

# PROPHECY-GlycoRARE

**P**redictive **R**esearch **O**n **P**ersonalized **H**ealthcare through **E**xperimental **C**haracterization of **Y**ielding **GLYCO**protein **R**are **A**ilments and **R**esponsive **E**ndoplasmic reticulum modulation for therapeutic handling

Bando a cascata progetto “Health Extended **AL**liance for Innovative Therapies, Advanced Lab-research, and Integrated Approaches of Precision Medicine - **HEAL ITALIA**”

PE\_00000019 – CUP H43C22000830006 – Spoke 5 “Next-Gen Therapeutics”

Subject **B**: Innovative methods for the development of new drugs for precision medicine

Sub-theme **B2**. Artificial Intelligence approaches for discovery of drugs targeting protein-protein interactions (**PPIs**)



# Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche

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**CNR** | Dipartimento Scienze Chimiche e Tecnologie dei Materiali

<https://www.icb.cnr.it/>

Dr G Andreotti



Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche | Dipartimento Scienze Fisiche e Tecnologie della Materia

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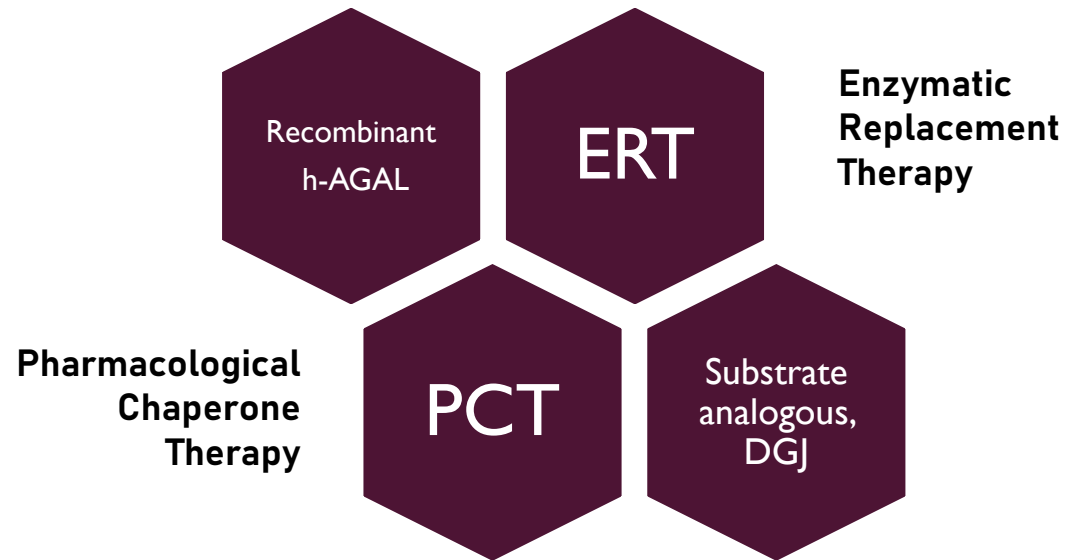
<http://www.ibbc.cnr.it/>

Dr F Saccoccia  
Dr M Pellegrini

# Fabry disease

- > 1000  $\alpha$ -GAL mutations
- > 400  $\alpha$ -GAL missense mutations

## Currently approved therapies



Many limitations!

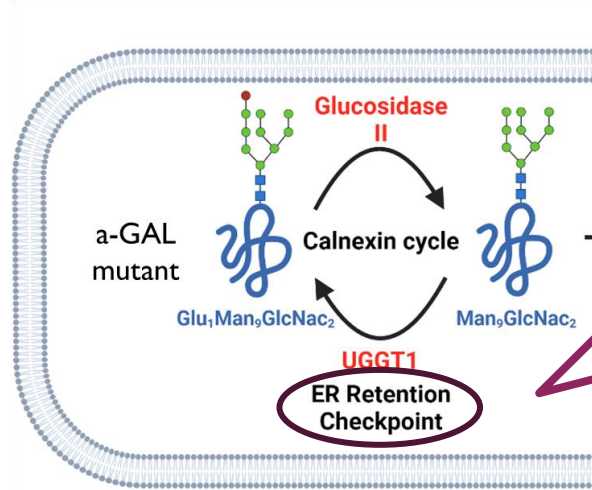
ERT:

- does not reach the CNS
- anti-drug antibody response
- elevated costs

PCT:

- effective for some AGAL mutants only
- the approved PC (DGJ or Migalastat) is an inhibitor, and a discontinuous dosage regimen is required

# HYPOTESIS



UDP-Glucose  
Glucosyl  
Transferase (UGGT)  
is the checkpoint of  
the ER glycoprotein  
folding quality  
control!

Test if  
UGGT induces  
ER retention of  
 $\alpha$ -Gal mutants

If so, modulation of  
UGGT: $\alpha$ -Gal mutant  
interaction could help  
 $\alpha$ -Gal to reach the  
lysosomes!

# OUR STEPS

The objectives of our proposal are

- i) to **identify** novel negative modulators of the  $\alpha$ -Gal mutant client PPIs, by using Machine Learning and MD;
- ii) to **predict** which  $\alpha$ -Gal missense mutants carry residual activity (and thus to aid clinicians to stratify patients and to select candidates for PCT and or ERQC-MT), by cutting-edge Machine Learning models;
- iii) to **validate** *in vitro* and *in cellula* the PPI modulation activity of the identified compounds, and the responsiveness of  $\alpha$ -Gal mutants identified for PCT and/or ERQC-MT of Fabry disease.

## OUR GOALS

1. **Discovery of novel PPIs drug candidates targeting  $\alpha$ -Gal mutants for precision medicine in Fabry Disease**
2. **This is a seminal project. Indeed it is possible to foreseen applications to more other different protein targets**



**Endoplasmic Reticulum  
Quality Control Modulation Therapy**



## OUR MAIN AREAS OF EXPERTISE

**Cell biology**  
**Structural biology**  
**Biochemistry**  
**Computational biology**  
**Bioinformatics**  
**Mass spectrometry**  
**NMR spectroscopy**  
**Molecular dynamics**  
**Virtual screening**  
**Training of Machine Learning classification models**

**Immunoblot**  
**Enzymatic assays**  
**Immunofluorescence**  
**Cellular Thermal Shift Assay**

## IMPACT

