resuls of a meta-analysis? The heterogeneity, the power and the case of small meta-analyses. Invited speaker at the Scientific Rationality & Strategic Interaction Workshop, Bocconi University, November 2019. Invited speaker
- Determinant of risk: hazard, exposure and vulnerability. Seminar at the Department of Architecture and Urban Studies, Politenico of Milano, April 2019. Invited speaker
- Semi-parametric Bayesian Models for Longitudinal Data. VIII National Congress of the Italian Society of Medical Statistics and Clinical Epidemiology (Torino, September 2015). Invited speaker
- Objective inference to adjust for baseline covariates in the analysis of RCTs for increasing efficiency. 39th Society of Clinical Trials Annual Meeting, may 2018 Portland, OR, US
- Spatial Modeling for air pollution epidemiology: hospital admission risk for cardio-respiratory diseases in Torino province. 46th Italian Statistical Society Meeting. June 2014, Cagliari, Italy
- Comparing Adaptive Bayesian Network, Artificial Neural Networks, Classification Trees and Classical Logistic Models in Quantitative Risk Assessment: the Case Study of Foreign Body Injuries in Children Society for Risk Analysis-Europe, 28 June - 1 July, 2009, Karlstad, Sweden
- Web-based surveillance systems as an effective tool for risk assessment and for fostering product safety: the Risk Estimation Engine of Susy Safe Safe Kids Worldwide Child Injury Prevention Conference in Washington, DC Oct 15 - 18, 2008
- A Bayesian Network-Driven Approach for Quantitative Risk Assessment of Foreign Body Injuries in Children JSM 2007 pp: 303 (383) 29 luglio- 2 agosto 2007, Salt Lake City, US
- Epidemiology of Foreign Body Injuries in Children using a Data-Driven Bayesian Network 48th Annual Meeting of the European Society for Paediatric Research, 6 - 8 October, 2007, Prague, Czech Republic
- Bayesian Networks for pathological scarring due to burn injuries ROeS Seminar (Young Biostatistician session) 9-13 September 2007, Bern, Switzerland
- A comparison of Bayesian Networks and MCMC techniques for quantitative risk assessment Joint Statistical Meeting, 6-10 August 2006, Seattle, US
- Total Quality Test to Overcome Workers's Inadequacies: An Application in an Italian Hospital. International Biometric Society Conference July 2006, Montreal, Canada
- Bayesian Networks for quantitative risk assessment of foreign body injuries in children 2nd International Seminar on Injury Research Methods 6 - 7 April 2006, Cape Town, South Africa
- Seminars and courses - The Impact of Cutting-Edge Techniques on the near Future of Biostatistics and Healthcare. Seminar at the Department of Cardiac, Thoracic, Vascular Sciences and Public Health, University of Padova, April 2023
 - Lead of the course Bayesian modelling for biomedical data at the Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale del Piemonte, Liguria e Valle d'Aosta, Torino, July 2017
 - Lead of the course Bayesian Clinical Trials at the VIII National Congress of the Italian Society of . Medical Statistics and Clinical Epidemiology (Torino, September 2015)
 - Sweave Course, Sixth Torino UseR Group meeting, 21 November 2013, Faculty of Economics, University of Torino

- Showcase of R in biostatistics Second Torino UseR Group meeting, 17 November 2011, Faculty of Economics, University of Torino
- Final Workshop of the European Project Surveillance System on Suffocation Injuries due to Foreign Bodies. Presentation of the Working Group guideline (Bruxelles, March 2010)
- Honours and awards
 Travel Award from the Section on Risk Analysis American Statistical Association for the paper "A Bayesian Network-Driven Approach for Quantitative Risk Assessment of Foreign Body Injuries in Children" presented to the Joint Statistical Meeting 2007, Salt Lake City, US.
 - Best quantitative predictive (R-) model Stats Under the Stars competition 2015/09/08-09
 - Memberships Member of the American Statistical Association (ASA)
 - Member of the Italian Statistical Society (SIS)
 - Member of the Italian Society of Medical Statistics and Clinical Epidemiology (SISMEC)
 - Member of the International Biometric Society Italian Region
 - Member of the Organizing Committee of the Joint Meeting METMA VII (the Seventh International Workshop on Spatio-Temporal Modelling) and GRASPA14 (the 2014 meeting of the Research Group for Statistical Applications to Environmental Problems
 - Member of the Organizing Committee of the VIII National Congress of the Italian Society of Medical Statistics and Clinical Epidemiology
 - Reviewer of BMC Health Services Research, BMC Medical Research Methodology, Acta Diabetologica, Nutrition Review, Scientific Reports, Statistics in Medicine, the Journal of Biomedical Informatics, Journal of Applied Statistics, Journal of Evaluation in Clinical Practice, Computer Biology and Medicine, Biometrical Journal, Preventive Medicine, Ecology of Food and Nutrition, International Journal of Environmental Health Research
 - Reviewer of research proposals for the Medical Research Counting (South Africa) and for American Medical Informatics Association Annual Symposium.

Bibliometrics • H-index: 31

- Total number of citations: 3369
- Number of papers: 255
 - Number of papers in the last 10 years: 182