Dear Friends & Readers

We regretfully received the news that Professor Caterina Mammina passed away on the 24th September 2016. It is a great sadness for anybody who knows Professor Mammina and her impressive works and personality. She was graduated in Medicine in 1982 and specialized in Hygiene and Preventive Medicine in 1985 at the University of Palermo, Italy. Caterina has always been a guide and a reference for the young researchers and students as a wise counsel and kind support. She was completely dedicated for the faculty and the School of Hygiene. From 2000, she was in charge of the Centre for Enteric Pathogens of southern Italy (CEPIM) as well as the reference laboratory for the surveillance and control of tuberculosis in Sicily. Her excellent research and works has crucial role in making the School of Medicine and the University of Palermo esteemed institutions.

Prof. Mammina was known and respected throughout the scientific community. She was continuously sought out for advice and contributed her insights on a variety of issues, from the molecular epidemiology of infectious diseases, to the epidemiology of healthcare associated infections and multidrug resistant organisms, to food safety and foodborne diseases prevention and control.

Many of you have known and worked with Prof. Mammina during the last years and have your own special memories and stories about her. She was sincerely honored to be a member of the Editorial Board of the Iranian Journal of Microbiology.

The scientific community has lost a dedicated scientist, and we have lost a great friend and colleague. We will miss her. Please join us in sending our deepest sympathies to her sister, Geppina.

With great sadness,

Prof. Mohammad Mehdi Feizabadi, Editor, Iranian Journal of Microbiology

Prof. Giovanni M. Giammanco (as representative of the colleagues of the Sections of Hygiene and Microbiology at the University of Palermo).

Prof. Reza Ranjbar (as representative of graduated Iranian fellows and students who were under supervision of Prof. Caterina Mammina).