



Europass Curriculum Vitae



Personal information

First name(s) / Surname(s)

Stefano Morabito



Work experience

Dates 01 January 1993 - 01 June 1996

Occupation or position held Research and development: Hired researcher

Main activities and responsibilities Studies on the molecular pathogenesis of Non-Hodgkin's Lymphomas in HIV patients. Identification of polymorphisms in the 6q21 region associated with leukemias. High resolution mapping of the human genome by Fluorescent In Situ Hybridization techniques including Comparative Genomic Hybridization and interphase Halo mapping.

Name and address of employer Istituto Superiore di Sanità
Viale Regina Elena, 299, 00161 Rome (Italy)

Type of business or sector Governmental biomedical research

Dates 01/07/1996 - 08/06/2000

Occupation or position held Research and development: Hired researcher

Main activities and responsibilities Research programs aiming at studying the epidemiology of Verocytotoxin-producing *E. coli* in humans and animal populations. Development of detection and typing methods for bacterial zoonotic pathogens.

Name and address of employer Istituto Superiore di Sanità
Viale Regina Elena 299, 00161 Rome (Italy)

Type of business or sector Governmental biomedical research

Dates 08/06/2000 – 31/06/2007

Occupation or position held Research and development: Staff Scientist (permanent position)

Main activities and responsibilities Development of molecular typing systems in support of the epidemiology of food-borne zoonoses. Management of national and EU-funded research projects aiming at defining the whole genomic asset conferring virulence to Verocytotoxin-producing *E. coli*. External supervisor of students for the degree thesis in agreement with University of Rome "La Sapienza" and University of "Roma Tre". Auditor for the national Body for accreditation of the laboratories according to ISO 17025 since 2004

Name and address of employer Istituto Superiore di Sanità
Viale Regina Elena 299, 00161 Rome (Italy)

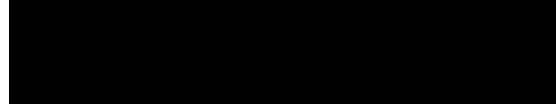
Type of business or sector	Governmental biomedical research and food safety (institutional and basic research)
Dates	01 July 2007 at present
Occupation or position held	Research and development: Senior Scientist (permanent position)
Main activities and responsibilities	<p>Team leader and research projects manager in the field of evolution and virulence of pathogenic <i>E. coli</i>. Since 2007, Deputy Director of the European Reference Laboratory for <i>E. coli</i> (EU RL VTEC) with responsibilities in coordination of the research activities and methods development sectors. Director of the EU RL VTEC since March 2016. Full member of the Working Group "Microbial contamination of food and feed" of the European Committee for Normalization CEN TC275 WG6. Project leader and chairman of the STEC <i>ad hoc</i> group of experts for the development of an international standard for the detection of pathogenic STEC in food and feeding stuffs. Project leader for the validation of the international standard for the detection of <i>E. coli</i> O157 in food and feed in the framework of the mandate M/381.</p> <p>Director of the foodborne diseases unit of the Department of Food Safety, Nutrition and Veterinary Public Health at the Istituto Superiore di Sanità since August 1, 2017.</p> <p>Director of the National Reference Laboratory for <i>E. coli</i> since March 2016.</p> <p>National and EU RL VTEC expert on <i>E. coli</i>, member of the team during the mission of Food and Veterinary Office of the European Commissions in Egypt following the EFSA tracing back exercise for the identification of the source of the German Outbreak of VTEC O104 infections.</p> <p>Member of the EFSA ad hoc working group for the drafting of the Scientific Opinion on the risk posed by Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli (STEC) and other pathogenic bacteria in seeds and sprouted seeds as Expert of the EU RL for <i>E. coli</i>.</p> <p>Member of the EFSA ad hoc working group for the drafting of the Scientific Opinion on the VTEC-serotype and scientific criteria regarding pathogenicity assessment.</p> <p>Member of the EFSA ad hoc working group for the drafting of the Scientific Opinion on the Public health risks associated with Enteropathogenic Escherichia coli (EAEC) as a food-borne pathogen.</p> <p>Member of the joint EFSA and ECDC steering committee for the pilot project on the collection of molecular typing data of VTEC, Salmonella and Listeria isolates.</p> <p>Member of the joint EFSA and ECDC working group on Joint ECDC-EFSA technical support to collect and analyse whole genome sequencing (WGS).</p> <p>EU RL for <i>E. coli</i> representative in the working group of the European Commission for the definition of microbiological criteria for STEC in sprouts.</p> <p>Coordinator of the project ARIES (<i>Advanced Research Infrastructure for Experimentation in GenomicS</i>), aiming at providing a computational framework for the bioinformatics analyses of data from genomics applications.</p> <p>ISS representative in the ELIXIR-IT network since 2018.</p> <p>National Focal Point for the Food and Waterborne Diseases program of the ECDC.</p> <p>Supervisor of PhD students in agreement with University of Rome "Roma Tre".</p>
Name and address of employer	EU RL for <i>E. coli</i> c/o Istituto Superiore di Sanità (Affiliation since July 2006) Viale Regina Elena 299, 00161 Rome (Italy)
Type of business or sector	Governmental biomedical research and food safety (institutional and basic research)
Education and training	
Dates	01/09/1981 - 30/06/1986
Title of qualification awarded	High school diploma
Principal subjects / occupational skills covered	Classical studies
Name and type of organisation providing education and training	Torquato Tasso (secondary school focusing on humanities) Via Sicilia, 00100 Roma (Italy)
Level in national or international classification	ISCED 4
Dates	18/11/1992
Title of qualification awarded	M. Sc. Degree (with honours)
Principal subjects / occupational skills	Biology. Molecular biology with emphasis on regulation of genes' expression, Study of the transcription

covered	factors involved in the regulation of ribosomal protein coding-genes in the <i>Xenopus laevis</i> model.																															
Name and type of organisation providing education and training	University of Rome "La Sapienza" (University) Viale Regina Elena, 00161 Rome (Italy)																															
Level in national or international classification	ISCED 5																															
Dates	/08/2003																															
Title of qualification awarded	Advanced user																															
Principal subjects / occupational skills covered	Use of the bioinformatics for the analysis of bacterial molecular profiles. GelCompar and Bionumerics softwares.																															
Name and type of organisation providing education and training	Applied Maths (Company) Ghent (Belgium)																															
Level in national or international classification	ISCED 5B																															
Personal skills and competences	<p>Marked flair for personal and professional networking. Experience in co-ordinating research projects, including the management of both financial and human resources. Thorough knowledge of the EU food safety and hygiene regulations acquired through the work done in the context of the regulatory and standardization bodies, including the European Commissions and the CEN/ISO working groups. Thorough knowledge of the principles and norms concerning the accreditation of the laboratories involved in the control of food safety acquired through the qualification as an auditor 17025 and the conduction of a high number of audits in both private and public laboratories. Strong competence in education acquired by delivering lectures in training courses and invited talks at international congresses. Competence on writing on scientific subjects at topic level. Contributor with a monography on ecology of pathogenic <i>E. coli</i> to the Encyclopedia of Life Support Systems (invited contribution). Co-author of the chapter: "Shiga Toxin-Producing Escherichia coli in Food" in the book "Rapid Detection, Characterization, and Enumeration of Foodborne Pathogens" ASM press Co-author of the chapter: "Public Health Microbiology of STEC" for the Microbiology Spectrum. ASM press Co-author of the chapter: "Diarrhoeagenic <i>E. coli</i>: Virulence genes and other markers for detection and typing" in the book "Pathogenic Escherichia coli. Evolution, Omics, Detection and Control" Caister Academic press Editor of the book "Pathogenic Escherichia coli: Molecular and Cellular Microbiology" UK publisher Horizon Scientific Press. Reviewer for a number of journals in the microbiology and food science sectors. Member of the editorial board of Journal of Clinical Microbiology and Diagnosis Academic Editor of the British Microbiology Research Journal</p>																															
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(*) [Common European Framework of Reference \(CEF\) level](#)

Autorizzazione al trattamento dei dati personali ai sensi del Reg. UE 2016/679

Rome February 28, 2019



Relevant Publications on Peer Reviewed Scientific Journals

- Brigotti M, Arfilli V, Carnicelli D, Ricci F, Tazzari PL, Ardissino G, Scavia G, **Morabito S**, He X. 2018 Soluble Toll-Like Receptor 4 Impairs the Interaction of Shiga Toxin 2a with Human Serum Amyloid P Component. *Toxins (Basel)*. Sep 18;10(9).
 - Michelacci V, Maugliani A, Tozzoli R, Corteselli G, Chiani P, Minelli F, Gigliucci F, Arancia S, Conedera G, Targhetta C, Pierasco A, Collini L, Parisi A, Scavia G, **Morabito S**. Characterization of a novel plasmid encoding F4-like fimbriae present in a Shiga-toxin producing enterotoxigenic Escherichia coli isolated during the investigation on a case of hemolytic-uremic syndrome. *Int J Med Microbiol*. 2018 Oct;308(7):947-955. doi: 10.1016/j.ijmm.2018.07.002.
 - Tozzoli R, Maugliani A, Michelacci V, Minelli F, Caprioli A, Morabito S. 2018. Validation on milk and sprouts of EN ISO 16654:2001 - Microbiology of food and animal feeding stuffs - Horizontal method for the detection of Escherichia coli O157. *Int J Food Microbiol*. 2018 May 8. pii: S0168-1605(18)30228-9. doi: 10.1016/j.ijfoodmicro.2018.05.005.
 - Scavia G, Gianviti A, Labriola V, Chiani P, Maugliani A, Michelacci V, Minelli F, Tozzoli R, Caprioli A, **Morabito S**. A case of haemolytic uraemic syndrome (HUS) revealed an outbreak of Shiga toxin-2-producing Escherichia coli O26:H11 infection in a nursery, with long-lasting shedders and person-to-person transmission, Italy 2015. *J Med Microbiol*. 2018 Apr 23. doi: 10.1099/jmm.0.000738. [Epub ahead of print]
 - Gigliucci F, Von Meijenfeldt F. A. B, Knijn A, Michelacci V, Scavia G, Minelli F, Dutilh B. E., Ahmad H. M., Raangs G. C., Friedrich A. W., Rossen J. W. A., **Morabito S**. Metagenomic Characterization of the Human Intestinal Microbiota in Fecal Samples from STEC-Infected Patients. *Front Cell Infect Microbiol*. 2018 Jan 8: 25.
 - Pasqua M, Michelacci V, Di Martino ML, Tozzoli R, Grossi M, Colonna B, **Morabito S**, Prosseda G. The Intriguing Evolutionary Journey of Enteroinvasive E. coli (EIEC) toward Pathogenicity. *Front Microbiol*. 2017 Dec 5;8:2390. doi: 10.3389/fmicb.2017.02390. eCollection 2017. Review.
 - Usein CR, Ciontea AS, Militaru CM, Condei M, Dinu S, Oprea M, Cristea D, Michelacci V, Scavia G, Zota LC, Zaharia A, **Morabito S**. Molecular characterisation of human Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* O26 strains: results of an outbreak investigation, Romania, February to August 2016. *Euro Surveill*. 2017 Nov;22(47).
 - Bondi R, Chiani P, Michelacci V, Minelli F, Caprioli A, **Morabito S**. The Gene_tia, Harbored by the Subtilase-Encoding Pathogenicity Island, Is Involved in the Ability of Locus of Enterocyte Effacement-Negative Shiga Toxin-Producing Escherichia coli Strains To Invade Monolayers of Epithelial Cells. *Infect Immun*. 2017 Nov 17;85(12).
 - Gigliucci F, Brambilla G, Tozzoli R, Michelacci V, **Morabito S**. Comparative analysis of metagenomes of Italian top soil improvers. *Environ Res*. 2017 Feb 16;155:108-115.
 - Tozzoli R, Di Bartolo I, Gigliucci F, Brambilla G, Monini M, Vignolo E, Caprioli A, **Morabito S**. Pathogenic Escherichia coli and enteric viruses in biosolids and related top soil improvers in Italy. *J Appl Microbiol*. 2017 Jan;122(1):239-247.
 - Grande L, Michelacci V, Bondi R, Gigliucci F, Franz E, Badouei MA, Schlager S, Minelli F, Tozzoli R, Caprioli A, **Morabito S**. Whole-Genome Characterization and Strain Comparison of VT2f-Producing Escherichia coli Causing Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome. *Emerg Infect Dis*. 2016 Dec;22(12):2078-2086.
 - Scalfaro C, Iacobino A, Grande L, **Morabito S**, Franciosa G. Effects of Megaplasmid Loss on Growth of Neurotoxigenic Clostridium butyricum Strains and Botulinum Neurotoxin Type E Expression. *Front Microbiol*. 2016 Feb 25;7:217.
 - Michelacci V, Orsini M, Knijn A, Delannoy S, Fach P, Caprioli A, **Morabito S**. Development of a High Resolution Virulence Allelic Profiling (HReVAP) Approach Based on the Accessory Genome of Escherichia coli to Characterize Shiga-Toxin Producing E. coli (STEC). *Front Microbiol*. 2016 Feb 23;7:202.
 - Askari Badouei M, **Morabito S**, Najafifar A, Mazandarani E. Molecular characterization of enterohemorrhagic Escherichia coli hemolysin gene (EHEC-hlyA)-harboring isolates from cattle reveals a diverse origin and hybrid diarrheagenic strains. *Infect Genet Evol*. 2016 Apr;39:342-8.
 - Michelacci V, Prosseda G, Maugliani A, Tozzoli R, Sanchez S, Herrera-León S, Dallman T, Jenkins C, Caprioli A, **Morabito S**. Characterization of an emergent clone of enteroinvasive Escherichia coli circulating in Europe. *Clin Microbiol Infect*. 2016 Mar;22(3):287.e11-9.
 - Ferdous M, Zhou K, Mellmann A, **Morabito S**, Croughs PD, de Boer RF, Kooistra-Smid AM, Rossen JW, Friedrich AW. Are Shiga toxin negative Escherichia coli O157:H7 enteropathogenic or enterohaemorrhagic Escherichia coli? A comprehensive molecular analysis using whole genome sequencing. *J Clin Microbiol*. 2015 Aug 26. pii: JCM.01899-15.
 - Pettengill EA, Hoffmann M, Binet R, Roberts RJ, Payne J, Allard M, Michelacci V, Minelli F, **Morabito S**. Complete Genome Sequence of Enteroinvasive Escherichia coli O96:H19 Associated with a Severe Foodborne Outbreak. *Genome Announc*. 2015 Aug 6;3(4). pii: e00883-15. doi: 10.1128/genomeA.00883-15.
 - Caprioli A, Scavia G, **Morabito S**. Public Health Microbiology of Shiga Toxin-Producing Escherichia coli. *Microbiol Spectr*. 2014 Dec;2(6). doi: 10.1128/microbiolspec.EHEC-0014-2013.
 - Messens W, Bolton D, Frankel G, Liebana E, McLAUCHLIN J, **Morabito S**, Oswald E, Threlfall EJ. Defining pathogenic verocytotoxin-producing Escherichia coli (VTEC) from cases of human infection in the European Union, 2007-2010. *Epidemiol Infect*. 2015 Jun;143(8):1652-61. doi: 10.1017/S095026881400137X.
 - Kabiru LM, Bello M, Kabir J, Grande L, **Morabito S**. Detection of pathogenic Escherichia coli in samples collected at an abattoir in Zaria, Nigeria and at different points in the surrounding environment. *Int J Environ Res Public Health*. 2015 Jan 13;12(1):679-91. doi: 10.3390/ijerph120100679.
 - Franz E, Delaquis P, Morabito S, Beutin L, Gobius K, Rasko DA, Bono J, French N, Osek J, Lindstedt BA, Muniesa M, Manning S, LeJeune J, Callaway T, Beatson S, Eppinger M, Dallman T, Forbes KJ, Aarts H, Pearl DL, Gannon VP, Laing CR, Strachan NJ. Exploiting the explosion of information associated with whole genome sequencing to tackle Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli (STEC) in global food production systems. *Int J Food Microbiol*. 2014 Sep 18;187:57-72.

22. Grande L, Michelacci V, Tozzoli R, Ranieri P, Maugliani A, Caprioli A, **Morabito S**. Whole genome sequence comparison of vtx2-converting phages from Enteropathogenic Escherichia coli strains. *BMC Genomics*. 2014 Jul;15:574.
23. Tozzoli R, Grande L, Michelacci V, Ranieri P, Maugliani A, Caprioli A, **Morabito S**. Shiga toxin-converting phages and the emergence of new pathogenic Escherichia coli: a world in motion. *Front Cell Infect Microbiol*. 2014 Jun;20:4:80.
24. Michelacci V, Grande L, Tozzoli R, Maugliani A, Caprioli A, **Morabito S**. Identification of two allelic variants of *toxB* gene and investigation of their distribution among Verocytotoxin-producing Escherichia coli. *Int J Med Microbiol*. 2014 Jul;304(5-6):730-4.
25. Tozzoli R, Grande L, Michelacci V, Fioravanti R, Gally D, Xu X, La Ragione R, Anjum M, Wu G, Caprioli A, **Morabito S**. Identification and characterization of a peculiar vtx2-converting phage frequently present in verocytotoxin-producing Escherichia coli O157 isolated from human infections. *Infect Immun*. 2014 Jul;82(7):3023-32.
26. Escher M, Scavia G, **Morabito S**, Tozzoli R, Maugliani A, Cantoni S, Fracchia S, Bettati A, Casa R, Gesu GP, Torresani E, Caprioli A. A severe foodborne outbreak of diarrhoea linked to a canteen in Italy caused by enteroinvasive Escherichia coli, an uncommon agent. *Epidemiol Infect*. 2014 Feb;131:1-8. [Epub ahead of print]
27. Anjum MF, Jones E, Morrison V, Tozzoli R, **Morabito S**, Toth I, Nagy B, Smith G, Aspan A, Nielsen EM, Fach P, Herrera-León S, Woodward MJ, La Ragione RM. Use of virulence determinants and seropathotypes to distinguish high- and low-risk Escherichia coli O157 and non-O157 isolates from Europe. *Epidemiol Infect*. 2013 Jul;18:1-10.
28. Bielaszewska M, Mellmann A, Bletz S, Zhang W, Köck R, Kossow A, Prager R, Fruth A, Orth-Höller D, Marejková M, **Morabito S**, Caprioli A, Piérard D, Smith G, Jenkins C, Curová K, Karch H. Enterohemorrhagic Escherichia coli O26:H11/H-: a new virulent clone emerges in Europe. *Clin Infect Dis*. 2013 May;56(10):1373-81. doi: 10.1093/cid/cit055. Epub 2013 Feb 1.
29. Michelacci V, Tozzoli R, Caprioli A, Martínez R, Scheutz F, Grande L, Sánchez S, **Morabito S**. A new pathogenicity island carrying an allelic variant of the Subtilase cytotoxin is common among Shiga toxin producing Escherichia coli of human and ovine origin. *Clin Microbiol Infect*. 2013 Mar;19(3):E149-56. doi: 10.1111/1469-0998.12122. Epub 2013 Jan 17.
30. Scheutz F, Teel LD, Beutin L, Piérard D, Buvens G, Karch H, Mellmann A, Caprioli A, Tozzoli R, **Morabito S**, Strockbine NA, Melton-Celsa AR, Sanchez M, Persson S, O'Brien AD. Multicenter evaluation of a sequence-based protocol for subtyping shiga toxins and standardizing stx nomenclature. *J Clin Microbiol*. 2012 Sep;50(9):2951-63. Epub 2012 Jul 3.
31. Xu X, McAtee SP, Tree JJ, Shaw DJ, Wolfson EB, Beatson SA, Roe AJ, Allison LJ, Chase-Topping ME, Mahajan A, Tozzoli R, Woolhouse ME, **Morabito S**, Gally DL. Lysogeny with Shiga Toxin 2-Encoding Bacteriophages Represses Type III Secretion in Enterohemorrhagic Escherichia coli. *PLoS Pathog*. 2012 May;8(5):e1002672. Epub 2012 May 17.
32. Scavia G, Morabito S, Tozzoli R, Michelacci V, Marziano ML, Minelli F, Ferreri C, Paglialonga F, Edefonti A, Caprioli A. Similarity of Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli O104:H4 strains from Italy and Germany. *Emerg Infect Dis*. 2011 Oct;17(10):1957-8.
33. Kagkli DM, Weber TP, Van den Bulcke M, Folloni S, Tozzoli R, **Morabito S**, Ermolli M, Gribaldo L, Van den Eede G. Application of the modular approach to an in-house validation study of real-time PCR methods for the detection and serogroup determination of verocytotoxigenic Escherichia coli. *Appl Environ Microbiol*. 2011 Oct;77(19):6954-63.
34. Scheutz F, Moller Nielsen E, Frimodt-Møller J, Boisen N, Morabito S, Tozzoli R, Nataro J, Caprioli A. Characteristics of the enteroaggregative Shiga toxin/verotoxin-producing Escherichia coli O104:H4 strain causing the outbreak of haemolytic uraemic syndrome in Germany, May to June 2011. *Euro Surveill*. Jun 16; 16 (24).
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36. Pina M, Fratamico, Xianghe Yan, Alfredo Caprioli, Giuseppina Esposito, David S. Needleman, Tiziana Pepe, Rosangela Tozzoli, Maria Luisa Cortesi, and Stefano Morabito. The Complete DNA Sequence and Analysis of the Virulence Plasmid and of Five Additional Plasmids Carried by Shiga Toxin-Producing Escherichia coli O26:H11 Strain H30. 2011. *Int J Med Microbiol*. Mar;301(3):192-203
37. Jafari F, Tajbakhsh M, Morabito S, et al. Identification and characterization of Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli (STEC) isolated from cattle, sheep and meat samples in Tehran Province, Iran. *Int J Infect Dis* 2010. Volume: 14 Pages: E160-E161
38. Lauri A, Castiglioni B, Morabito S, Tozzoli R, Consolandi C, Mariani P. A tool based on Ligation Detection Reaction-Universal Array (LDR-UA) for the characterization of VTEC by identification of virulence-associated and serogroup-specific genes. *Mol Cell Probes*. 2010. Oct 20.
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44. Loukiadis E, Nobe R, Herold S, Tramuta C, Ogura Y, Ooka T, Morabito S, Kérourédan M, Brugère H, Schmidt H, Hayashi T, Oswald E. Distribution, functional expression, and genetic organization of Cif, a phage-encoded type III-secreted effector from enteropathogenic and enterohemorrhagic Escherichia coli. *J Bacteriol*. 2008 Jan;190(1):275-85.

45. Ogura Y, Ooka T, Whale A, Garmendia J, Beutin L, Tenant S, Krause G, Morabito S, Chinen I, Tobe T, Abe H, Tozzoli R, Caprioli A, Rivas M, Robins-Browne R, Hayashi T, Frankel G. TccP2 of O157:H7 and non-O157 enterohemorrhagic *Escherichia coli* (EHEC): challenging the dogma of EHEC-induced actin polymerization. *Infect Immun.* 2007 Feb;75(2):604-12.
46. Busani L, Boccia D, Caprioli A, M Ruggeri F, Morabito S, Minelli F, Lana S, Rizzoni G, Giofrè F, Mazzeo M, Tozzi AE. Public health implications of a case of haemolytic-uraemic syndrome associated with a concomitant outbreak of mild gastroenteritis in a small rural community. *Epidemiol Infect.* 2006 Apr;134(2):407-13.
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