

The Aventino Medical Group is...

... a team of health care practitioners from several countries, collaborating in Rome for many years. We take pride in offering unique high-level personalized care based on professional competence, humanity, and support from our superb front desk staff.

◇ **Alain Duval:** Dermatologist. French Diploma; MPH in Epidemiology, Tulane; University Diploma of Skin Cancer Surgery, Paris. Adult and pediatric dermatology with surgery; mole mapping, epiluminescence.

◇ **Berend Glazenburg:** Ear-nose-throat specialist trained in Holland. Special interest in ear surgery, cosmetic rhinoplasty, Menière's disease, and the problem of snoring.

◇ **Susan Levenstein:** Internal Medicine. BA Harvard, philosophy; MD Mt. Sinai; Residency Montefiore; Gastroenterology Internship, Rome. USA Board Certified. NY State license. Research, mind-body interactions.

◇ **Francesca Maccioni:** Diagnostic ultrasound. Laurea in medicine, residencies in Radiology and Gastroenterology, La Sapienza U. Staff member, Department of Radiological Sciences, La Sapienza U.

◇ **Catherine Stainier:** Pediatrician. Laurea in medicine, La Sapienza U., residency Tor Vergata U., Rome. Fellowship, neonatal intensive care La Sapienza U. Homeopathy (Cisdo), phytotherapy.

◇ **Jean Verola:** Orthopedist. Medical school and residency U. of Marseilles. Member, French Society of Orthopedics, French Society of Percutaneous and Endoscopic Vertebral Techniques.

Collaborating Practitioners

◇ **Livio Antinucci:** Osteopath. Laurea in physiotherapy, La Sapienza University, Rome. Staff member, Department of Neurological Sciences, La Sapienza U.

◇ **Vincenzo Bacci, FACE:** Internist, endocrinologist. Laurea in Medicine Catholic U., Rome. Residency Cleveland. Fellowship SUNY, NY. USA Board Certified. Masters in Obesiology. On staff at Umberto I Univ. Hosp.

◇ **Giuseppe Bruno:** Neurologist. Laurea, Residency, and Doctorate in Neurology, La Sapienza U. Residency, NIH Clinical Center, Bethesda. USA Board Certified. Research, dementias and memory disorders.

◇ **Ian D'Agata:** Pediatrician. Laurea in medicine, La Sapienza U. Training in pediatrics (U. of Cincinnati), pediatric gastroenterology / nutrition (Harvard, U. of Montreal). Numerous book chapters & publications.

◇ **Andrea De Arcangelis:** Ophthalmologist. Laurea in medicine and residency, La Sapienza U. Consultant at the Knights of Malta clinic and the Israelitic Hospital. Special interest in pediatric ophthalmology.

◇ **Tara Giorgini:** Foot and hand surgeon. Doctorate in podiatry, New York College of Podiatric Medicine, residency Northlake Regional Medical Center. Laurea in medicine La Sapienza U., residency in hand surgery, Florence U.

◇ **Elisabeth Trouvé:** Obstetrician-gynecologist. French Diploma, Marseille U. European diploma of hysteroscopy, Paris.

◇ **Giuseppe Verardi:** Psychiatrist. Doctorate in Medicine and Psychiatry, French University. Psychiatrist and psychotherapist for adults, adolescents, children, and couples.

◇ **Carlo Vitelli:** Surgeon. Laurea in medicine La Sapienza U. Surgical residencies La Sapienza U. and New York U. Fellowship in Oncological Surgery Sloan-Kettering Memorial Hosp. Chief of Surgery, San Giovanni Hosp.

◇ **Fabio Zannoni:** Gastroenterologist. Laurea in Medicine, Residency in Gastroenterology & Digestive Endoscopy La Sapienza U. Operative endoscopy of GI tract; special interest in chronic inflammatory bowel disease.

Psychotherapists

◇ **Elaine Luti:** Laurea in Psychology, La Sapienza U. Licensed psychologist and psychotherapist in Rome. Member, Italian Institute for Psychology of the Self and Relational Psychoanalysis.

◇ **Carolina Meucci:** Licensed Clinical and Forensic Psychologist. Laurea in Clinical Psychology La Sapienza U., Master in Forensic Psych., John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Rotations Bellevue Hosp. Lutheran Med. Center.

◇ **Corinne Perissé:** Laurea in medicine, La Sapienza U. Training in Transactional Analysis. Licensed psychotherapist working with adults, adolescents, and children.

Emergencies: Ambulances (tel. 118) will take you to the nearest public hospital emergency room and should be called immediately in all absolute emergencies, especially severe chest pain that could be a heart attack. In less dire cases try first to call us—there may be one best hospital for your case. If you can't reach us in an emergency but are able to take a car or taxi, we suggest the Policlinico Gemelli on Monte Mario, the Policlinico Umberto I beyond the train station, or San Camillo behind Monteverde. Neither the Rome American Hospital nor any other private hospital has a real emergency room.

Getting here by public transport from:

● Termini train station: 75, 170, Metro *

● Trastevere: 3, 75

● Prati: 81, 271, 628, Metro *

● Cristoforo Colombo etc.: 160, 170, 673, 715, 781, Metro *

● Largo Argentina: 81, 271, 628

● Piazza Venezia: 60, 81, 160, 271, 715, 781

● Piazza San Silvestro, Barberini: 95, 160, 175, Metro *

● Nomentana: 60

● San Giovanni: 3, 81, Metro *

● Appia area: 118, 628, 673, Metro *

● La Storta, San Pietro, Fiumicino: train to the

Ostiense Station, then 95 or one stop on the Metro

Buses that stop closest to the office: 175, 715

Buses that stop nearby in one direction only: 23, 44, 280

* Metro: line B, Circo Massimo stop.

Coming by car? Plenty of parking on the street.

Personnel: Our office manager, Mariateresa Barbieri, has been working with us for more than 25 years and has developed the role of the medical secretary into a fine art. Under her leadership Margherita de Angelis and Catherine Deslandes in the morning, and Maura Pederiva in the afternoon, can not only take your appointments but help you out with a vast array of issues. Languages spoken: Italian, English, French, Spanish, Russian.

Visits: By appointment. Normally visits are scheduled when a slot is available, but in an emergency any patient we already know will be squeezed in on the same day. This can

mean other patients with appointments have to wait at times, but we think that's a necessary tradeoff. Please try to give 24 hours notice when cancelling, so another patient can be given your slot.

Telephone calls: When with a patient, we ordinarily have the secretaries take messages and then we call back later. Please don't ask them to interrupt an examination unless it's really necessary. In an emergency you can call us at home, or enlist the secretary's help if it's during office hours. For non-emergency calls to the office, try to avoid the peak phone hours of 9-11 am and 2-5:30 pm.

Insurance: Please try to remember to bring the forms at the time of your appointment, when they're easiest to fill out. Excepting the special conventions some of us have with Van Breda and Highway to Health, you'll have to pay up front and get reimbursed.

Payment: We follow a policy of fees that are moderate in the expensive Italian context, and will scale down even those if you are really strapped. In return, we'd appreciate your paying on the spot when possible, since we have no fancy billing system. Our office is not part of the National Health Service.

Pharmacies: Most pharmacies follow usual Italian shopping hours but some, including the Farmacia Santa Sabina at Viale Aventino 78c, are open 8:30 AM to 7:30 PM (8 in summer) without a break, and several (e.g. on Via Arenula) stay open all night. The pharmacist will normally give you back the prescription after filling it, so we write your instructions in whatever language is best for you. Watch out when asking pharmacists for medical advice; they tend to be a bit free with medicines.

Special prescriptions: Almost all American and European medications are available here, though the brand name may be different. Not all pharmacies are fully stocked, so if you don't find something at one, try another. Be skeptical if a pharmacist says some medication is unavailable or "not made any more"; they may just be out of it. You can also ask them to look it up in their reference

book (Informatore Farmaceutico) to see if there's another brand, or try the Vatican Pharmacy, which is accessible to anyone armed with a doctor's prescription.

Testing: Italian laboratories and consultants will by and large expect immediate cash payment; go prepared. Results are usually picked up by the patient rather than being sent to your physician, though several facilities may be willing to get results to us directly.

Health in Rome: Yes, you can drink the tap water—it's largely from deep springs. Infectious diseases, such as German measles (a concern for pregnancy), and hepatitis (watch out for raw shellfish) are more common here than at home. The Tiber is badly polluted, and the beaches nearest Rome are barely less so. Expect to get more colds than usual soon after arrival; you have to build up immunity to the local viruses. Likewise you may suffer from diarrhea while your intestine gets used to Italian varieties of bacteria and to all that olive oil. Birth control and abortions are legal here. Finally, Rome is the allergy capital of the world.

Mind and Soul: English-speakers in Rome can find a suicide hotline (the Samaritans, 06 7045-4444), Alcoholics Anonymous (06 679-6600), yoga instruction, Alexander technique, relaxation therapy, preparation for childbirth, and more. Don't hesitate to ask.

Welcome to Rome - and to our practice!

Rome, Italy, April 2010



Introduction to the Aventino Medical Group



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