



Alberto Passi, MD PhD: Full professor in biochemistry at the Medical School University of Insubria (Varese – Italy), dean of the Faculty of Exercise and Sport Sciences of University of Insubria, director of biochemistry laboratories at Department of Biomedical Experimental and Clinical Sciences (DSBSC) of University of Insubria. Since his PhD he focused his scientific interest in extracellular matrix metabolism. Cell cultures, lung and vascular tissues were initially approached studying proteoglycan metabolism including the effect of free radicals and proteases on extracellular matrix macromolecules. After a sabbatical period in Hascall's lab in Cleveland (OH – USA), the Passi's interests moved toward the hyaluronan and in particular studies were carried out on hyaluronan metabolism and its control. The role of UDP sugars precursors in the glycosaminoglycan synthesis and the covalent modification of enzymes involved in glycosaminoglycan metabolism are at the moment the main interest in Passi's lab.