



**Dr. Laura Feltri,
Feltri Lab PI, HJKRI
Professor of Biochemistry**

Dr. M. Laura Feltri received her medical degree from the University of Milano, Italy (1988). She completed her internship in Medicine and Residency in Neurology (1992) in the San Raffaele Hospital, University of Milano, Italy. She was a Neuroscience post-doctoral fellow of Dr. Michael Shy at Thomas Jefferson University and in the laboratory of Dr. John Kamholz at the University of Pennsylvania (1989-1992).

Dr. Feltri is currently Professor of Biochemistry at the Hunter James Kelly Research Institute in the State University of New York at Buffalo, the Head of the Unit of Neuro-Glia in the San Raffaele Scientific Institute of Milano, and adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Neurology at the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Feltri's scientific interest is on myelin and myelin diseases. Together with the laboratory of Lawrence Wrabetz, she has developed the first Cre transgene that targets specifically Schwann cells, and pioneered conditional transgenesis to understand the role of extracellular matrix components and their receptors in the developing nervous system. Her laboratory has identified the diverse roles and some of the downstream signals for laminin receptors in nerve development.

The NIH, Telethon Italy and the European Community have funded her research. She currently serves on the board of the Peripheral Nerve Society, on the medical board of the Charcot-Marie-Tooth Association and on the editorial board of Journal of Neuroscience.

At the Hunter James Kelly Research Institute Dr. Feltri is applying her experience on conditional mutagenesis to ask if there is cell autonomy in the pathogenesis of Krabbe disease. Her laboratory is generating animal models that will help to determine in which brain cell absence of the GalC enzyme and psychosine toxicity are having their first effect. This information is essential for the design of rational therapy in Krabbe disease and other myelin pathologies.