

Gianfranco Santovito



Place and date of birth: **Manfredonia (FG), 24/11/1965**

Degrees: **Master in Biological Sciences**
(12/07/1990)
Department of Biology, University of Padova

PhD (magna cum laude) in Evolutionary Biology
(04/07/1997)
Department of Biology, University of Padova

Present position: **Associate Professor in Physiology**
(Since 11/10/2021)
Department of Biology, University of Padova
Qualified as Full Professor since 23/07/2021



ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8260-7006>

Scopus: <https://www.scopus.com/authid/detail.uri?authorId=6602444598>

Web of Science: <https://www.webofscience.com/wos/author/record/1008419>

ResearchGate <https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Gianfranco-Santovito>

Google Scholar
<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=UoCzpSgAAAAJ&hl=it&authuser=1&oi=ao>

Personal Homepage:
[https://www.biologia.unipd.it/people/?tx_wfqbe_pi1\[account\]=gianfranco-santovito](https://www.biologia.unipd.it/people/?tx_wfqbe_pi1[account]=gianfranco-santovito)

Previous academic positions: **Assistant Professor in Physiology**
(01/10/2002 – 10/10/2021)
Department of Biology, University of Padova

Graduated Technician
(01/10/1996 – 30/09/2002)
Department of Biology, University of Padova

Fellowships: **Research Fellowship**
(01/05/1992 – 30/04/1993)
Department of Biology, University of Padova, Italy

Awards:

2024 – Arqus European University Alliance Teaching Excellence Award UNIPD

2022 – Paul Harris Fellow from the Rotary Foundation

2011 – Antarctica Service Medal and Certificate from the US National Science Foundation (NSF)

1993 – PhD Fellowship (three years) granted by the Italian Ministry of University and Research

1992 – Research Fellowship (one year) granted by the Venetian Lagoon System Project

Research interests:

The Research Unit of Environmental Physiology and Experimental Zoology, coordinated by Prof. Gianfranco Santovito at the Department of Biology of the University of Padova, is dedicated to research in the following areas:

- Structural and functional studies, also from environmental and evolutionary perspectives, of the physiological systems of antioxidant defense in various organisms such as fish, tunicates, insects, mollusks, and ciliated protozoa.
- Physiological responses to the exposure of xenobiotic agents in terrestrial and aquatic animals, and in cultures of mammalian cell lines: damage mechanisms, responses to oxidative stress, specific detoxification pathways. Evaluation of the possible damage to biocoenoses and effects on human health.
- Stress responses of freshwater animals to environmental changes related to human activities.
- Innovative approaches to teaching biology in kindergarten, primary and secondary school.

National and International Research Projects:

1989 – UNESCO/ Italian Ministry of University and Research, Sistema Lagunare Veneziano Project Grants – Title: Studies on ecotoxicological and biological effect of inorganic (metals) and organic pollutants in the Venice lagoon system. (Co-Investigator)

1996 – Italian Ministry of University and Research, PNRA Grants – Title: Ecophysiology and ecotoxicology - Study of bioindicators and development of biomarkers in relation to the presence of physical and chemical agents of natural and anthropogenic origin. (Co-Investigator)

1996 – Italian Ministry of University and Research, PRIN Grants – Title: The effect of anthropic impact in northern Adriatic coastal and lagoon environments, with attention to economic aspects. (Co-Investigator)

1999 – Italian Ministry of University and Research, PNRA Grants – Ecophysiological and ecotoxicological research applied to the study of natural and anthropic changes occurring in the Antarctic environment. (Co-Investigator)

2000 – Italian Ministry of University and Research, PRIN Grants – Title: Development of an "expert" system for the definition of stress degree of a "sentinel" organism (*Mytilus* sp.) based on the values of superoxide dismutase, catalase and glutathione peroxidase biomarkers. (Co-Investigator)

2001 – Italian Ministry of University and Research, PRIN Grants – Determination of biological indices of stress in mugilids of brackish environments with high and low human impact. (Co-Investigator)

2002 – Italian Ministry of University and Research, PRIN Grants – Metallothionein of ciliates: structural and functional studies in evolutionary and ecotoxicological perspectives. (Co-Investigator)

2002 – Italian Ministry of University and Research, PNRA Grants – Use of bioindicators in the assessment of natural or anthropic changes occurring in the Antarctic environment. (Co-Investigator)

2004 – Italian Ministry of University and Research, PNRA Grants – Use of bioindicators in the assessment of natural or anthropic changes occurring in the Antarctic ecosystems. (Co-Investigator)

2004 – Italian Ministry of University and Research, PNRA Grants – Antarctic ciliated protozoa and marine invertebrates: evolutionary biology, adaptive responses and applicative potential. (Co-Investigator)

2006 – Italian Ministry of University and Research, PNRA Grants – Ciliated protozoa as sentinel organisms of natural or anthropic changes occurring in the Antarctic environment. (Co-Investigator)

2008 – University of Padova, Institutional Program (PRAT) Grants – The metallothionein gene promoters in the model organism *Tetrahymena thermophila*: effective tools for recombinant protein expression. (Co-Investigator)

2009 – Italian Ministry of University and Research, PNRA Grants – Ciliates and diatoms from polar waters: biodiversity, evolution and applicative potential of their natural products. (Research Unit Leader)

2010 – University of Padova, Institutional Program (PRAT) Grants – Oxidative damage and cell aging: study on antioxidant mechanisms in ciliated protozoa. (Principal Investigator) 86K€

2013 – Italian Ministry of University and Research, PNRA Grants – Response to thermal stress in Antarctic nototenoids: an integrated molecular approach to study the effect of the temperature rise in *Trematomus bernacchii* and *Chionodraco hamatus*. (Co-Investigator) 108 K€

2016 – Italian Ministry of University and Research, PNRA Grants – How key components of the coastal Antarctic food web respond to global change: an “omic” Approach. (Co-Investigator) 80 K€

2016 – Italian Ministry of University and Research, PNRA Grants – Journey to the cold and back: comparative genomics and transcriptomics in Antarctic and sub-Antarctic notothenioids. (Co-Investigator) 139 K€

2017 – Italian Ministry of University and Research, Funding for basic research activities. (Principal Investigator) 3 K€

2017 – European Commission, LIFE Programme – PHOENIX: Perfluorinated compounds HOlistic ENvironmental Interinstitutional eXperience. (Research Unit Leader) 2,176 K€

2019 – Italian Ministry of University and Research, PNRA Grants – AntaGPS: Antarctica as a Global Pollution Sensor. Aquatic and terrestrial organisms as bio-indicators and meta-analysis of pollutant trends. (Co-Coordinator) 97 K€

2019 – European Commission, Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions – RIBES: RIver flow regulation, fish BEhaviour and Status. (Research Unit Leader) 4,040 K€

2020 – European Social Fund Operational Programme for Veneto Region – ATIRA: Advanced Tools to Increase the Resilience of Agroecosystems. (Principal Investigator) 98 K€

2021 – Department of Biology Third Mission Programme – EduRes: Teacher training through didactic research. (Principal Investigator) 3 K€

2022 – University of Padova Third Mission Programme – Communicating sustainability and biodiversity: a multidisciplinary approach. (Co-Investigator) 92 K€

2022 – European Commission, PNR Programme 2021-2027 – RETURN: multi-Risk sciEnce for resilient commUnities undeR a changiNg climate. (Co-Investigator) 115,100 K€

2023 – Umberto Veronesi Foundation, Post-Doctoral Fellowship – EROI: Empowering organs to endure PFAS contamination. (Co-Investigator) 66K€

2023 – Pediatric Research Institute (IRP) Foundation Città della Speranza, IRP Starting Grant – HARDCORE: Development of High-throughput technological platforms for the Reconditioning and empowering of organs harvested after Circulatory death to endure Rejection. (Co-Investigator) 170K€

2024 – Department of Biology Third Mission Programme – IDEA: Educational Institutions for Environmental Education. (Principal Investigator) 0.9 K€

2025 – Italian Ministry of University and Research, PNRA Grants – GENeSiS: Gut microbiota variability and its relationships with Environment, Nutrition, metabolism, and Sleep during Antarctic expeditions at Concordia Station). (Principal Investigator) 101 K€

2025 – European Commission, COMPETE 2030 Programme 2021-2027 – UPS-STOP: Understanding PFAS To protect People and bivalves: impact, consequences and mitigation Strategies. (Co-Investigator) 250 K€

Organization of scientific meetings

18-19 May 2012 – Study Congress. The Disciplinary Didactics in University Training of Teachers: the challenge of learning, Padova, Italy. Scientific Committee member

2-4 October 2014 – 30th Congress of the Italian Society of Protistologists, Padova, Italy. Scientific Committee member

23 February 2018 – 1st Conference of the Master Degree Course in Primary Education with schools. The Partnership between University and Schools. Padova, Italy. Scientific Committee member

16-18 February 2022 – 22nd Scientific meeting of the Italian Association of Developmental and Comparative Immunobiology. Padova, Italy. Scientific Committee member

29 April 2022 – 3rd Conference of the Master Degree Course in Primary Education with schools. University and School for a sustainable and quality education: the 2030 Agenda. Padova, Italy. Scientific Committee member

3 May 2024 – 5th Conference of the Master Degree Course in Primary Education with schools. STEM&STEAM: a holistic approach for motivating education. Padova, Italy. Scientific Committee member

Commissions of trust

Since 2008 – Review panel member of Free Radical Biology & Medicine, Elsevier

Since 2013 – Review panel member of Aquatic Toxicology, Elsevier

Since 2017 – Editorial board member of the International Journal of Fisheries Science and Research, SM Group

Since 2017 – Editorial board member of the Journal of Marine Microbiology, Pulsus

From 2020 to 2021 – Scientific advisory board member of La Vita Scolastica, Giunti Scuola

Since 2020 – Topics board member of Antioxidants, MDPI

Since 2020 – Scientific advisory board member of Epistemology and Didactics of the Disciplines, Padova University Press

Since 2021 – Editorial board member of the Marine Biotechnology, Frontiers

Since 2022 – Review panel member of the Portuguese Polar Program (PROPOLAR)

Since 2024 – Member of the international editorial board of the International e-Journal of Advances in Education, OCERINT

Since 2024 – Expert in the EU panel for Funding and Tender Opportunities

Reviewer for the following scientific journals:

Animals

Antibiotics

Antioxidants

Applied Sciences

Aquaculture

Biocell

Biologia

Biology

BioMed Research International

Biomedicines

BioMetals

Biomass Conversion and Biorefinery

Biotechnology and Applied Biochemistry
Catalysts
Cell Biochemistry and Biophysics
Cells
Chemosphere
Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology
Current Biotechnology
Current Issues in Molecular Biology
Developmental & Comparative Immunology
Ecotoxicology and Environmental Safety
Education Research International
Environmental Monitoring and Assessment
Environmental Pollution
Environmental Science and Pollution Research
Environmental Toxicology and Pharmacology
European Journal of Protistology
Excellence and Innovation in Learning and Teaching
Fishes
Fish & Shellfish Immunology
Fish Physiology and Biochemistry
Food Science and Engineering
Frontiers in Bioengineering and Biotechnology
Frontiers in Cell and Developmental Biology
Frontiers in Marine Science
Frontiers in Physiology
Frontiers in Toxicology
Gene
Genomics

Geosciences
Heliyon
Hydrobiologia
International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health
International Journal of Fisheries and Aquaculture
International Journal of Molecular Sciences
Invertebrate Survival Journal
Italian Journal of Zoology
Journal of Applied Aquaculture
Journal of Biological Regulators & Homeostatic Agents
Journal of Cellular Biochemistry
Journal of Hazardous Materials
Journal of Marine Science and Engineering
Journal of Microbial & Biochemical Technology
Journal of Oceanology and Limnology
Journal of Toxicology
Journal of Toxicology and Environmental Health Sciences
Life
Marine Biotechnology
Marine Environmental Research
Marine Genomics
Materials
Metabolites
Microorganisms
Molecular Biology Reports
Molecular Ecology
Molecules
Nature Communications

Oceans
Pathogens
Pharmaceuticals
Plants
PLOS ONE
Prevention and Treatment of Natural Disasters
Process Biochemistry
Protist
Science of Total Environment
Scientific Reports
STAR Protocols
Stress
Sustainability
Thalassas
The European Zoological Journal
Toxics
Trends in Sciences
Turkish Journal of Biology
Walailak Journal of Science and Technology
Water
Water Emerging Contaminants & Nanoplastics
Wireless Communications and Mobile Computing

Teaching activity

From 2002 to 2014, Laboratory of Life Sciences (Master's degree in Primary Teacher Education). Average of overall student satisfaction (OSS): 8.6/10

From 2003 to 2008, Cellular Physiology and Enzymology (Bachelor's degree in Biotechnology). Average OSS: 7.5/10

From 2004 to 2008, Comparative Physiology of Animal Organisms (Bachelor's degree in Biotechnology). Average OSS: 7.9/10

From 2006 to 2007, Insights of Cytology, Genetics and Molecular Biology (Graduate School course in Specialization School for Secondary School Teachers)

From 2007 to 2009 and from 2010 to 2011, Comparative Animal Physiology (Master's degree in Evolutionary Biology). Average OSS: 8.4/10

From 2007 to 2008 and from 2013 to 2014, Didactics of Life Sciences (Master's degree in Primary Teacher Education). Average OSS: 7.6/10

From 2008 to 2010, General and Comparative Animal Physiology (Bachelor's degree in Biotechnology). Average OSS: 8.6/10

From 2008 to 2014, Life Sciences (Bachelor's degree in Childhood and Pre-Adolescence Teacher Training Sciences)

From 2009 to 2010, General Physiology (Bachelor's degree in Biology). Average OSS: 8.9/10

From 2011 to 2016, Comparative Physiology (Master's degree in Evolutionary Biology). Average OSS: 8.9/10

From 2012 to 2013 and from 2014 to 2015, Didactics of Life Sciences and Laboratory (Graduate School course in Active Internship Training)

From 2013 to 2016, Didactics and Laboratory of Life Sciences (Graduate School course in Special Enabling Courses)

From 2014 to 2015 and from 2021 to 2022, Human Anatomy and Pathophysiology (Bachelor's course in Optics and Optometry). Average OSS: 8.6/10

Since 2015, Didactics of Biology (Master's course in Primary Teacher Education). Average OSS: 8.4/10

From 2016 to 2020, Adaptive Strategies of Marine Animals (Master's degree in Marine Biology). Average OSS: 9.0/10

From 2016 to 2017, Environmental Education (Master's degree in Primary Teacher Education). Average OSS: 9.2/10

Since 2016, Biological Responses to Global Climate Changes (Master's degree in Evolutionary Biology). Average OSS: 8.8/10

From 2017 to 2023, and since 2024, Biology, Physiology and Anatomy (Bachelor's degree in Biomedical Engineering). Average OSS: 8.2/10

From 2020 to 2024, Life Cycles and Adaptations of Marine Organisms (Master's degree in Marine Biology). In English language. Average OSS: 7.8/10

From 2020 to 2024, Ecology and Physiology of Global Changes (Master's degree in Marine Biology). In English language. Average OSS: 7.9/10

Since 2024, Comparative and Environmental Physiology of Marine Animals (Master's degree in Marine Biology). In English language. Average OSS:

Since 2024, General Physiology (Bachelor's degree in Molecular Biology). Average OSS:

Supervision of graduate students

Since 2002 – 8 PhD students – Department of Biology, University of Padova, Italy

Since 2006 – 47 Master students – Department of Biology, University of Padova, Italy

Since 2012 – 144 Master students – Department of Philosophy, Sociology, Education and Applied Psychology, University of Padova, Italy

Since 2022 – 2 Master students – School of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, University of Padova, Italy

Since 2023 – 1 Master student – Department of Information Engineering, University of Padova, Italy

Since 2013 – 1 PhD student – Institute for Evolution and Biodiversity, University of Münster, Germany

Institutional responsibilities

From 2008 to 2019 – Member of the Board for the Department of Biology as Representative of Assistant Professors – University of Padova, Italy

From 2009 to 2012 – Member of the Committee for Tutoring of the course of studies in Biology – University of Padova, Italy

From 2009 to 2012 – Coordinator of the Committee for Orientation of the course of studies in Biology – University of Padova, Italy

From 2010 to 2013 – Responsible for use of didactic rooms of the Interdepartmental Center “A. Vallisneri” – University of Padova, Italy

Since 2010 – Coordinator of the Committee for teaching timetable of the Department of Biology – University of Padova, Italy

From 2012 to 2023 – Member of the Committee for space allocation of the Department of Biology – University of Padova, Italy

Since 2014 – Responsible for use of didactic rooms of the Campus of Biology and Biomedicine "Fiore di Botta" – University of Padova, Italy

From 2015 to 2018 – President of the Active Training Internship Course (TFA) for the A059 class (Mathematical, Chemical, Physical and Natural Sciences in the First Degree of Secondary School) – University of Padova, Italy

From 2017 to 2022 – Member of the University Support Committee for Teacher Education – University of Padova, Italy

Since 2019 – Member of the Committee for society engagement (or “Third Mission”) of the Department of Biology – University of Padova, Italy

Since 2020 – Faculty Member of the PhD course in Biosciences – University of Padova, Italy

Since 2021 – Member of the Committee for Internships and Degrees of the course of studies in Biology – University of Padova, Italy

Since 2023 – Director of secondary school teacher training course A050 (Natural, chemical and biological sciences) – University of Padova, Italy

Since 2023 – Member of the Board of the Multidisciplinary Centre for Training Pathways for Secondary School Teachers – University of Padova, Italy

Since 2025 – Faculty Member of the PhD course in Polar Sciences – "Ca' Foscari" University of Venice, Italy

Memberships of scientific societies

Since 2001 – Member of the Unione Zoologica Italiana

Since 2003 – Member of the Italian Society of Physiology

Since 2012 – Member of the Italian Association of Developmental and Comparative Immunobiology

Since 2013 – Member of the Italian Society of Protistologists; Governing Council member from 2015 to 2018

From 2015 to 2022 – Member of the International Society of Protistologists

Since 2024 - Member of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry

Major Italian and international collaborations

Nicoletta Ademollo, Bioaccumulation and biomagnification of emergent and persistent organic pollutant in marine organisms, CNR-ISP, Italy

Rigers Bakiu, Phylogenetic approaches to molecular evolution studies of stress proteins, Agricultural University of Tirana, Albania

Daniela Bertotto, Stress responses of fish, University of Padova, Italy

Maria Assunta Biscotti, Post-transcriptional regulation of gene expression, Università Politecnica delle Marche, Italy

Erica Carlig, Ecology of Antarctic fish, Institute for the study of the Anthropic impacts and the Sustainability of the marine environment (IAS), National Research Council (CNR) of Italy, Genoa, Italy

Claudio Comoglio, Bio-hydraulic studies on freshwater fish, Politecnico of Torino, Italy

Daniela Coppola, Human impact on marine organisms, Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn, Italy

Maria Rosaria Coscia, Immune responses of Antarctic fish, Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology, National Research Council of Italy, Naples, Italy

Lucélia Donatti, Energetics of Antarctic fish, Universidade Federal do Paraná, Brazil

Elena Fabbri, Stress responses of seawater molluscs, University of Bologna, Italy

Diana Ferro, Homeostasis of free radicals concerning immune, environmental and pathological changes, Ospedale Pediatrico Bambino Gesù, Italy

Rosa Freitas, Ecotoxicology of marine environments, University of Aveiro, Portugal

Marco Gerdol, Genetic characterization of marine animals, University of Trieste, Italy

Piero Giulio Giulianini, Stress responses of aquatic invertebrates, University of Trieste, Italy

Franz Hölker, Stress responses of freshwater fish, Leibniz-Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries, Germany

Odd André Karlsen, Toxicology of marine fish, University of Bergen, Norway

Andrea Marion, Bio-hydraulic studies on freshwater fish, University of Padova, Italy

Felix Mark, ecophysiology of polar fish, Alfred Wegener Institute, Germany

Cristina Miceli, Genomics of ciliated protozoa, University of Camerino, Italy

Tomaso Patarnello, Genetics of Antarctic marine animals, University of Padova, Italy

Daniela Pellegrino, Heart physiology of Antarctic fish, University of Calabria, Italy

Sean P. Place, Gene expression studies in Antarctic fish, Sonoma State University e National Science Foundation, USA

Giuseppe Scapigliati, Immunology of Antarctic fish, Tuscia University, Italy

Anna Maria Tolomeo, Oxidative stress in mammals, Department of Cardio-Thoraco-Vascular Sciences and Public Health, University of Padova, Italy

Stefano Toppo, Homology modeling of antioxidant enzymes and other anti-stress proteins, Department of Molecular Medicine, University of Padova, Italy

Adriana Vallesi, Stress recovery in ciliated protozoa, University of Camerino, Italy

Marco A. Vindas, Behavioural and neurological responses of freshwater fish, Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU), Norway

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

Full papers in indexed journals

1. Piccinni E., Bertaggia D., **Santovito G.**, Miceli C., Kraev A. (1999). Cadmium metallothionein gene of *Tetrahymena pyriformis*. *Gene* 234, 51-59. [https://doi.org/10.1016/s0378-1119\(99\)00181-x](https://doi.org/10.1016/s0378-1119(99)00181-x)
2. **Santovito G.***, Irato P., Piccinni E., Albergoni V. (2000). Relationship between metallothionein and metal contents in red-blooded and white-blooded Antarctic teleosts. *Polar Biol.* 23, 383-391. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s003000050459>
3. Albergoni V., Cassini A., Coppellotti O., Favero M., Favero N., Irato P., Piccinni E., **Santovito G.** (2000). Physiological responses to heavy metal and adaptation to increase oxygen partial pressure in Antarctic fish and protozoa. *It. J. Zool.* 67, 1-11. <https://doi.org/10.1080/11250000009356349>
4. Manzano M., Cocolin L., Citterio B., Conte L., De Bertoldi M., Comi G., Beltramini M., **Santovito G.**, Salvato B. (2000). Biochemical responses in a *Candida famata* strain adapted to high copper concentrations. *Biometals* 13, 251-259. <https://doi.org/10.1023/a:1009218621588>
5. **Santovito G.**, Irato P., Piccinni E. (2000). Regulation of metallothionein in *Tetrahymena*: induction of MT-mRNA and protein by cadmium exposure. *Eur. J. Protistol.* 36, 437-442. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0932-4739\(00\)80049-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0932-4739(00)80049-8)
6. Irato P., **Santovito G.**, Piccinni E., Albergoni V. (2001) Oxidative burst and metallothionein as a scavenger in macrophages. *Immunol. Cell Biol.* 79, 251-254. <https://doi.org/10.1046/j.1440-1711.2001.01009.x>
7. **Santovito G.**, Irato P., Palermo S., Boldrin F., Sack R., Hunziker P., Piccinni E. (2001) Identification, cloning and characterisation of a novel copper- metallothionein in *Tetrahymena pigmentosa*. Sequencing of cDNA and expression. *Protist* 152, 203-213. <https://doi.org/10.1078/1434-4610-00061>
8. **Santovito G.**, Salvato B., Manzano M., Beltramini M. (2002). Copper adaptation and methylotrophic metabolism in *Candida boidinii*. *Yeast* 19, 631-640. <https://doi.org/10.1002/yea.862>
9. Boldrin F., **Santovito G.**, Irato P., Piccinni E. (2002) Metal interaction and regulation of *Tetrahymena pigmentosa* metallothionein genes. *Protist* 153, 283-291. <https://doi.org/10.1078/1434-4610-00105>
10. Irato P., **Santovito G.**, Cassini A., Piccinni E., Albergoni V. (2003) Metal accumulation and binding protein induction in *Mytilus galloprovincialis*, *Tapes philippinarum* and *Scapharca inaequivalvis* from Lagoon of Venice. *Arch. Environ. Contam. Toxicol.* 44, 476-484. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00244-002-1262-8>

11. Boldrin F.^e, **Santovito G.**^e, Negrisolo E., Piccinni E. (2003) Cloning and sequencing of four new metallothionein genes from *Tetrahymena thermophila* and *T. pigmentosa*: evolutionary relationships in *Tetrahymena* MT family. *Protist* 154, 431-442. <https://doi.org/10.1078/143446103322454167>
12. Corsi I., Bonacci S., **Santovito G.**, Chiantore M., Castagnolo L., Focardi S. (2004) Cholinesterase activities in the Antarctic scallop *Adamussium colbecki*: tissue expression and effect of ZnCl₂ exposure. *Mar. Environ. Res.* 58, 401-406. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marenvres.2004.03.086>
13. Corsi I., Bonacci S., **Santovito G.**, Chiantore M., Castagnolo L., Focardi S. (2004) Preliminary investigation on cholinesterases activity in *Adamussium colbecki* from Terranova Bay: field and laboratory study. *Chem. Ecol.* 20, 79-87. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02757540310001629206>
14. Santon A., Albergoni V., **Santovito G.**, Sturniolo G. C., Irato P. (2004) Relationship between MT and Zn in the protection against DNA damage in Zn-treated LEC rat liver. *Eur. J. Histochem.* 49, 317-321.
15. **Santovito G.**^{*}, Piccinni E., Cassini A., Irato P., Albergoni V. (2005) Antioxidant responses of the Mediterranean Mussel, *Mytilus galloprovincialis*, to environmental variability of dissolved oxygen. *Comp. Biochem. Physiol. C* 140, 321-329. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cca.2005.02.015>
16. Boldrin F., **Santovito G.**, Clark T.G., Wloga D., Gaertig J., Piccinni E. (2006) Metallothionein gene from *Tetrahymena thermophila* with a copper-inducible-repressible promoter. *Euk. Cell* 5, 422-425. <https://doi.org/10.1128/EC.5.2.422-425.2006>
17. **Santovito G.**^{*}, Cassini A., Piccinni E. (2006) Cu,Zn SOD from *Trematomus bernacchii*: molecular properties and evolution. *Comp. Biochem. Physiol. C* 143, 444-454. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cbpc.2006.04.007>
18. **Santovito G.**^{*}, Formigari A., Boldrin F., Piccinni E. (2007) Molecular and functional evolution of *Tetrahymena* metallothioneins: new insights into the gene family of *Tetrahymena thermophila*. *Comp. Biochem. Physiol. C* 144, 391-397. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cbpc.2006.11.010>
19. Irato P., Piccinni E., Cassini A., **Santovito G.** (2007) Antioxidant responses to variations in dissolved oxygen of *Scapharca inaequivalvis* and *Tapes philippinarum*, two bivalve species from the lagoon of Venice. *Mar. Poll. Bull.* 54, 1020-1030. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marpolbul.2007.01.020>
20. Boldrin F., **Santovito G.**, Formigari A., Bisharyan Y., Cassidy-Hanley D., Clark T.G., Piccinni E. (2008) MTT2, a copper-inducible metallothionein gene from *Tetrahymena thermophila*. *Comp. Biochem. Physiol. C* 147, 232-240. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cbpc.2007.10.002>
21. Formigari A., Boldrin F., **Santovito G.**, Cassidy-Hanley D., Clark T.G., Piccinni E. (2010) Functional characterization of the 5'-upstream region of MTT5 metallothionein gene from *Tetrahymena thermophila*. *Protist* 161, 71-77. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.protis.2009.06.002>

22. **Santovito G.**, Piccinni E., Boldrin F., Irato P. (2012) Comparative study on metal homeostasis and detoxification in two Antarctic teleosts. *Comp. Biochem. Physiol. C* 155, 580-586. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cbpc.2012.01.008>
23. Franchi N., Ferro D., Ballarin L., **Santovito G.** (2012) Transcription of genes involved in glutathione biosynthesis in the solitary tunicate *Ciona intestinalis* exposed to metals. *Aquat. Toxicol.* 114-115, 14-22. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aquatox.2012.02.007>
24. **Santovito G.**, Marino S., Sattin G., Cappellini R., Bubacco L., Beltramini M. (2012) Cloning and characterization of cytoplasmic carbonic anhydrase from gills of four Antarctic fish: insights into the evolution of fish carbonic anhydrase and cold adaptation. *Polar Biol.* 35, 1587-1600. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00300-012-1200-9>
25. Ferro D., Franchi N., Mangano V., Bakiu R., Cammarata M., Parrinello N., **Santovito G.***, Ballarin L. (2013) Characterization and metal-induced gene transcription of two new copper zinc superoxide dismutases in the solitary ascidian *Ciona intestinalis*. *Aquat. Toxicol.* 140-141, 369-379. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aquatox.2013.06.020>
26. Franchi N., Piccinni E., Ferro D., Basso G., Spolaore B., **Santovito G.***, Ballarin L. (2014) Characterization and transcription studies of a phytochelatin synthase gene from the solitary tunicate *Ciona intestinalis* exposed to cadmium. *Aquat. Toxicol.* 152, 47-56. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aquatox.2014.03.019>
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* corresponding author

° equally contributed

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Gianfranco Santovito, PhD