Curriculum Vitae

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BIOGRAPHY

I graduated from University College Dublin, Ireland, with an honours degree in Industrial Microbiology in 1993 and later, in 1994 received an MSc. in Environmental Microbiology from the University of Aberdeen, UK. In 2000 I was awarded a PhD from the University of Surrey UK. Between 2000 and 2006 I worked as a post doctoral researcher/fellow in the Food Microbial Sciences Unit of Professor Glenn Gibson, University of Reading, UK, and in 2006 was appointed to the permanent position of lecturer in Food Metabolomics at the Department of Food Science and Nutrition, University of Reading. I now lead the Nutrition and Nutrigenomics Unit at Fondazione Edmund Mach, Trento, Italy (http://www.fmach.it/eng/CRI/general-info/organisation/Food-quality-and-nutrition/Nutrition-and-nutrigenomics). My research focuses on measuring diet:microbe interactions in the gut and how they influence host health and disease risk. My group is particularly interested in how prebiotics, fibers, polyphenols and probiotics mediate their purported health effects, especially those linked to metabolic disease risk and obesity, healthy ageing and immune function. I am currently co-chair of the ILSI Europe task force on Functional Foods, associate editor at the European Journal of Nutrition and the Journal of Functional Foods and I am a visiting Professor at the University of Ulster, UK. I currently have more than 110 international peer reviewed publications in the area of gut microbiology and functional foods (http://www.researcherid.com/rid/G-9142-2011 , http://orcid.org/0000-0001-6882-7192). As of December 2016 I had a ISI H-index of 30 (42, google scholar).