

Rosa Iacovino was born in Marsiconuovo (PZ) on March 21, 1964. She graduated in Chemistry at University of Naples "Federico II" in 1995 discussing a thesis on chemical crystallography. She got her PhD in "Design and use of molecules with biotechnological interest" organized by the Second University of Naples. Since 2004, she has a position, as assistant professor of Inorganic Chemistry at the Department of Environmental, Biological and Pharmaceutical Science and Technologies of the University of Campania "Luigi Vanvitelli". The research interests of Dr. Rosa Iacovino lie in peptide chemistry: the relationships between structure and activity of numerous peptide systems have been the object of her investigations, carried out with a variety of experimental and theoretical techniques, for the understanding of the mechanism of action of biologically relevant systems. The research activity is based on the conformational study of compounds with peculiar biological features. The activity of those compounds was determined by investigating the structural properties of the conformation stabilized upon interaction with the specific receptor. In fact, selectivity and specificity of the binding can be explained on the basis of the structures of the interacting species. The investigation of the structural features of biomolecules can contribute, therefore, to the understanding of the mechanism regulating the molecular recognition process, so being very helpful in the scientific, industrial and environmental fields. Moreover, the research activity is focused: 1) on the study of the interaction of biologically relevant molecules with metal ions clarifying the conformational parameters influencing the complex stability and 2) on the study of macrocycles able to form inclusion compounds such as the cyclodextrins, with the aim to understand the mechanism of the inclusion complex formation. These studies have been carried out using spectroscopic techniques in solution (CD, NMR, FT-IR, UV), single crystal X-ray diffraction and computational methods. The results of the research activity of Dr. Rosa Iacovino have been published on internationally reputed journals.