



UNIVERSITA' DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO



Dipartimento di Scienze
Medico-Chirurgiche



**U. O. GASTROENTEROLOGIA ED ENDOSCOPIA DIGESTIVA
DIRETTORE PROF. MAURIZIO VECCHI**

""Insights into the function of IL-33, the newest member of the IL-1 family, in GI-related diseases""

Relatore

Theresa T. Pizarro, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine,
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Dr. Theresa T. Pizarro, Ph.D. is Associate Professor of Pathology at the Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH . Dr. Pizarro graduated at Case in 1985, and went on to Loyola University Chicago where she received her Ph.D., focusing on transplant immunology. She continued on to the University of Southern California/LAC Medical Center in Los Angeles for a postdoctoral fellowship in mucosal immunology. In 1995, her career in academia began as faculty in the Department of Medicine at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, VA, where she rose to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure before joining the Faculty at Case. During the last decade, she has established her laboratory as a successful mucosal immunity laboratory, specifically working on basic cytokine biology and epithelial-immune cell interactions in the GI tract. She was among the first to describe the important role of IL-18 in Crohn's disease and also to determine that intestinal barrier dysfunction may have a primary role in the onset of inflammatory bowel diseases. Since 2006, an ongoing collaboration between Dr Pizarro's laboratory and the Gastroenterology and Digestive Endoscopy Unit at IRCCS Policlinico San Donato has been established, focusing on the role of new cytokine networks and intestinal epithelium defects in the pathogenesis of inflammatory bowel diseases.

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