Code B_2377

Department	Biomedical Science
UniCa reference person	Professor Alessio Squassina
Project title in English	A program on stratified pharmacogenomics in severe mental illness
Project title in Italian	Un programma per la stratificazione Farmacogenomica nelle malattie mentali severe
Subject area of reference (World University Ranking)	LIFE SCIENCES
Project summary and VPS' profile	A key problem in Mental Health is that up to one third of patients suffering from major mental disorders develop resistance against drug therapy. However, patients showing early signs of treatment resistance (TR) do not receive adequate early intensive pharmacological treatment but instead they undergo a stepwise trial-and-error treatment approach. This situation originates from the lack of effective methods to identify individuals at risk for TR, as well as from our limited understanding of the biological basis of response and resistance to psychotropic medications. It is the central goal of this project to bridge these gaps and pave the way for a shift towards a treatment decision-making process tailored for the individual at risk for TR. To that end, we aim to establish evidence-based criteria to make decisions of early intense treatment in individuals at risk for TR across the major psychiatric disorders based on molecular and clinical characteristics.
	The visiting professor applying for this call should be an internationally recognized expert in pharmacogenomics applied to neuropsychopharmacology and mental health, with vast expertise embracing clinical, biological, and statistical approaches to explore the complexity of pharmacogenomics. The VP will be involved in seminars for student and researchers, research meetings as well as in the conceiving and planning of potential research projects involving scientists from UNICA.
Proposed length of stay	Short visit of 6 days
Expected period of activity	May 2024
Academic position of the VPS'	Professor
Course of Study	Laurea triennale (1st cycle University Degree), Laurea magistrale (2nd cycle University Degree), Laurea magistrale a ciclo unico (5-6-year Master Degree), Dottorato di ricerca (PhD Course), Scuola di specializzazione (Specialization Course), Master 1°livello (1st level Professional Master's Programme), Master 2°livello (2nd level Professional Master's Programme)
Language of instruction	English