

Maria Assunta Rocca, MD

Dr. Rocca is currently Head of the “Neuroimaging of CNS White Matter Unit”, Department of Neurology, Institute of Experimental Neurology, Scientific Institute Ospedale San Raffaele, Milan, Italy.

Her activity is mainly focused on the application of structural and functional MR based techniques to improve the understanding of central nervous system function and dysfunction in healthy individuals and diseased people, particularly patients with multiple sclerosis (MS) and other white matter disorders.

Dr. Rocca is currently conducting and coordinating several national and international projects in adult and pediatric populations. She is also extensively applying advanced methods of analysis in an attempt to improve the understanding of the role of brain functional and structural plasticity in the different phases of MS, and the influence of pharmacological and rehabilitative interventions on brain reorganization.

She is member of various national and international Scientific Societies and, in some of them, she covered or is covering institutional roles (MAGNIMS, Neuroimaging Study Group of the Italian Neurological Society, AMPC of the ISMRM, International Pediatric Multiple Sclerosis Study Group, European Academy of Neurology). She coordinated the MRI acquisition and analysis of several large-scale international MRI-monitored trials of MS.

From 2018, she is chair of the MAGNIMS network.

Dr. Rocca is author or co-author of more than 430 papers published on peer-reviewed journals and of 52 book chapters. She is also reviewer of several international scientific journals and for many Governmental Organizations and private Foundations. Due to her scientific activity she participated, as a speaker and/or chairman, to more than 370 international congresses and she received several national and international Awards.

In 2013, Dr. Rocca was awarded the “Rita Levi Montalcini” Prize for her outstanding contributions to the study of MS.

Dr. Rocca is Non-Tenured Professor at Università Vita-Salute San Raffaele, Milan.

In 2017, she received the qualification as Full Professor of Neurology in Italy.