OMB No. 0925-0001/0002 (Rev. 08/12 Approved Through 8/31/2015)

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Provide the following information for the Senior/key personnel and other significant contributors.  
Follow this format for each person. **DO NOT EXCEED FIVE PAGES**.

NAME: Caponnetto, Pasquale

eRA COMMONS USER NAME (credential, e.g., agency login): NA

POSITION TITLE: Professor of Clinical Psychology; Professor of General Psychology; School of Medicine University of Catania

EDUCATION/TRAINING (Begin with baccalaureate or other initial professional education, such as nursing, include postdoctoral training and residency training if applicable. Add/delete rows as necessary

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| INSTITUTION AND LOCATION | DEGREE  *(if applicable)* | MM/YEAR | FIELD OF STUDY |
| La Sapienza University, Rome, Italy | Second Degree | 12/2001 | Clinical and Community Psychology |
| Italian Institute of Psychotherapy, Rome and Palermo, Italy | Specialization | 10/2007 | Psychotherapy |
| Training in Ericksonian Psychotherapy, Milton H. Erickson Foundation Arizona (USA) | Residency Training | 12/2007 | Brief Psychotherapy |
| Catania University, Catania, Italy | Master | 02/2009 | Criminology |
| Catania University, Catania, Italy | Postdoctoral | 2009-act | Tobacco Addiction |

1. **Personal Statement**

I have the expertise, leadership, training, expertise and motivation necessary to successfully carry out the proposed research project. I have a broad background in psychology, with specific training and expertise on psychological aspects of addiction. My research includes cognitive and behavioral changes associated with smoking and vaping. As PI or co-Investigator at my university, I laid the groundwork for the proposed research by developing effective measures of dependence and other psycho behavioral factors relevant to the cigarette and/or e-cigarette use, and by establishing strong ties with community providers that will make it possible to recruit and track participants over time as documented in the following publications. In addition, I successfully administered the projects collaborated with other researchers, and produced several peer-reviewed publications from each project. As a result of these previous experiences, I am aware of the importance of frequent communication among project members and of constructing a realistic research plan, timeline, and budget.

During 2006 my career was disrupted by a cancer. However, upon returning to the field I immediately continued my research projects with a “strong new energy”.

1. Caponnetto P, Polosa R. (2008). Common Predictors of smoking cessation in clinical practice. Respir Med.;102(8):1182-92

2. Caponnetto P, Polosa R, Best D (2008).Tobacco use cessation counselling of parents.Curr Opin Pediatr. 2008 20(6):729-33

3. Caponnetto P, Cibella F, Mancuso S, Campagna D, Arcidiacono G, Polosa R (2011). Effect of a nicotine free inhalator as part of a smoking cessation program. Eur Respir j. 38(5):1005-11.

4. Caponnetto P, Campagna D, Cibella F, Morjaria JB, Caruso M, Russo C., Polosa R. (2013) efficiency and safety of an electronic cigarette (ECLAT) as tobacco cigarettes substitute: a prospective 12 month randomized control design study. Plos One 8(6): e66317

**B. Positions and Honors**

## Positions and Employment

2003–2009 Clinical Psychologist-Researcher, Smoking Cessation Research Center, University

of Catania, Italy .

2009-present Professor, University of Catania, Italy.

**Other Experience and Professional Memberships**

2002–2007 Member, Italian Society of Relational Psychoterapy (SIPRES)

2006–present Member, Italian Society of Tobaccology (SITAB)

2003–present Member, Sicilian College of Psychologist

2014-present Associate Editor, BMC Public Health

**Honors**

2005 University of Catania, Research Award

2010 Italian Institute of Health, Disease Control Center 2, Research Award

2015 Pfizer Grant research award (Tobacco Addiction Treatment

**C. Contribution to Science**

1. My early publications directly addressed the definition of common predictors of smoking cessation in clinical practice. Despite the clear benefits of helping smokers to quit, there were a growing trend in physicians' indifference or skepticism towards the efficacy of smoking cessation programs. Several factors are known to indicated whether a smoker is more likely to quit and my research has identified a number of common predictors such as late initiation of cigarette smoking, longer duration of previous quit attempts, lack of depression and anxiety, low to moderate nicotine dependence, absence of alcohol problems, sustained level of motivation, being married and/or not having any other smokers in the household and/or in the workplace. A better understanding of these predictors of smoking cessation has been useful in clinical practice in identifying potential quitters and likely relapsers.
   1. Polosa R, Caponnetto P (2006).Pragmatic exploitation of common predictors for successful smoking cessation. Eur Respir Dis 2006; 22: 77-79.
   2. Caponnetto P, Polosa R. (2008). Common Predictors of smoking cessation in clinical practice. Respir Med.;102(8):1182-92
   3. Caponnetto P,Polosa R (2011). towards an improved understanding of smoking relapse predictors – recipe for success?.Addiction, 106, 2122–2123
   4. Caponnetto P (2013). Predictors for successful smoking cessation. In advances in smoking cessation. 80-97. Future Medicine, London,UK .
2. In addition to the contributions described above, with a team of collaborators, I directly documented the importance of behavioral part in cigarette addiction. These studies emphasized behavioral factors in the maintenance of addictive disorders.
   1. Caponnetto P, Cibella F, Mancuso S, Campagna D, Arcidiacono G, Polosa R (2011). Effect of a nicotine free inhalator as part of a smoking cessation program. Eur Respir J. 38(5):1005-11.
   2. Caponnetto P, Cibella F, Fisichella A, Polosa R (2012). Innovation in smoking cessation management: role of behavioural factors and nicotine-free inhalators. Eur Respir J 39(3):786-7.
3. My research has focused on tobacco addiction among adolescent and adults and worked on studies of mental illnesses, asthma, diabetes and electronic cigarette.. This work involved clinical practice and observational studies as well the use of clinical trials. I’m currently working on electronic cigarettes, tobacco harm reduction, cognitive functioning and smoking or vaping, smoking and diabetes and consumer behavior.
   1. Polosa R, Caponnetto P (2013). Time for evidence-based e-cigarette regulation. Lancet Oncol. 2013 dec;14(13):e582-3
   2. Caponnetto P, Auditore R, Russo C, Cappello GC, Polosa R (2013). Impact of an electronic cigarette on smoking reduction and cessation in schizophrenic smokers: a prospective 12-month pilot study. g. Int J Environ Res Public Health 10(2):446-461.
   3. Polosa R, Morjaria J, Caponnetto P, Caruso M, Strano S, Battaglia E, Russo C.Effect of smoking abstinence and reduction in asthmatic smokers switching to electronic cigarettes: evidence for harm reversal. Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2014 May 8;11(5):4965-77
   4. Polosa R, Caponnetto P, Maglia M, Morjaria JB, Russo C (2014). Success rates with nicotine personal vaporizers: a prospective 6-month pilot study of smokers not intending to quit. BMC Public Health. Nov 8;14:1159.

**Complete List of Published Work in MyBibliography:**

**https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/?term=caponnetto+p**

**D. Research Support**

**Ongoing Research Support**

1 NCT01387425

**Efficacy And Safety Of Smoking Cessation With Varenicline Tartrate In Diabetic Smokers: (DIASMOKE), Caponnetto P., Co-Investigator**

This protocol is intended to provide information regarding the efficacy and safety of the nicotine partial agonist varenicline tartrate, at a dose of 1 mg twice daily, for smoking cessation in diabetic subjects who smoke.

**2. NCT01979796**

**Antismoking Effects of Electronic Cigarettes in Subjects With Schizophrenia and Their Potential Influence on Cognitive Functioning (SCARIS). Caponnetto P., Principal Investigator**

a randomized controlled trial investigating the efficacy and safety of electronic cigarette. The trial will take the form of a prospective 12-month randomized clinical study to evaluate smoking reduction, smoking abstinence and adverse events in schizophrenic smokers not intending to quit. The investigators will also monitor quality of life, neurocognitive functioning and measure participants' perception and satisfaction of the product

3. **NCT02124187**

**Smoking Cessation And Reduction in Depression (SCARID).** **Caponnetto P., Principal Investigator**

Evaluate smoking reduction, smoking abstinence and adverse events in depressed smokers not intending to quit.

**Completed Research Support**

**1.** **NCT01665066**

**Pharmacokinetic Profile of Toxic Substances and Nicotine in Electronic Cigarettes (KINECIG)California Department of Health Services. Caponnetto P., Co-Investigator**

The aim of the present study is to compare serum nicotine levels of different e-Cigarette strength with usual cigarettes

**2. NCT01188239**

**A Structured Protocol to Evaluate Efficacy and Safety of a Popular Electronic Nicotine Delivery Device (E-Cigarette) Efficacy and Safety of a Popular Electronic Nicotine Delivery Device (E-Cigarette). Caponnetto P., Co-Investigator**

The study's major aim is to investigate the ability of a commercial Electronic Nicotine Delivery Device (E-Cigarette) loaded with low dose nicotine to induce long-term smoking reduction/abstinence in smokers unwilling to quit.

**3. NCT01194583**

**Efficacy and Safety of an Electronic Nicotine Delivery Device (E-Cigarette) Without Nicotine Cartridges. Caponnetto P., Co-Investigator**

The study will monitor smoking reduction/abstinence effects, changes in withdrawal symptoms, and adverse events of a currently marketed device in Italy ("Categoria" electronic cigarette - "NO nicotine" cartridges).

**4. NCT01164072**

**Efficacy and Safety of an Electronic Nicotine Delivery Device (E-Cigarette). Caponnetto P., Co-Investigator .**

The study will monitor smoking reduction/abstinence effects, changes in withdrawal symptoms, and adverse events of a currently marketed device in Italy ("Categoria" electronic cigarette - "ORIGINAL" 7.2 mg nicotine cartridges).

**5. NCT01195597**

**Smoking Cessation and Reduction With an Electronic Nicotine Delivery Device (ENDD). Caponnetto P., Co-Investigator .**

The study's major aim is to investigate the ability of a commercial Electronic Nicotine Delivery Device (ENDD) to induce long-term smoking reduction/abstinence in smokers unwilling to quit.

**6. NCT01735487**

CogEcig**: Cognitive Functioning and Electronic Cigarette.** **Caponnetto P., Principal-Investigator .**

The aim of the present study is to compare cognitive scores (attention, executive function and working memory) of different e-Cigarette strength with usual cigarettes

**7. NCT02124200**

**High Cessation Rates in Smokers Using Personal Vaporizers (**VAPECIG**). Caponnetto P., Co-Investigator .**

In this prospective proof-of-concept study we monitored modifications in smoking habits of 50 regular smokers (unwilling to quit) who were asked to switch to a second generation device focusing on smoking reduction and smoking abstinence.