Diego De Stefani – Bio

Diego De Stefani is Full Professor of Biochemistry at the Department of Biomedical Sciences, University of Padova. His work has been always focused on mitochondria, in particular on the identification and characterization of organellar ion transporters. He identified and characterized the Mitochondrial Calcium Uniporter (MCU), i.e. the channel of the inner mitochondrial membrane responsible for the electrophoretic accumulation of Ca^{2+} inside organelle matrix, along with several associated proteins that form the so-called MCU complex. He also discovered the molecular identity of the mitochondrial ATP-sensitive potassium channels (mitoK_{ATP}). He is now focused on the characterization of TMEM65, a protein involved in Na+-dependent mitochondrial Ca^{2+} efflux.