

## Guest Speakers



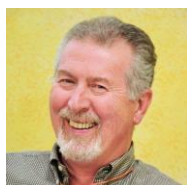
**Giada Da Ros** has been the President of the CFS Italian Association since 1999. She has been a patient for nearly 28 years, most of which spent as a severe one. A law graduate, she is a journalist who edited a collection of personal essays of people with ME/CFS entitled "Tired: Living with Chronic Fatigue Syndrome" (SBC Editions).

Prof. **Umberto Tirelli**, a specialist in oncology, hematology and infectious diseases at the National Cancer Institute in Aviano, in the province of Pordenone and Director of the Cancer, Chronic Fatigue, Fibromyalgia and Oxygen-Ozone Therapy Center at MEDE Clinic in Sacile, in the province of Pordenone, was the first physician to speak about Chronic Fatigue Syndrome in Italy. Active since the beginning in studying the disease and in raising awareness across the media, he is still one of the leading national experts on the topic.



**Linda Tannenbaum** is the President and CEO of the Open Medicine Foundation since 2012. A bacteriology graduate, she managed an independent clinical laboratory for more than 21 years before dedicating herself to raising money and awareness for ME/CFS. She got interested in the disease when her 16 year-old daughter fell sick with it, in 2006, and along with her husband she founded their first non-profit, NIDA (Neuro-Immune Disease Alliance).

**Paolo Maccallini** is the author of the blog that bears his name in which he speaks about ME/CFS and related diseases. After graduating high school, he won a scholarship for the Scuola Normale Superiore of Pisa but, having fallen sick, he can continue his studies – in mechanical engineering at Sapienza in Roma – only intermittently. He therefore decided to dedicate his scarce energies to study his condition, also publishing on Lyme disease, and he soon became a point of reference for many patients.



**Girolamo Carollo** is the President of the "Associazione CFS". He got interested in the pathology in 2004, along with his wife, after one of his children received the diagnosis in 2000. Now retired, he dedicates himself actively to raising awareness and for his engagement he received an honorary degree in social sciences.

Doctor **Caterina Zilli** is a "free choice" pediatrician who works in Albignasego, in the province of Padua, where she has her own practice. She is part of the scientific board of the "Associazione CFS" and got interested in the disease when her daughter fell sick. She is the leading point of reference in Italy with respect to the disease from a pediatric point of view.



Prof. **Eligio Pizzigallo**, full professor of Infectious Diseases at the University of Chieti-Pescara from 1994 to 2013, Director of the Specialization School in Infectious Diseases at the same university and Director of the Complex Operative Unit of Infectious and Tropical Diseases at the "S.S. Annunziata" Hospital of Chieti (1992-2013), is a physician with over 500 papers published in different fields of infectious diseases and he soon became one of the leading Italian experts on CFS/ME.

**Aron Smesny** is a nutrition biologist, with a degree in natural sciences from the University of Trieste, who is employed at a rehabilitation clinic in Fiume (Croatia), and works in the field of bacteria-microbiota in Croatia and Slovenia.

