

MARIA ELISABETTA GAIATTO

Mobile: 0039 - 3356244378

E-mail: viapo38@live.it

Nationality: Italian

EDUCATION

- 1989-1991** • **University of Padua, Italy:** Specialization in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.
- 1979-1981** • **University of Padua, Italy:** Specialization in Orthopedics and Traumatology.
- 1972 - 1978** • **University of Padua, Italy:** Bachelor's Degree in Medicine.
- 1968 - 1972** • **"G. Marconi", Portogruaro, Italy:** Classical High School Leaving Certificate.

LANGUAGES Italian; English; Kiswahili.

EMPLOYMENT

- 2001-up to date** • **Rehabilitation Center for Children with Disabilities, San Dona, Italy:** medical consultant.
- 2001-2015** • **Medicine and Surgery Faculty, University of Padua, Italy:** Occupational Therapy professor.
- 1992-up to date** • orthopedic consultant mainly focused on research and teaching of Neurology and Orthopedic Rehabilitation, owner and manager of two clinical centers specialized in equilibrium disturbs and development of orthopedic equipment.
- 1989-up to date** • **"La Nostra Famiglia" Rehabilitation Center and "E. Medea" Research Institute, San Vito al Tagliamento, Italy:** physiatrist consultant in the Rehabilitation department, collaborating with associations for people with neurological, orthopedic and neuromuscular diseases.
- 1980-1983** • **Regional Hospital, Dodoma, Africa:** orthopedic consultant member of C.U.A.M.M. – Medici con l'Africa in charge of opening and managing a department of Traumatology and Orthopedics requested by the Italian Minister of Foreign Affairs.
- 1979-1992** • **Hospital, Orthopedic Department, Portogruaro, Italy:** orthopedic surgeon mainly focused on hand and vertebral column pathologies, collaborating with the Orthopedic Clinic of Padua University and the "Burlo Garofano" Children Institute of Trieste.
- 1978-1979** • **Regional Rehabilitation Center for Children with Cerebral Palsy, Venice, Italy:** medical consultant collaborating with international specialists.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- 1998-2001** • consultant of the "Keeping records of Disability" project and supporting the

application of the ICDH-2 (International Classification of Impairments, Activities, and Partecipation).

- 1994-up to date** • MOVE (Mobility Opportunity via Education) representant and trainer responsible for Southern Europe and Italy, giving courses for doctors, nurses, physiotherapists and families; and collaborating with rehabilitation centers in Brazil, Slovenia and Palestine.
- 1992-2002** • collaboration with the OMS (Organisation Mondiale de la Santé) Rehabilitation Department of Geneve, Switzerland.
- 1992-2002** • member of the IDDC (International Disability and Development Consortium) Tarsk Force, attending meetings all over Europe and collaborating with institutions such as Save the Children, Healt Link, OVCI, ADD, Radda Barnen, Shia, CBM, AIFO, Diakonia, Sticing Lilian Found, Leonard Cheshire.
- 1992-2002** • member of EENET (Enabling Education Network) at the Education School, Manchester, United Kingdom.
- 1988** • Quality Assurance in Health Care (VRQ) Certificate.

RESEARCH AREA

- occupational therapy
- use of theatre and circus art in the rehabilitation of neurological patients (founder of “Noi Artisti Onlus” a non-governmental organization for people with disabilities and their families).
- use of botulinum toxin in patients with spasticity
- dynamic Lycra garments for rehabilitation, in collaboration with Children Hospital of Birmingham and East Anglia University.
- communication in people with disabilities, in collaboration with professor Franco Fabbro.
- developing and testing equipment for people with mobility difficulties in collaboration with Chinesport Cultura.