

Affiliation

Valentina Coia
EURAC Research,
Institute for Mummy Studies
Bolzano, Italy

Key-research interests

Human population genetics/molecular anthropology: genetic variation and genetic structure of modern populations; ancient DNA studies; alpine groups

Research sites and research topic

to characterize the genomic diversity and the genetic structure of prehistoric samples from the Iceman's territory (eastern Italian Alps) by ancient DNA analyses and comparison to the genomic variation of other ancient individuals and present-day populations from Europe (poster Coia et al. n.1597)

Motivation /potential input to the workshop

Research area of interest; time period of interest; interdisciplinary approach; workshop format
Possible scientific collaborations within EUREGIO > good opportunities for getting grant

Essential research questions

- i) which are the genomic relationships between prehistoric alpine individuals and other ancient samples from Europe?
- ii) do the alpine samples cluster together or do they cluster with the early Neolithic farmers as it happens for the Iceman?
- iii) do they show the same proportion of the three ancestral components found in the Iceman? (hunter-gatherers, neolithic and eastern “yamnaya” component)?

Possible issues

- Ancient DNA preservation (but promising results)
- Genome coverage (depth) of ancient samples from a microgeographic area and costs effort