LECTURE
The role of TDP43 metabolism in the onset of ALS.

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He gained his BSc and PhD in Chemistry at the University of Buenos Aires and his degree in Medicine and Surgery at the University of Naples.

After completing his Ph.D. studies at the Department of Organic Chemistry under Prof Eduardo G. Gros, he transferred to the Instituto de Investigaciones Bioquimicas Fundacion Campomar to work with Prof Israel D Algranati. In 1974, he moved to the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology, Cambridge, UK, where he worked in the Division directed by Dr. Frederick Sanger. From 1980 to 1990, he was University Lecturer of Pathology at Oxford and Fellow of Magdalen College. In 1980, he was elected member of the European Molecular Biology Organisation (EMBO). In 1993, he was awarded the Platinum Konex Prize for Science and Technology (Argentina) as the best scientist of the decade in Genetic and Cytology and in 2001 he was elected Member of the Argentine Academy of Sciences. In 2010 he was elected member of the The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) and in 2014 he was awarded an MD Honoris Causae by the Faculty of Medicine of Montevideo. In September 1990, he was appointed Director of the Trieste Component of ICGEB and between 2004 and 2014 was the Director-General of the same institute. Currently is the Head of the ICGEB RNA Biology Group.

In 1977, Prof. Baralle published the sequence of the messenger RNA coding for beta-globin, the first complete primary structure of an eukaryotic mRNA. In 1979, his group isolated the gene for epsilon-globin, a component of the human embryonic haemoglobin. He has also contributed to the study of the genetic factors involved in the susceptibility to hypertension, atherosclerosis and coronary heart disease.He was one of the first to describe the pre-mRNA alternative splicing process in the 1980s and since then he has made critical contributions to understanding the molecular mechanisms involved in this important cellular process in health and disease. Prof. Baralle heads the mis splicing and disease project within the European RNA alternative splicing network of excellence (EURASNET) that involves close European collaborations in basic and clinical research. Furthermore, in addition to the basic research fields mentioned above, applied biotechnology projects are being carried out at the ICGEB laboratory. In particular strains and process protocols have been developed for the production of recombinant biopharmaceuticals.