

Martino Schettino

PhD student in Behavioral Neuroscience

Contact Information

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EDUCATION

2020 - present, PhD in Behavioral Neuroscience

Department of Psychology
Faculty of Medicine and Psychology
Sapienza University of Rome
Thesis supervisor: Professor Cristina Ottaviani

2018 - 2020, MSc in Cognitive Neuroscience and Psychological Rehabilitation

Department of Psychology
Faculty of Medicine and Psychology
Sapienza University of Rome
Dissertation title: Effects of perseverative cognition on reward learning: An RDoC-based preliminary study
Thesis supervisor: Professor Cristina Ottaviani
Age at graduation: 24
Final degree mark: 110/110 cum laude

2015 - 2018, BCs in Psychology

Department of Psychology
Faculty of Medicine and Psychology
Sapienza University of Rome
Dissertation title: Neurobiological Correlates of Insomnia
Thesis supervisor: Professor Luigi De Gennaro
Age at graduation: 22
Final degree mark: 110/110 cum laude

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

April 2023 - present, Visiting Scholar Period

Laboratory for Affective and Translational Neuroscience (LATN), Center for Depression, Anxiety and Stress Research, McLean Hospital, Harvard Medical School Affiliate. Supervisor: Professor Diego A. Pizzagalli.

January 2023 - March 2023, Research Internship

Unit of Neuroradiology: Imaging analysis and Spectroscopy, IRCSS Bambino Gesù Hospital. Supervisor(s): Professor Antonio Napolitano and Dr. Chiara Parrillo.

Jan 2021 - August 2022, Research Internship

Neuroimaging Lab, IRCSS Santa Lucia Foundation. Supervisor: Professor Federico Giove and Cristina Ottaviani.

May 2019 - July 2020, Research Internship

Clinical Psychophysiology, Sapienza University of Rome. Supervisor: Professor Cristina Ottaviani.

June 2019 - December 2019, Research Internship

Behavioral Psychobiology Lab, Sapienza University of Rome. Supervisor: Professor Rossella Ventura.

PUBLICATIONS IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS

Castellano P.; Gigli V.; Ghezzi V.; Ang, Y.-S.; **Schettino M.**; Pizzagalli, D.A.; Ottaviani, C. Momentary gustative-olfactory sensitivity and tonic heart rate variability independently predict motivational behavior. *International Journal of Psychophysiology* **2023**, 186, 1-9.

Schettino, M.*; Ceccarelli I.*; Tarvainen M.; Martelli M.L.; Orsini C.; Ottaviani C. From skinner box to daily life: Sign-tracker phenotype co-segregates with impulsivity, compulsivity and addiction tendencies in humans. *Cognitive Affective and Behavioral Neuroscience* **2022**, 22, 1358–1369.

Schettino, M.; Ghezzi, V.; Ang, Y.-S.; Duda, J.M.; Fagioli, S.; Mennin, D.S.; Pizzagalli, D.A.; Ottaviani, C. Perseverative Cognition in the Positive Valence Systems: An Experimental and Ecological Investigation. *Brain Science* **2021**, 11, 585.

MANUSCRIPTS UNDER REVIEW

Schettino M.; Parrillo C.; Cairone L.; Baldassarri G.; Gazzellini S.; Thayer J.F.; Giove F.; Napolitano A.; Ottaviani C. (submitted) Increased Gamma-Aminobutyric Acid (GABA) levels during intrusive thinking: neurochemical-autonomic pathways fostering avoidance in pathological anxiety. *Biological Psychiatry*.

Gigli V.; Castellano P.; Ghezzi V.; Ang, Y.-S.; **Schettino M.**; Pizzagalli, D.A.; Ottaviani, C. (submitted) Daily COVID-19-related social isolation predicts reward sensitivity and reward learning in an opposite manner. *British Journal of Psychology*.

Schettino M.; Tarmati V.; Gigli V., Castellano P.; Carnevali L.; Orsini C.; Cabib S.; Ottaviani C. (in prep.) Translational quantification of the acute stress effects on the different components of reward-processing behavior: a systematic review and meta-analysis of the human and rodent studies.

Schettino M.*; Mauti M.*; Parrillo C.; Ceccarelli I.; Napolitano A.; Martelli M.L.; Ottaviani C.; Orsini C. (in prep.) Neural and behavioral assessment of the individual variation of sign-tracking/goal-tracking phenotype in humans.

* denotes co-first authorship

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

2023 - present

PhD mobility scholarships for spending a visiting research period at McLean Hospital, Harvard Medical School Affiliate, Belmont (MA), USA, funded by Sapienza University of Rome and Italian Association of Psychology (€ 7700).

2020 - 2024

3 year-fellowship for being admitted to the PhD programme in Behavioral Neuroscience, funded by Sapienza University of Rome (€ 16,243.00 per year).

2022 - 2023

Grant for "Avvio alla Ricerca" to a research project entitled: "Behavioural mechanisms underpinning maladaptive intrusive thinking in a transdiagnostic clinical sample: Is salience attribution involved?", funded by Sapienza University of Rome (€ 1000, AR122181680242EE).

ABSTRACT AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Schettino, M.; Ottaviani C.; Parrillo C.; Gazzellini S.; Giove F.; Cairone L.; Baldassarri G.; Napolitano A. Intrusive Thinking alters GABAergic and glutamatergic neurotransmission within Anterior Cingulate Cortex and related-functional connectivity. Abstract selected for an oral presentation at 80th Annual Meeting of the American Psychosomatic Society, 8th - 11th March 2023, in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Schettino, M.; Giove F.; Parrillo C.; Gazzellini S.; Napolitano A.; Ottaviani C. From lab to daily life: determining the acute neurochemical effects of intrusive thinking in pathological and non-pathological worriers. Abstract selected for a poster-jam oral presentation at 35th congress of European College of Neuropsychopharmacology (ECNP), 15th - 18th October 2022 in Vienna, Austria.

Ceccarelli I.; **Schettino, M.**; Tarvainen M.; Martelli M.L.; Orsini C.; Ottaviani C. Translational clinical validity of sign tracking phenotype. European Behavioral Pharmacological Society (EBPS) biennial workshop, 24th - 26th July 2022 in Rome, Italy.

Gigli V.; Castellano P.; **Schettino M.**; Ghezzi V.; Ang, Y.-S.; Pizzagalli, D.A.; Ottaviani, C. COVID-19 consequences on motivational functioning: an ecological and laboratory study. European Behavioral Pharmacological Society (EBPS) biennial workshop, 24th - 26th July 2022 in Rome, Italy.

Schettino, M.; Ceccarelli I.; Tarvainen M.; Martelli M.L.; Orsini C.; Ottaviani C. The propensity to sign-tracking as a risk factor for impulse-related disorders: an ecological momentary assessment with ambulatory autonomic monitoring in youth. XXX National Congress Italian Psychological Association, 26th - 30th September 2022 in Padua, Italy.

Schettino, M.; Giove F.; Parrillo C.; Gazzellini S.; Napolitano A.; Ottaviani C. Intrusive Thinking unravels allostatic dysregulation of glutamatergic neurometabolism within Anterior Cingulate Cortex in Generalized Anxiety Disorder. Poster presented at: European Behavioral Pharmacological Society (EBPS) biennial workshop, 24th - 26th July 2022 in Rome, Italy.

Schettino, M.; Ottaviani C. Perseverative cognition alters the functionality of positive valence systems: an investigation with a multimodal approach. XXII National Congress Italian Psychological Association Clinical and Dynamic Section, 17th - 19th September 2021 in Lecce, Italy.

Schettino, M.; Ghezzi, V.; Ang, Y.-S.; Duda, J.M.; Fagioli, S.; Mennin, D.S.; Pizzagalli, D.A.; Ottaviani, C. Perseverative cognition alters the functionality of positive valence systems: an investigation with a multimodal approach. Poster presented at: 49th Meeting of the European Brain and Behaviour Society (EBBS), 4th - 8th September 2021 in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Participation to the 8th International Meeting of the Integrated Brain and Behavior Research Center (IBBRC): "From Adaptive Functioning to Psychopathology", 4th-7th February 2020, University of Haifa, Israel.

ACADEMIC AND TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Salaried Teaching Fellowship in "Statistic for Psychology", as part of BCs in Psychological

Sciences, University of Roma "Tor Vergata".

Nonsalaried Teaching Fellowship in "Clinical Psychology", as part of BCs in Psychological Sciences, Sapienza University of Rome.

Nonsalaried Teaching Fellowship in "Clinical Psychology: Advanced Course", as part of MSc in Applied Clinical Psychology, Sapienza University of Rome.

Annual Lecturer of a seminar entitled: "Research of Domain Criteria (RDoC): a transformative framework in research in the field of biological psychiatry". Sapienza University of Rome.

Supervisor of 7 Master Thesis Projects.

REVIEWING EXPERIENCE

Ad hoc reviewer

Biological Psychology, International Journal of Psychophysiology, Frontiers in Psychology.

COMPUTATIONAL AND SOFTWARE SKILLS

- \LaTeX (fluent)
- E-prime (fluent)
- Inquisit (fluent)
- MATLAB (basic rudiments)
- NEURON (basic rudiments)
- SPSS and JASP (fluent)
- Kubios HRV (fluent)
- ProComp infiniti (fluent)
- Biopac-AcqKnowledge (fluent)
- SPM (basic rudiments)