

CURRICULUM VITAE
ROBERTO VICINANZA, M.D., Ph.D.
University of Southern California

Name Roberto Vicinanza
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PROFILE

-Associate Professor of Gerontology at the University of Southern California, Leonard Davis School of Gerontology, one of the leading research institutions in the field of aging and the world's oldest and largest school of Gerontology.

-*Magna Cum Laude* Medical Doctor, *Magna Cum Laude* Specialist in Geriatric Medicine (Board certification received by Sapienza University of Rome, Italy).

-International, multilingual, and multicultural background, with medical residency training, Ph.D. in molecular medicine, and postdoctoral research/teaching fellowship in academic institutions in Italy and in the U.S.

Teaching and Mentoring: courses in nutrition, pathophysiology and clinical aspects of chronic diseases, and geriatric medicine. Served as a mentor for medical students (Sapienza University of Rome), and graduate and undergraduate students at both the University of Southern California and the University of California, Los Angeles

Main clinical interests: Geriatric Medicine and clinical nutrition focusing on the complex management of chronic diseases, and the role of nutrition and diet in the prevention and treatment of age-related diseases.

Main basic research interests: Cellular and molecular nutrition, molecular endocrinology, cellular and tumor biology, aging, and mitochondrial biology.

POSITION AND TITLES: -Associate Professor of Gerontology at USC Leonard Davis School of Gerontology
-Medical Doctor, Specialist in Geriatric Medicine (Italy)
-Ph.D. in Molecular Medicine

TEACHING RESPONSIBILITY

2017 - 2022

USC Leonard Davis School of Gerontology

Undergraduate Programs (2017-2023)

Fall Semesters

- GERO 495: Practicum in Geriatric Care (4.0 units). Supervised experience in a geriatric health care setting which allows students to put theories and ideas into practice. Graded CR/NC. Lecture, discussion, and fieldwork.

Spring Semesters

- GERO 495: Practicum in Geriatric Care (4.0 units). Same as above
- GERO 416: Health Issues in Adulthood (4.0 units). Physiological, psychological, and social health problems of adults as they are impacted by health choices throughout life.

Graduate Programs (2017-2023)

Master of Science in Nutrition Healthspan and Longevity

Fall Semesters

-GERO 513: Fundamentals of Nutrition: Macronutrients (2.0 units). Principles of metabolism of macronutrients (carbohydrates, lipids and proteins) and human nutrition; life stages, disease states, consumption, digestion, absorption, transport, and storage of macronutrients.

Spring Semesters (2017 – 2022)

- GERO 560: Fundamentals of Nutrition: Micronutrients (4.0 units). Explore the role of micronutrients, vitamins, minerals, and phytonutrients in human nutrition, including digestion, absorption, metabolism, and major biological, physiological and metabolic roles.

GERO 517L: Advanced Therapeutic Nutrition (4.0 units). Application of nutrition science, physiology, biochemistry, and metabolism to evaluate critically ill patients and plan nutrition intervention and monitoring.

Master of Arts in Medical Gerontology

Fall Semesters

- GERO 564: Multiple Chronic Conditions and Older Adults (4.0 units).

Complexities of treating older persons with multiple chronic diseases and conditions.

- GERO 567: Prevention of Chronic Diseases through Nutrition, Physical Activity and Lifestyles Changes (4.0 units). Nutrition, psychical engagement, and social interaction. Interventions, assessments, screening protocols, and guidelines for nutrition in older adults.

Summer Courses/Special Topics

-GERO 508: The Mind and Body Connection through the Lifespan (4.0 units)

An introduction to mind-body processes involved in healthy aging. Examines the interplay of emotions, beliefs, and behaviors in shaping health-relevant biological processes.

- GERO 499 Special Topic: Health Coaching for Wellbeing and Chronic Diseases Prevention (4 Units)

- GERO 499 Special Topic: Clinical and Geropsychological Management of COVID19 in Older Adults (4 Units)

Nanyang Technological University (NTU) - Singapore

Online Graduate course: Food, Nutrition, and Aging

LANGUAGES SKILLS

- **Italian:** native language
- **English:** fluent
- **Spanish:** fluent
- **French:** fluent

POST-GRADUATE CLINICAL TRAINING

May – August 2023

Visiting Professor in Internal Medicine, Sapienza University of Rome

July 2012 – July 2017

University of Southern California, Los Angeles

- USC Keck Hospital
Division of Geriatric, Hospital, Palliative and General Internal Medicine

Policlinico Umberto I Hospital / Sapienza University of Rome

- Geriatric Medicine Ward
- Ambulatory of Cardiometabolic Disorders
- Emergency and Critical Care Unit
- Neurology and Stroke Unit
- Psychiatry
- Cardiology
- Pneumology
- Nephrology

2009-2012

University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)

- Risk Factor Obesity Center
UCLA Center for Human Nutrition

RESEARCH INTERNSHIPS

May 2016 – June 2017

USC Leonard Davis School of Gerontology, Los Angeles

PostDoc at Pinchas Cohen's Laboratories Research area:
aging and mitochondria biology.

Sept 2014 – May 2016

Geriatric Medicine, Sapienza University of Rome

Research areas: nutrition, cardiometabolic disorders, cognitive impairment.

Sept 2009 – Jan 2012

UCLA Center for Human Nutrition.

Visiting Researcher at David Heber's Laboratories

Research areas: cellular and molecular nutrition

2005 -2009

Internship at Ultrastructural Pathology Laboratory.

Department of Experimental Medicine, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy.

Supervisor: Prof. Susanna Scarpa, Ph.D.

Research areas: study of the effects of extracellular matrix in adrenocortical cancer cells; study of non-genomic effects of thyroid hormone action.

AWARDS AND GRANTS

2024

Simmon Nutrition Alzheimer's Diseases Pilot Award: (\$50,000)

2023

Anita and William Jeung Pilot Award: (\$50,000)

2022

Hanson-Thorell Family Research Awards (\$25,000)

2011

Completion of research studies in cellular and molecular nutrition (UCLA Center for Human Nutrition)

2009

Research funding, Fondazione Roma Sapienza (€ 15.000)
Sapienza University of Rome, Italy.

TUTORING

Supervision and mentoring of undergraduates, medical students and post-doc research fellows

Name	Current Position
Eva Coles	Master of Science of Nutrition healthspan and Longevity (2023) Los Angeles, California, United States
John Lew	Master of Science of Nutrition healthspan and Longevity (2019) Registered Dietitian, San Leandro, California, United States
Melanie Murphy Richter	Master of Science of Nutrition healthspan and Longevity (2019) Registered Dietitian, San Leandro, California, United States
Flavia Angelini, M.D.	Masters of Science in Nutrition, Healthspan and Longevity, USC (2019) Los Angeles, California, United States
Fulvio Castellani, M.D.	Graduated in Medicine (January, 2017) Sapienza University of Rome 2015-2016: Mentor for M.D. Thesis
Alessandro Frizza, M.D.	Graduated in Medicine (January, 2017), Sapienza University of Rome 2015-2016: Mentor for M.D. Thesis
Federica Di Violante, M.D.	Graduated in Medicine (July, 2016), Sapienza University of Rome 2014-2016: Mentor for M.D. Thesis
Giada Greco, M.D.	Graduated in Medicine (September, 2015), Sapienza University of Rome 2014-2015: Mentor for M.D. Thesis
Daniela Moura de Oliveira, Ph.D.	Graduated in Medicine (March, 2015), Sapienza University of Rome 2014-2015: Mentor for M.D. Thesis Resident Physician in Geriatric Medicine - University Hospital of Padova, Italy Visiting researcher at UCLA (2011-2012) Nutrition Department, School of Public Health, University of São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil.
Narine Abgarayan	Undergraduate student at UCLA (2010-2011) University of California Davis Medical School
Janice Ma	Undergraduate student at UCLA (2010-2011) Mayo Clinic Medical School
Corinna Doris	Visiting student at UCLA (2010-2011) University of California Berkley. Working in Thousand Oaks for Baxter

**RESEARCH PAPERS, REVIEWS, AND ABSTRACTS PUBLISHED SCIENTIFIC
PEER-REVIEWERS JOURNALS**

1. Zempo H, Kim SJ, Fuku N, Nishida Y, Higaki Y, Wan J, Yen K, Miller B, **Vicinanza R**, Miyamoto-Mikami E, Kumagai H, Naito H, Xiao J, Mehta HH, Lee C, Hara M, Patel YM, Setiawan VW, Moore TM, Hevener AL, Sutoh Y, Shimizu A, Kojima K, Kinoshita K, Arai Y, Hirose N, Maeda S, Tanaka K, Cohen P. A pro-diabetogenic mtDNA polymorphism in the mitochondrial-derived peptide, MOTS-c. *Aging (Albany NY)*. 2021 Jan 19;13(2):1692-1717.
2. **Vicinanza R**, Bersani FS, D'Ottavio E, Murphy M, Bernardini S, Crisciotti F, Frizza A, Mazza V, Biondi M, Troisi G, Cacciafesta M. Adherence to Mediterranean diet moderates the association between multimorbidity and depressive symptoms in older adults. *Arch Gerontol Geriatr*. Volume 88, May–June 2020, 104022.
3. Bersani FS, Ghezzi F, Maraone A, **Vicinanza R**, Cavaggioni G, Biondi M, Pasquini M. The relationship between Vitamin D and depressive disorders. *Riv Psichiatri*. 2019 Nov-Dec;54(6):229-234.
4. **Vicinanza R**, Troisi G, Cangemi R, De Martino MU, Pastori D, Bernardini S, Crisciotti F, Di Violante F, Frizza A, Cacciafesta M, Pignatelli P, Marigliano V. Aging and Adherence to the Mediterranean Diet: Relationship with Cardiometabolic Disorders and Polypharmacy. *J Nutr Health Aging*. 2018;22(1):73-81.
5. Taglieri L, Nardo T, **Vicinanza R**, Ross JM, Scarpa S, Coppotelli G. Thyroid hormone regulates fibronectin expression through the activation of the hypoxia inducible factor-1. *Biochem Biophys Res Commun*. 2017 Nov 25;493(3):1304-1310.
6. Polimeni L, Pastori D, Baratta F, Tozzi G, Novo M, **Vicinanza R**, Troisi G, Pannitteri G, Ceci F, Scardella L, Violi F, Angelico F, Del Ben M. Spleen dimensions are inversely associated with lysosomal acid lipase activity in patients with non-alcoholic fatty liver disease.
7. Bersani FS, Biondi M, Coviello M, Fagiolini A, Majorana M, Minichino A, Rusconi AC, Vergnani, L, **Vicinanza R**, Coccanari de' Fornari MA. Psychoeducational intervention focused on healthy living improves psychopathological severity and lifestyle quality in psychiatric patients: preliminary findings from a controlled study. *J Ment Health*. 2017 Mar 1:1-5.
8. Bersani FS, Santacroce R, Coviello M, Imperatori C, Francesconi M, **Vicinanza R**, Minichino A, Corazza O. Cannabis: a self-medication drug for weight management? The never ending story. *Drug Test Anal*. 2015 Oct 12.
9. Bersani FS, Corazza O, Albano G, Bruschi S, Minichino A, **Vicinanza R**, Bersani G, Martinotti G, Schifano F. The "Eyeballing" technique: an emerging and alerting trend of alcohol misuse. *Eur Rev Med Pharmacol Sci*. 2015 Jun;19(12):2311-7.
10. Minichino A, Bersani FS, Calò WK, Spagnoli F, Francesconi M, **Vicinanza R**, Delle Chiaie R, Biondi M. Smoking behavior and mental health disorders-mutual influences and implications for therapy. *Int J Environ Res Public Health*. 2013 Oct 10;10(10):4790-811.
11. De Iuliis F, Salerno G, Taglieri L, **Vicinanza R**, Lanza R, Scarpa S. Elderly woman with triple-negative metastatic breast cancer successfully treated with metronomic capecitabine. *Anticancer Res*. 2014 Aug;34(8):4287-91.
12. Nardo T, Micalizzi G, **Vicinanza R**, De Iuliis F, Taglieri L, Scarpa S. Adhesion to type V collagen enhances staurosporine-induced apoptosis of adrenocortical cancer cells. *Tumour Biol*. 2014 Oct;35(10):9949-55.
13. **Vicinanza R**, Zhang Y, Henning SM, Heber D. Pomegranate Juice Metabolites, Ellagic Acid and Urolithin A, Synergistically Inhibit Androgen-Independent Prostate Cancer Cell Growth via Distinct Effects on Cell Cycle Control and Apoptosis. *Evid Based Complement Alternat Med*. 2013;2013:247504

14. Henning SM, Wang P, Abgaryan N, **Vicinanza R**, de Oliveira DM, Zhang Y, Lee RP, Carpenter CL, Aronson WJ, Heber D. Phenolic acid concentrations in plasma and urine from men consuming green or black tea and potential chemopreventive properties for colon cancer. *Mol Nutr Food Res*. 2013. Mar;57(3):483-93.
15. **Vicinanza R**, Coppotelli G, Malacrino C, Nardo T, Buchetti B, Lenti L, Celi FS, Scarpa S. Oxidized low-density lipoproteins impair endothelial function by inhibiting non-genomic action of thyroid hormone-mediated nitric oxide production in human endothelial cells. *Thyroid*. 2013 Feb;23(2):231-8.
16. Abstract CN06-03: Henning SM, Piwen Wang P, Angela Wong A, **Vicinanza R**, Aronson WJ, Heber D.. Green tea and pomegranate: The role of metabolites in chemoprevention. *Cancer Prevention Research* 3(12 Supplement): December 2010
17. Iannetti L, Spinucci G, Pesci FR, **Vicinanza R**, Stigliano A, Pivetti-Pezzi P. Central serous chorioretinopathy as a presenting symptom of endogenous Cushing syndrome: a case report. *Eur J Ophthalmol*. 2011 Sep-Oct;21(5):661-4.

BOOK CHAPTER

- Geriatric Medicine: A Person-Centered Evidence-Based Approach 5th ed. 2024 Edition. Book chapter title: Schizophrenia and Other Late-Life Psychoses. FS. Bersani, E. Prevete, R. Vicinanza.

EDITORIAL BOARD

- Emerging Trends in Drugs, Addictions, and Health (International Society for the study of emerging drugs)

ABSTRACTS AND POSTERS PRESENTED AT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

1. **Vicinanza R**, D'Ottavio E, Bersani FS, Crisciotti F, Angelini F, Castellani F, Biondi M, Cacciafesta M, Troisi G. The Association Among Adherence to Mediterranean Diet Pattern, Neuropsychiatric Symptoms and Multimorbidity in Elderly Medical Outpatients. Italian Society of Internal Medicine (SIMI). October 2016, Rome, Italy.
2. **Vicinanza R**, Troisi G, Cangemi R, De Martino MU, Pastori D, Bernardini S, Crisciotti F, Di Violante F, Frizza A, Cacciafesta M, Pignatelli P, Marigliano V. Adherence to Mediterranean Diet in Elderly Patients. Relationship with Cardiometabolic Disorders and Polypharmacy. Italian Society of Internal Medicine (SIMI). October 2016, Rome, Italy.
3. De Iullis F, **Vicinanza R**, Mandolini P, Salerno G, Lanza R, Modesti M. On-and-off metronomic oral vinorelbine decreases toxicity and increases the quality of life in elderly women with advanced breast cancer. Italian Association of Medical Oncology (AIOM) Meeting. October, 2013, Milan, Italy.
4. **Vicinanza R**, Zhang Y, Li Z. Biomedical action of pomegranate ellagitannins. Oxidants and antioxidants in biology. Cell Signaling and Nutrient-Gene Interactions. Oxygen Club of California 2012, University of Turin, Italy.
5. Zhang Y, Lee RP, Huang J, **Vicinanza R**, Li Z, Heber D. Turmeric and Black pepper inhibition of lipid peroxidation in cooked burger. UCLA Research Day 2011, Department of Medicine. Sept. 2011. Los Angeles, CA, USA.
6. **Vicinanza R**, Ma J, Zhang Y, Henning SM. Pomegranate ellagitannin metabolites impair Akt and Erk phosphorylation and inhibit IGF-1-mediated prostate cancer cell growth via synergistic effect. UCLA Research Day 2011, Department of Medicine. Sept, 2011. Los Angeles, CA, USA.
7. **Vicinanza R**, Coppotelli G, Malacrino C, Nardo T, Buchetti B, Lenti L, Celi FS and Scarpa S. Role of LDL Oxidation on Non-Genomic Thyroid Hormone Action in Human Endothelial Cells. Endocrine Society meeting (ENDO 2011), June, 2011, Boston, Ma, USA.
8. **Vicinanza R**, Zhang Y, Doris C, Henning SM, Heber D. Ellagitannin-derived compounds exhibit anti-inflammatory, antiproliferative and cell cycle arresting activity in androgen independent prostate cancer cell line. UCLA Research Day 2011, Department of Medicine. Oct, 2010. Los Angeles, CA, USA.
9. Zhang Y, Lee RP, **Vicinanza R**, Wang D, Huang J, Heber D. LC-MS/MS identification of ellagic acid and urolithin A metabolites in human prostate cancer cells. UCLA Research Day 2011, Department of Medicine. Oct, 2010. Los Angeles, CA, USA.
10. Henning SM, Wang P, Wong P, **Vicinanza R**, Aronson WJ, Heber D. Green tea and pomegranate: The role of metabolites in chemoprevention. AACR International Conference on Frontiers in Cancer Prevention Research. Nov, 2010; Philadelphia, PA, USA. Cancer Prevention Research: December 2010; Volume 3, Issue 12, Supplement 2.
11. Henning SM, Wang P, Wong A, **Vicinanza R**, Adams LS, Aronson WJ, Heber D. Chemoprevention by pomegranate and green tea. Oxygen Club of California 2010. March, 2010, Santa Barbara, CA, USA.
12. Stigliano A., Argese N., De Venanzi A., Porcelli T., Della Chiara V., Caprioli S., **Vicinanza R**, Semprini A., Misiti S., Toscano V. Carcinoma bronchiale ACTH-secrente in paziente con sindrome di Cushing. IX Congresso Nazionale AME – Milano 2009, Italy.
13. Stigliano A, Argese N, Caprioli S, Della Chiara V, De Venanzi A, Porcelli T, **Vicinanza R**, Cerquetti L, Sampaoli C, Misiti S, Toscano V. A woman with two simultaneous bilateral adrenal masses corresponding to a primary aldosteronism and subclinical Cushing's syndrome. XXXIII National Congress of the Italian Society of Endocrinology – Sorrento 2009, Italy.

ORAL PRESENTATION AT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

1. **Vicinanza R**, De Martino MU, Molfino A, Marchiori E, Bernardini S, Crisciotti F, Frizza A, Mazza V, Muscaritoli M, Kim SJ, Cohen P, Troisi G. Sarcopenia and Inflammaging: High Circulating Levels of IGF-I Coupled with Low C-Reactive Protein are Associated with Better Body Composition Parameters in Geriatric Outpatients with Multiple Chronic Diseases. 8th International Congress of the GRS and IGF Society. November 2016, Tel Aviv, Israel.
2. **Vicinanza R**, Celi FS, Marigliano V. Lipid metabolism and cardiovascular effects of thyroid hormones in hypothyroidism. FIMEG conference (Italian Society of Geriatric Medicine), May 2013, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy.
3. **Vicinanza R**, Zhang Y, Henning S, Li Z, Heber D. Urolithin A and Ellagic Acid Inhibit Prostate Cancer Through Different Molecular Mechanisms: Implications of Gut Microbiome Metabolism for Cancer Prevention. American Society for Nutrition (ASN) Meeting at Experimental Biology, April 2011, Washington DC, USA.
4. **Vicinanza R**, Zhang Y, Henning SM, Ma J, Heber D. Pomegranate ellagitannin metabolite, Urolithin A, inhibits prostate cancer cell proliferation via inhibition of IGF-1 signaling pathway. American Society for Nutrition (ASN) Meeting at Experimental Biology, April 2012, San Diego, CA, US

REFERENCES

[Pinchas Cohen, MD \(gerodean@usc.edu\)](mailto:gerodean@usc.edu)

Dean, USC Davis School of Gerontology. Executive Director, Ethel Percy Andrus Gerontology Center. William and Sylvia Kugel Dean's Chair in Gerontology. Los Angeles, USA.

[David Heber, M.D., Ph.D., FACN, FACP \(dheber@mednet.ucla.edu\)](mailto:dheber@mednet.ucla.edu)

Professor Emeritus and founder of UCLA Center for Human Nutrition, University of California, Los Angeles, USA.

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[Francesco Celi, MD, MHSc \(fsceli@vcu.edu\)](mailto:fsceli@vcu.edu)

Chair of the Division of Endocrinology and Metabolism. Department of Internal Medicine Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA. USA.

[Pasquale Pignatelli, M.D., Ph.D. \(pasquale.pignatelli@uniroma1.it\)](mailto:pasquale.pignatelli@uniroma1.it)

Associate Professor of Medicine
Department of Internal Medicine and Medical
Specialties Sapienza University of Rome, Italy

[Susanne M. Henning, Ph.D., R.D. \(shenning@mednet.ucla.edu\)](mailto:shenning@mednet.ucla.edu)

Adjunct Professor, David Geffen School of Medicine, UCLA Center For Human Nutrition, University of California, Los Angeles, USA.

[Susanna Scarpa, Ph.D. \(susanna.scarpa@uniroma1.it\)](mailto:susanna.scarpa@uniroma1.it)

Professor of General Pathology and Molecular Oncology, Director of Ultrastructural Pathology Laboratory, Sapienza University of Rome.

