

CURRICULUM VITAE

FRANCESCO MARIA BENAZZO, MD

Francesco Maria Benazzo was born in Pavia, IT, in 1955. He completed the School of Medicine in 1980 in the University of Pavia.

During the course of the medical school, he devoted himself to electron microscopy, particularly of the connective tissue, spending many months at the Medizinische Hochschule, Abteilung Elektronenmikroskopie, in Hannover, Germany. He pioneered the application of special techniques such as freeze-etching and freeze-fracture to the connective tissue, and in particular to cartilage and tendons.

He began the residency in orthopaedic surgery in 1981 at the Clinica Ortopedica e Traumatologica dell'Università di Pavia, San Matteo Hospital, Chairman Prof. Mario Boni.

After he completed the orthopaedic education in 1985, he became clinical assistant in the same hospital in the Section of Sports Traumatology, until 1990, when he assumed an academic position as assistant professor. He was appointed as lecturer of hand surgery in 1995. He finally became Full Professor of Orthopaedics and Traumatology in 2000, and Chairman of the Orthopaedic and Traumatologic Department of the University of Pavia, San Matteo Hospital, on July, 1st, 2002. Since then, he also chairs the Program of Residency in Orthopaedics and Traumatology.

He is author of many publication (actually more than 140 papers, chapters of books and books on stress fractures, and hip revision) and podium presentations (more than 300 papers) in different fields of orthopaedics, starting from the basic research work in electron microscopy.

His main fields of scientific and clinical interest have been and are:

- connective tissue structure and mechanics
- tendinopathies in athletes and functional overload injuries (from basic research to conservative and surgical treatment and rehabilitation)
- experimental osteoarthritis in animals
- spine osteoarthritis (uncus formation and neurovascular compression in the cervical spine; surgical treatment of the spondylotic myelopathy)
- bone – metal interface in orthopaedic implants
- cementing techniques
- hip and knee prosthetic surgery with development of a hip prosthetic system - which has arrived at 6 years of implantation –
- development of MIS surgical techniques and tools for total knee replacement, together with new prosthetic components – tibial plates – to be adopted with the MIS approaches
- tissue engineering with the use of SAOS 2 and stem cells
- sports traumatology.

Since 1981, he is involved in the care of the top athletes of the Italian track and field national team, participating as team doctor to the Olympic Games of Los Angeles (1984), Atlanta (1996), and to all the editions of the Track and Field World and

European Cups until 1998. He is the orthopaedic consultant of the Track and Field National team since 1989.

Since 2000, he is the orthopaedic consultant of the Internazionale Football Club, of Milano, of the First National Division.

In 2005, he became President of the EFOST (European Federation of the National Sports Traumatology Societies), and organized the 4th EFOST Congress in Pavia, on September 2006.

He is married with Giulia since 1983, and father of three children (Giacomo, Francesca and Andrea).

List of top athletes operated:

- Laura Fogli (marathon runner, national team)
- Amedeo Carboni (soccer player, Valencia)
- Nelson Vivas (Inter, Argentinian National Team)
- Nicola Ventola (Inter)
- Alvaro Recoba (Inter)
- Francesco Toldo (Inter)
- Ivan Ramirez Cordoba (Inter)
- Nicola Beati (Inter)
- Christian Vieri (Inter)
- Pizarro (Inter-Roma)
- Lombardo (Inter)
- Antonietta DeMartino (Track and field, Italian record holder high jump)
- Arianna Farfalletti (track and field, former Italian record holder, pole vault)