

Concise description of Giovanni Gasbarrini's contribution

Giovanni Gasbarrini was a pioneer in many fields of Gastroenterology

- he was interested in celiac disease: he was the first in the world to study morphologic alterations, by electronic microscopy, in celiac disease and in other malabsorption syndromes. He co-authored the first work, published in the New England Journal of Medicine in 1998, regarding the endoscopic and pre-biopic diagnosis of celiac disease;

- he performed pioneer work in the field of *Helicobacter pylori* especially by studying extra digestive diseases, e.g. idiopathic thrombocytopenic purpura now recognized as a consequence of the infection, but also other diseases still under study: migraine, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, etc. He also developed new eradication therapies such as levofloxacin-based triple therapy;

- he was the first in Europe who made researches about small intestine and pancreas structure modification during the absorption and in dietary different conditions;

- he made clinical and experimental researches regarding pathogenesis of biliary disease, in particular about biliary stones disease;

- he described drug-induced hepatitis and he was the initiator and coordinator of therapeutic trials on viral liver diseases, and he studied artificial support of liver function;

- he is currently interested in stem cells in regenerative medicine and cancer;

- his other topics of interest are food allergy and intolerance, irritable bowel syndrome and the role of probiotics, nutrition;

- he developed methods to be used in different digestive diseases, e.g. electron microscopy (first article in 1960) utilization of breath tests (author of recent guidelines), and microarray technology;

- he authored monographs on the application of ultrasonography in gastroenterology;

- his non-profit organization "The research in Medicine" financed more than 110 international and national conferences, allowed 90 young Italian researchers to be trained in the most prestigious research institutes worldwide, and to receive more than 15 international awards for their studies.

- he was President of the "Club del tenue" (small Bowel Club) (1980), of the European Helicobacter Study Group (2000), the Italian Stem Cells Study Group, the European Association of Gastroenterology and of Endoscopy (2008)