



# Francesca Alessandra Ambrosio

**Nationality:** Italian

## ● WORK EXPERIENCE

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05/2022 – CURRENT

**POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER** – UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI "MAGNA GRAECIA" DI CATANZARO

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05/2021 – 30/04/2022

**POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER** – UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI "MAGNA GRAECIA" DI CATANZARO

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04/2020 – 03/2021 – Catanzaro, Italy

**POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHER** – UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI "MAGNA GRAECIA" DI CATANZARO

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01/2020 – 03/2020 – Catanzaro, Italy

**RESEARCHER** – NET4SCIENCE SRL

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Researcher in medicinal chemistry

2020 – 2021 – Cosenza, Italy

**LECTURER IN "ASPETTI STRUTTURALI E MOLECOLARI DEI NUTRACEUTICI" FOR THE SECOND LEVEL MASTER "NUTRIZIONE ED INTEGRAZIONE NUTRACEUTICA"** – DIPARTIMENTO DI FARMACIA E SCIENZE DELLA SALUTE E DELLA NUTRIZIONE DELL'UNIVERSITÀ DELLA CALABRIA

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2019 – 2020 – Catanzaro, Italy

**TEACHING ASSISTANT FOR THE DISCIPLINES RELATED TO THE SCIENTIFIC-DISCIPLINARY SECTOR OF PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTRY** – UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI "MAGNA GRAECIA" DI CATANZARO

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2018 – CURRENT – Catanzaro, Italy

**APPOINTMENT OF SUBJECT EXPERT FOR SSD CHIM/08, PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTRY; CHIM/10, FOOD CHEMISTRY; AND CHIM/11, FERMENTATION CHEMISTRY** – UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI "MAGNA GRAECIA" DI CATANZARO

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08/2015 – 03/2016

**PHARMACIST** – "PARAFARMACIA SASCAL", AEROPORTO INTERNAZIONALE OF LAMEZIA TERME

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## ● EDUCATION AND TRAINING

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31/01/2020

**TRAINING COURSE "NUTRIZIONE ED INTEGRAZIONE NUTRACEUTICA"** – Dipartimento di Farmacia e Scienze della Salute e della Nutrizione dell'Università della Calabria

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03/10/2019

**PHD IN LIFE SCIENCES** – Università degli Studi “Magna Graecia” di Catanzaro

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08/2018 – 12/2018

**VISITING PHD STUDENT** – Scripps Research Institute North Torrey Pines Road, California (Stati Uniti)

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05/2017 – Certosa di Pontignano, Siena, Italy

**11TH EUROPEAN WORKSHOP IN DRUG DESIGN AND MUTALIG. TRAINING SCHOOL**

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02/2017 – Vienna, Austria

**1ST TRAINING SCHOOL – MUTALIG COST ACTION** – Universitat Wien

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26/06/2015 – Catanzaro, Italy

**ENROLMENT IN THE PHARMACIST PROFESSIONAL REGISTER**

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31/03/2015

**DEGREE IN PHARMACY WITH VOTE 110/110** – Università degli Studi “Magna Graecia” di Catanzaro

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06/2014 – 03/2015

**EXPERIMENTAL THESIS AT THE COMPUTATIONAL CHEMISTRY LABORATORY (CCLAB)** – Università degli Studi “Magna Graecia” di Catanzaro

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07/2014 – 03/2015

**PHARMACY PROFESSIONAL INTERNSHIPS**

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## ● **LANGUAGE SKILLS**

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Mother tongue(s): **ITALIAN**

Other language(s):

	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken production	Spoken interaction	
<b>ENGLISH</b>	B2	B2	B2	B2	B2

Levels: A1 and A2: Basic user; B1 and B2: Independent user; C1 and C2: Proficient user

## ● **PUBLICATIONS**

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Alkhatib, M.; Salpini, R.; Carioti, L.; Ambrosio, F.A.; D’Anna, S.; Duca, L.; Costa, G.; Bellocchi, M.C.; Piermatteo, L.; Artese, A.; Santoro, M.M.; Alcaro, S.; Svicher, V.; Ceccherini-Silbersteina, F. Update on SARS-CoV-2 Omicron Variant of Concern and Its Peculiar Mutational Profile, *Microbiology Spectrum*, 2022, 10.

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Alkhatib, M.; Svicher, V.; Salpini, R.; Ambrosio, F.A.; Bellocchi, M.C.; Carioti, I.; Piermatteo, I.; Scutari, R.; Costa, G.; Artese, A.; Alcaro, S.; Shafer, R.; Ceccherini-Silberstein, F. SARS-CoV-2 variants and their relevant mutational profiles: update summer 2021, *Microbiology Spectrum*, 2021, 9, 3.

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Malacrida, A.; Cavalloro, V.; Martino, E.; Costa, G.; Ambrosio, F.A.; Alcaro, S.; Rigolio, R.; Cassetti, A.; Miloso, M.; Collina, S. Anti-multiple myeloma potential of secondary metabolites from hibiscus sabdariffa—part 2, *Molecules*, 2021, 26, 6596.

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Ambrosio, F.A.; Coricello, A.; Costa, G.; Lupia, A.; Micaelli, M.; Marchesi, N.; Sala, F.; Pascale, A.; Rossi, D.; Vasile, F.; Alcaro, S.; Collina, S. Identification of compounds targeting HuD. Another brick in the wall of neurodegenerative disease treatment. *J Med Chem*, 2021, 64 (14), 9989-10000.

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Salpini, R.; Alkhatib, M.; Costa, G.; Piermatteo, I.; Ambrosio, F.A.; Di Maio, V.C.; Scutari, R.; Duca, I.; Berno, G.; Fabeni, I.; Alcaro, S.; Ceccherini-Silberstein, F.; Artese, A.; Svicher, V. Key genetic elements, single and in clusters, underlying geographically dependent SARS-CoV-2 genetic adaptation and their impact on binding affinity for drugs and immune control. *J Antimicrob Chemother.* 2021, 76(2):396-412.

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Artese, A.; Svicher, V.; Costa, G.; Salpini, R.; Di Maio, V.C.; Alkhatib, M.; Ambrosio, F.A.; Santoro, M.M.; Assaraf, Y.G.; Alcaro, S.; Ceccherini-Silberstein, F. Current status of antivirals and druggable targets of SARS CoV-2 and other human pathogenic coronaviruses. *Drug Resistance Updates*, 2020, 53, 100721.

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Costa, G.; Maruca, A.; Rocca, R.; Ambrosio, F.A.; Berrino, E.; Carta, F.; Mesiti, F.; Salatino, A.; Trapasso, F.; Artese, A.; Alcaro, S.; Supuran, C.T. In Silico Identification and Biological Evaluation of Antioxidant Food Components Endowed with Human Carbonic Anhydrase IX and XII Inhibition. *Antioxidants*, 2020, 9, 775.

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Scumaci, D.; Olivo, E.; Fiumara, C.V.; La Chimia, M.; De Angelis, M.T.; Mauro, S.; Costa, G.; Ambrosio, F.A.; Alcaro, S.; Agosti, V.; Costanzo, F.S.; Cuda, G. Dj-1 Proteoforms in Breast Cancer Cells: The Escape of Metabolic Epigenetic Misregulation. *Cells*, 2020, 9,1968.

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Della Volpe, S.; Listro, R.; Parafioriti, M.; Di Giacomo, M.; Rossi, D.; Ambrosio, F.A.; Costa, G.; Alcaro, S.; Ortuso, F.; Hirsch, A.K.H.; Vasile, F.; Collina, S. BOPC1 enantiomers preparation and HuR interaction study. From molecular modeling to a curious DEEP-STD NMR application. *ACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters*, 2020,11(5): 883-888.

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Lupia, A.; Moraca, F.; Bagetta, D.; Maruca, A.; Ambrosio, F.A.; Rocca, R.; Catalano, R.; Romeo, I.; Talarico, C.; Ortuso, F.; Artese, A.; Alcaro, S. Computer-based techniques for lead identification and optimization II: Advanced search methods. *Physical Sciences reviews*, 2020, 5(5), 20180114

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Bagetta, D.; Maruca, A.; Lupia, A.; Mesiti, F.; Catalano, R.; Romeo, I.; Moraca, F.; Ambrosio, F.A.; Costa, G.; Artese, A.; Ortuso, F.; Alcaro, S.; Rocca, R. Mediterranean products as promising source of multi-target agents in the treatment of metabolic syndrome. *European Journal of Medicinal Chemistry*, 2020, 186, 111903.

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Khoury, L.E.; Santos-Martins, D.; Sasmal, S.; Eberhardt, J.; Bianco, G.; Ambrosio, F.A.; Solis-Vasquez, L.; Koch, A.; Forli, S.; Mobley, D.L. Comparison of affinity ranking using AutoDock-GPU and MM-GBSA scores for BACE-1 inhibitors in the D3R Grand Challenge 4. *J. Comput Aided Mol Des*, 2019, 33(12), 1011-1020.

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Santos-Martins, D.; Eberhardt, J.; Bianco, G.; Solis-Vasquez, L.; Ambrosio, F.A.; Koch, A.; Forli, S. D3R Grand Challenge 4: prospective pose prediction of BACE1 ligands with AutoDock-GPU. *J Comput Aided Mol Des*, 2019, 33(12), 1071-1081.

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Esposito F.; Ambrosio F.A.; Maluddu R.; Costa G.; Rocca R.; Maccioni E.; Catalano R.; Romeo I.; Eleftheriou P.; Karia D.C.; Tsirides P.; Godvani N.; Pandya H.; Corona A.; Alcaro S.; Artese A.; Geronikaki A.; Tramontano E. Chromenone derivatives as a versatile scaffold with dual mode of inhibition of HIV-1 reverse transcriptase-associated Ribonuclease H function and integrate activity. *European Journal of Medicinal Chemistry*, 2019, 182, 111617.

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Maruca A.; Catalano R.; Bagetta D.; Mesiti F.; Ambrosio F.A.; Romeo I.; Moraca F.; Rocca R.; Ortuso F.; Artese A.; Costa G.; Alcaro S.; Lupia A. The Mediterranean Diet as source of bioactive compounds with multi-targeting anti-cancer profile. *European Journal of Medicinal Chemistry*, 2019, 181, 111579.

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Costa G.; Carta F.; Ambrosio F.A.; Artese A.; Ortuso F.; Moraca F.; Rocca R.; Romeo I.; Lupia A.; Maruca A.; Bagetta D.; Catalano R.; Vullo D.; Alcaro S.; Supuran C.T. A computer-assisted discovery of novel anti-obesity compounds as selective carbonic anhydrase VA inhibitors. *European Journal of Medicinal Chemistry*, 2019, 181, 111565.

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Arcon J.P.; Modenutti C.P.; Avendano D.; Lopez E.D.; Defelipe L.A.; Ambrosio F.A.; Turjanski A.G.; Forli S.; Marti M.A. AutoDock Bias: improving binding mode prediction and virtual screening using known protein-ligand interactions. *Bioinformatics*, 2019, 35(19), 3836-3838.

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Maruca A.; Ambrosio F.A.; Lupia A.; Romeo I.; Rocca R.; Moraca F.; Talarico C.; Bagetta D.; Catalano R.; Costa G.; Artese A.; Alcaro, S. Computer-based techniques for lead identification and optimization I: Basics. *Physical Science Review*, 2019, 4(6), 20180113

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Della Volpe S.; Nasti R.; Queirolo M.; Unver M.Y.; Jumde V.K.; Domling A.; Vasile F.; Potenza D.; Ambrosio F.A.; Costa G.; Alcaro S.; Zucca C.; Provenzani A.; Di Giacomo M.; Rossi D.; Hirsch A.K.H.; Collina S. Novel Compounds Targeting the RNA-Binding Protein HuR. Structure- Based Design, Synthesis, and Interaction Studies. *ACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters*, 2019, 10(4), 615-620

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Pouga L.; Santoro M.M.; Charpentier C.; Di Carlo D.; Romeo I.; Artese A.; Alcaro S.; Antinori A.; Wirden M.; Perno C.F.; Ambrosio F.A.; Calvez V.; Descamps D.; Marcelin A.G.; Ceccherini-Silberstein F.; Lambert-Niclot S. New Resistance Mutations to Nucleoside Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitors at Codon 184 of HIV-1 Reverse Transcriptase (M184L and M184T). *Chemical Biology & Drug Design*, 2019, 93(1), 50-59.

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Costa G.; Rocca R.; Corona A.; Grandi N.; Moraca F.; Romeo I.; Talarico C.; Gagliardi M.G.; Ambrosio F.A.; Ortuso F.; Alcaro S.; Distinto S.; Maccioni E.; Tramontano E.; Artese A. Novel natural non-nucleoside inhibitors of HIV-1 reverse transcriptase identified by shape- and structure-based virtual screening techniques. *European Journal of Medicinal Chemistry*, 2019, 161, 1-10.

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Vasile F.; Della Volpe S.; Ambrosio F.A.; Costa G.; Unver M.Y.; Zucal C.; Rossi D.; Martino E.; Provenzani A.; Hirsch A.K.H.; Alcaro S.; Potenza D.; Collina S. Exploration of ligand binding modes toward the identification of compounds targeting HuR: a combined STD-NMR and MolecularModelling approach. *Scientific Reports*, 2018, 8(1), 13780.

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Malet I.; Ambrosio F.A.; Subra, F.; Herrmann, B.; Leh, H.; Bouger, M.C.; Artese, A.; Katlama, C.; Talarico, C.; Romeo, I.; Alcaro, S.; Costa, G.; Deprez, E.; Calvez, V.; Marcelin, A.G.; Delelis, O. Pathway involving the N155H mutation in HIV-1 integrase leads to dolutegravir resistance. *Journal of Antimicrobial Chemotherapy*, 2018, 73(5), 1158-1166

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## ● NETWORKS AND MEMBERSHIPS

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13/06/2019 – 15/06/2019

**Member of Organizing Committee for Paul Ehrlich Euro-PhD Network & MuTaLig COST Action meeting 2019**

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Catanzaro

## ● HONOURS AND AWARDS

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26/07/2021

**PhD Award of excellence - Paul Ehrlich Award**

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28/07/2021

**Runner-Up best oral Communication**

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## ● DIGITAL SKILLS

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Microsoft Windows, MacOS, Linux, Unix

## ● DRIVING LICENCE

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**Driving Licence:** B

## ● CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

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**18th Hellenic Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry, 25-27 February 2021, online symposium.**

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Identification of natural antioxidants endowed with human carbonic anhydrase IX and XII inhibition.

**Italian young medicinal chemistry virtual meeting, 22-24 July 2020.**

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Preparation and HuR interaction studies of BOPC1 enantiomers combining deep-STD NMR and molecular modeling analysis

**Carbonic anhydrases 2019 - the IV satellite meeting, 14- 17 November 2019, Parma, Italy.**

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In-silico approaches for anticancer multi-target drug discovery.

**Paul Ehrlich Euro-PhD Network & Mutalig Cost Action Meeting 2019, 13th-15th June 2019, Catanzaro, Italy.**

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Compounds targeting the RNA-binding protein HuR. Structure-based design, synthesis and interaction studies

**Mutalig cost action, 3rd WG-Meeting 2019. 23-24 February 2019, Paris, France**

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Exploration of ligand binding modes towards the identification of compounds targeting HuR: a combined STD-NMR and molecular modelling approach.

**2nd WG Meeting – status of WG activities of the Mutalig Cost action. 15-16 March 2018, Tenerife, Spain**

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In silico approaches for antiviral multi-target drugs discovery.

**International workshop CAT-ICBCS 2017 catalysis with ions, complexes, biological systems, clusters and surfaces. 3-4 November 2017, Cosenza, Italy**

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Dynophores: a molecular dynamics pharmacophore approach to identify telomerase ten domain promising binders.

**International workshop CAT-ICBCS 2017 catalysis with ions, complexes, biological systems, clusters and surfaces. 3-4 November 2017, Cosenza, Italy**

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In silico identification of chikungunya virus nsp2 protease inhibitors from natural sources.

**EpichemBio (cm1406) and Mutalig cost (ca15135) actions joint meeting university of porto. 22-24 September 2017, Porto, Portugal**

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Cabotegravir, a new integrase inhibitor: drug stability evaluation

**11th EWDD European workshop in drug design & Mu.Ta.Lig training school (XI EWDD). 21-26 May 2017, Siena, Italy**

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Analysis of new allosteric pockets on the HIV-1 integrase and hit identification of novel selective ligands by virtual screening techniques.

**3rd innovative approaches for novel antiviral agents summer school. September 28th-October 3rd 2016, Pula, CA, Italy.**

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In silico identification of new natural ligands as potential HIV-1 integrase agents.

● **ORAL COMMUNICATION**

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**Targeting HuD with Natural Compounds - Invited Speaker**

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NANOINNOVATION 2021, 21-24 September 2021, Rome.

**Molecular modeling studies on antiviral targets: drug resistance mechanisms and rational drug design**

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MedChem 2021 - Paul Ehrlich Virtual Meeting, July 26th-28th, 2021.

## **A computer-assisted discovery of novel potential anti-obesity compounds as selective carbonic anhydrase va inhibitors.**

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VI Congresso della Divisione di Chimica Teorica e Computazionale della Società Chimica Italiana. 19-20 September 2019, Università della Calabria, Cosenza, Italy.

## **Induced fit docking protocol applied to the in silico evaluation of antiviral hiv-1 integrase resistance**

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2nd WG meeting – Status of WG activities of the MuTaLig COST Action. 15- 16 March 2018, Instituto Universitario de Bio-Organica “Antonio González”, Universidad de La Laguna, Tenerife-Spain.

## **Pathway involving the n155h mutation in hiv-1 integrase leads to dolutegravir resistance.**

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7th meeting of the Paul Ehrlich MedChem Euro-PhD Network. 25-27, August 2017 Vienna, University of Technology, Vienna-Austria

## ● **COMMUNICATION AND INTERPERSONAL SKILLS**

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**Excellent communicative skills. I work very well in team**

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