

## Curriculum Vitae

### Alice A. Tomei

#### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Assistant Professor - department of Biomedical Engineering - University of Miami**

**Director of the Islet Immunoengineering Laboratory - University of Miami Diabetes Research Institute**

**Dr. Alice A. Tomei** is an Assistant Professor in the department of Biomedical Engineering of the University of Miami and the director of the Islet Immunoengineering Laboratory ([www.tomeilab.com](http://www.tomeilab.com)) at the University of Miami Diabetes Research Institute. Dr. Tomei's background uniquely combines expertise in bioengineering and immunology and she is applying her skills to the development of novel immunoengineering platforms to prevent rejection after islet transplantation and to promote antigen-specific tolerance for a cure of type-1 diabetes. To that end, her strategy is to design and develop novel technology platforms with strong clinical translation potential that are supported by solid mechanistic studies in preclinical models of type-1 diabetes that are relevant to the human disease. Her enthusiastic commitment to type-1 diabetes cure-focused research is matched by a solid track record of academic achievements and translational efforts. She has trained in the best engineering school in Italy, the Politecnico di Milano. Then, she conducted her PhD work at the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland, under the mentorship of Dr. Melody Swartz, world leader in lymphatic and cancer mechanobiology and stromal cell tolerance. Then she conducted her postdoctoral fellowship at EPFL in the laboratory of Dr. Jeffrey Hubbell, world leader in molecular engineering in collaboration with Dr. Cherie Stabler, a leader in diabetes bioengineering research. In recognition of her accomplishments during her early career as independent investigator, in 2012 she was invited to become part of the prestigious JDRF encapsulation consortium, which gathers the world leaders in islet encapsulation and immunomodulation. Dr. Tomei has presented her research work at several international conferences, with three recent presentations at the 2015 Meeting of the American Diabetes Association in Boston, eight presentations at the 2015 Meeting of the Biomedical Engineering Society in Tampa, and one oral presentation at the 2016 Keystone meeting in Stromal Cells in Immunity. Dr. Tomei's research has been funded by the Diabetes Research Institute Foundation, the Iacocca Family Foundation, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) and Helmsley Trust, the Tronchetti Provera Foundation, the Children with Diabetes Foundation, the Department of Defense, and the National Institute of Health, including a recent JDRF career development award. These important achievements further highlight her recognition in the field of immunoengineering for type-1 diabetes.