Dr Francesca Bernassola is currently an Assistant Professor of Molecular Biology (BIO/11) at the Department of Experimental Medicine and Biochemical Sciences of Rome "Tor Vergata" University. She was previously a Research Assistant at the IDI-IRCCS Biochemistry Laboratory, located in the same Department. After receiving her PhD Degree in "Epithelia Biology and Physiopatology" at the University of Rome "Tor Vergata", she did her postdoctoral training at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, New York, USA (2001-2003).

Her research interests are primarily directed towards studying the molecular mechanisms underlying the regulation of the p53 homologues, p73 and p63, as well as the biological functions of this family of transcription factors. Specifically, Dr Bernassola's group seeks to identify and characterize ubiquitin-dependent pathways controlling p73 stability and transcriptional function. In addition, the role of the p53-like proteins in mammary cancer stem cell biology is under investigation. She has published 42 peer-reviewed papers (total *Impact Factor* **277.106**; *Corresponding Author* in 5 articles).

Field of study:

Role of the p53 family members in tumor biology and cancer stem cells.

Location:

Room number F-164, Department of Experimental Medicine and Biochemical Sciences of Rome "Tor Vergata" University