

Curriculum Vitae

Dr Ernesto Picardi

Ernesto Picardi obtained his PhD in Plant Biology in 2006 at the Department of Cellular Biology of the University of Calabria (Italy). Since May 2008 is Assistant professor in molecular biology at the Faculty of Biotechnological Sciences at the University of Bari (Italy). In 2007 he worked as research assistant in the Bioinformatics Laboratory headed by prof. G. Pesole at the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology “E. Quagliariello” of the University of Bari (Italy). His research activity focuses on Molecular Biology, Bioinformatics and Molecular Evolution. In particular, he is involved in plant mitochondrial RNA editing and its effect on phylogenetic tree reconstruction. He is recently working in new bioinformatics approaches to predict gene structures and alternative splicing events by means of data from massive sequencing.

He is the main author of REDIdb, the first specialised database to store all available and experimentally verified RNA editing events affecting different organisms and cellular locations. Moreover, he wrote a specific program to simulate the phenomenon of RNA editing in mitochondria of higher plants and he is involved as co-author in scientific papers on molecular biology of plant mitochondria. In addition, he developed the first methodology to detect *de novo* RNA editing events by next generation sequencing data including Illumina/Solexa and SOLiD.

He is also co-author of ASPicDB, a specialized database for alternative splicing events in human predicted by means of ASPic program. Recently, he developed computational tools for EST clustering and detection of RNA editing in human by next generation sequencing technologies.

He carried out training activity in Bioinformatics at the University of Milan, European Institute of Bioinformatics (Cambridge, UK) and CRG-IMIM Institute of Barcelona (Spain).

He supported didactic activity for courses such as Biochemistry I and II, Molecular Biology, Applied Biology, Applied Bioinformatics, Laboratory of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry at the University of Calabria. Since 2008 is responsible for the course of “Bioinformatics and Genome Analysis” at the Faculty of Biotechnological Sciences (University of Bari). Since 2008 he is also responsible for the course of “Bioinformatics” at BIOGEM research institute (Ariano Irpino, AV, Italy).

He is actually member of the Italian Bioinformatics Society (BITS) and member of the International Society for Computational Biology (ISCB).