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Prof. Iraklis Tsagkaris

Professor of Pulmonology - Intensive Care Medicine, Head of the Lung Transplantation Program, 2nd University ICU, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, "Attikon" University Hospital

Iraklis Tsagkaris is a Pulmonologist and Intensivist, Professor of Pulmonology and Intensive Care at the Medical School of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA). He graduated from the Medical School of the NKUA, completed his dissertation at the University of Ioannina, and received further training in Hanover and Vienna. He has been a member of the academic staff since 2003 and, since 2021, has been the Director of the 2nd Department of Critical Care Medicine at "Attikon"

University General Hospital of Athens. Since 2019, he has been the scientific director of the newly established lung transplant program at Onassis Hospital, which has performed 56 transplants. His scientific interests focus on pulmonary vascular diseases, immunology and sepsis, and mechanical support of the heart and lungs. He has over 120 publications in the international bibliography, and his h-index is 44.

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Prof. Georgios Tsoulfas

Vice-President of the Aristotle University School of Medicine, Professor of Transplantation Surgery, Chief Department of Transplantation Surgery, Director of Center for Research and Innovation in Solid Organ Transplantation, Aristotle University School of Medicine

Georgios Tsoulfas received his medical degree from Brown University School of Medicine and completed his general surgery residency at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, as well as a transplant research fellowship at the Starzl Transplant Institute at the University of Pittsburgh. He then completed a two-year transplantation surgery fellowship at the Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School, and afterwards joined the Division of Solid Organ Transplantation and Hepatobiliary Surgery at

the University of Rochester Medical Center as an Associate Professor of Surgery.

After returning to Greece, he initially served as a research associate at the Transplant Surgery Clinic of the “Ippokrateio” General Hospital of Thessaloniki. He was subsequently elected Assistant Professor of Surgery at the 1st Surgical Clinic of Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH) at the “Papageorgiou” General Hospital of Thessaloniki. He is currently Professor of Surgery/Transplant Surgery and Director of

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the Transplant Surgery Clinic of AUTH at the “Ippokrateio” Hospital and Head of AUTH’s Research and Innovation Center for Solid Organ Transplantation.

He has published over 230 papers in PubMed, as well as 48 book chapters, with an h-index of 38 and 8,460 citations. He has edited 17 books, is a reviewer for more than 40 international medical journals, and a member of the Editorial Board of many others, including the “Annals of Surgical Oncology.”

The recipient of awards such as the Edward E. Mason award for excellence in patient care and education, he is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and a member of numerous international medical and surgical associations, including The Transplantation Society (TTS), the American Society of Transplant Surgeons, Association for Academic Surgery, International College of Surgeons, American College of Surgeons, International Liver Transplantation Society, Society for Laparoscopic Surgeons, and International HepaticoPancreaticoBiliary Association (IHPBA). Georgios Tsoulfas is the recipient of the American College of Surgeons International Guest Scholarship. He is or has been a member of numerous committees, including the International Relations Committee of the American College of Surgeons and the International Relations Committee of the American HepaticoPancreaticoBiliary Association

(AHPBA). He is currently the president of the Greek Chapter of the International College of Surgeons and has served as World President of the International College of Surgeons and Chair of the International Relations Committee of the American College of Surgeons. He is also Governor of the Greek Chapter of the American College of Surgeons and a member of the Education and Training Committees of the AHPBA and IHPBA. He is Director of Medical Services at the “Ippokrateio” Hospital and a member of the Board of Directors of the “AHEPA” General Hospital of Thessaloniki and the “Ippokrateio” Hospital, as well as the Hellenic Surgical Society. In 2024, he was elected President of the Hellenic Society of Organ Transplantation. He is Director of the Hellenic Diaspora Medical Forum of AUTH, and in 2025 was elected Vice-President of the Medical Department of AUTH.

He has been responsible for the “3D Liver” protocol for three-dimensional printing of liver tumors, and is the scientific director of the Center for Research and Innovation in Solid Organ Transplantation at AUTH.

His clinical and research interests, beyond transplant surgery, include liver-pancreas-bile duct surgery, primary and metastatic liver disease, ischemia/reperfusion injury, organ transplantation, surgical training and the use of technology in surgery, including artificial intelligence and 3D imaging and printing of solid organs.

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Dr. Themistoklis Chamogeorgakis

Cardiac Surgeon, Director of the 2nd Cardiac Surgery Department, Head Cardiac Surgeon of the Heart-Lung Transplantation & Mechanical Circulatory Support Unit, Onassis Hospital

Themis Chamogeorgakis is a cardiothoracic surgeon, holding a PhD from the Medical School of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA). He graduated from the NKUA Medical School in 1992 and subsequently moved to the United States, where he completed his residency in General Surgery at Lankenau Hospital, Pennsylvania (1993–1999). He then specialized in cardiothoracic surgery at the University Hospitals of Cleveland, Case Western Reserve University (2000–2002), followed by further training in aortic surgery and

congenital heart disease at the Royal Brompton Hospital in London.

His professional experience includes significant academic and clinical appointments. He served as faculty at the Cardiothoracic Surgery Department of NKUA at “Attikon” University General Hospital of Athens (2004–2010). From 2010 to 2012, he worked as a Clinical Associate in the Department of Heart and Lung Transplantation and Mechanical Circulatory Support at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation. Between 2012 and 2016, he served as

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Associate Director of the Heart Transplantation and Mechanical Circulatory Support Department at Baylor University Hospital in Dallas, TX, while also holding the position of Associate Professor of Surgery at the Texas A&M University School of Medicine.

From 2016 to 2020, he was Director of the Mechanical Circulatory Support Department at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit. Since 2020, he has been serving at the Onassis Hospital (formerly Onassis Cardiac Surgery Center) as Director of the 2nd Cardiac Surgery Department and Lead Surgeon for Heart and Lung Transplantation and Mechanical Circulatory Support. As of 2022, he also acts as Coordinator of the Cardiac Surgery Division.

He is a member of the Hellenic Society of Thoracic, Cardiac, and Vascular Surgeons, the Society of Thoracic Surgeons (STS), and the International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation (ISHLT).

His clinical and scientific interests span a broad range of contemporary cardiac surgery, including heart and lung transplantation, mechanical circulatory support, coronary artery bypass grafting in patients with low ejection fraction, surgical myectomy for hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, the surgical treatment of endocarditis, aortic surgery, atrial fibrillation ablation, and thromboendarterectomy.

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Dr. Barbara Askiti

*Pediatrician - Pediatric Nephrologist, Director of the Nephrology Department,
“P. & A. Kyriakou” Children’s Hospital*

Varvara Askiti studied Medicine at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (1983–1989). She specialized in Pediatrics at the 1st University Clinic of “Aghia Sofia” Children’s Hospital (1993–1997) and worked as a Pediatric Attending Physician at the General Children’s Hospital in Penteli, Athens (1997–2002). She was awarded a PhD from the University of Athens in 2002. The title of her doctoral thesis was “Heat Shock Proteins in Polymorphonuclear Septic Neonates.” She specialized in Pediatric Nephrology at the Pediatric Nephrology Department of the University of Minnesota in the USA for 16 months (January 2002 – May 2003) and then at the Nephrology Department of the “P. & A. Kyriakou” Children’s Hospital in Athens (April 2004 – April 2005). Since January 2006, she has

been working as an Attending Physician in the Nephrology Department of the “P. & A. Kyriakou” Children’s Hospital, and since 2012, she has been serving as the Department’s Director. In July 2023, she took on the role of Director and Head of the Nephrology Department. She has published numerous papers, given abstracts, and delivered lectures at international and Greek conferences. Since 2020, she has been actively participating in the Transplant Program of the “Laiko” General Hospital of Athens in collaboration with the “P. & A. Kyriakou” Children’s Hospital, and since 2025, in the Transplant Program for children with low body weight at the Onassis Hospital, in collaboration with the “Laiko” Hospital and the “P. & A. Kyriakou” Children’s Hospital.

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Prof. George Papatheodoridis

*President of the Hellenic Transplant Organization, Professor of Medicine -
Gastroenterology, Medical School, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens*

George Papatheodoridis is Professor in Medicine and Gastroenterology at the Medical School of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. He graduated with honors from the Medical School of Athens. He trained in Gastroenterology at the “Tzaneio” General Hospital of Piraeus and received further training in Hepatology at the Royal Free Hospital of London, UK. Between 1999 and 2013, he worked at the 2nd University Pathology Clinic of the “Ippokrateio” General Hospital of Athens, and since September 2013, he has been director of the University

Gastroenterology Clinic of the “Laiko” General Hospital of Athens. He is also Director-Hepatologist of the Liver Transplant Unit at the “Laiko” General Hospital of Athens.

He is President of the Hellenic Transplant Organization and the Hellenic Foundation for Gastroenterology & Nutrition. He is an educational advisor to the European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL), of which he was a member of the Board of Directors. He was also a member of the Advisory Committee on Hepatitis B of the American Association for the Study of Liver

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Diseases (AASLD), a member of the General Assembly of the European Society of Gastroenterology, and a founding member and Treasurer of the International Society for Public Health in Hepatitis B & C. He is Vice President (and President from January 1st, 2026) of the Hellenic Society of Gastroenterology and has been President and/or member of the Board of Directors of many Greek and international societies, coordinator and member of the European guidelines for Hepatitis B (2012, 2017) and Hepatitis B+D (2023) and all Greek guidelines for Hepatitis B, B+D, and C. He is the coordinator of the Hellenic Center for Prevention of Diseases' Viral Hepatitis Committee and Chair of the Gastroenterology specialty exams committee in Athens.

In 2023, he was honored with the EASL Recognition Award from the European Association for the Study of the Liver. In 2025, he was elected a member of the Academia Europaea.

His main research interest has been focused on Hepatology. He is the author of >490 papers published in international journals (cumulative IF>6,000) with >35,000/>59,000 citations (h-index: 85/107) in Scopus/Google Scholar.

He has served as Associate Editor, Editorial Board member, and reviewer for many international journals, conferences, and organizations. He has given >195 lectures, chaired >65 sessions, and presented >410 abstracts in international conferences, as well as numerous lectures, chairmanships, and presentations at Greek conferences.

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Assoc. Prof. Smaragdi Marinaki

Associate Professor of Nephrology and Kidney Transplantation, Medical School, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Director of the Clinic of Nephrology and Kidney Transplantation, General Hospital of Athens "Laiko"

Mrs. Smaragdi Marinaki holds a degree in Medicine from the NKUA and specializes in Nephrology. In 2002, she received a scholarship from the Hellenic Society of Nephrology to complete her post-training program in Germany (December 2002 – December 2004) at the Universitätsklinikum Mannheim, V. Medizinische Klinik (Nephrologie/ Rheumatologie/ Endokrinologie), under the direction of Professor of Nephrology FJ van der Woude. In this department, she served as a specialist in Nephrology while she

completed her doctoral thesis at the University of Heidelberg.

From 2006 to 2012, she served as a Junior Attending Physician, and from 2012 to 2019, as a Senior Attending Physician, at the Clinic of Nephrology and Kidney Transplantation of the "Laiko" General Hospital of Athens. In September 2022, she was elected Director of the abovementioned Department.

In March 2019, she was named Assistant Professor of Nephrology and, since October 2022, Associate Professor of Nephrology

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and Kidney Transplantation at the NKUA Medical School of Athens.

Since 2006, she has been a faculty member at the School of Medicine, NKUA. She has also been teaching Physiology courses at the Schools of Pharmacy, Dentistry, and Nursing of NKUA.

Furthermore, she teaches in more than 13 postgraduate programs of the Medical School of Athens. She supervises numerous MSc dissertations and PhD theses. She is also the coordinator of the undergraduate elective course “Tissue, Cells, and Organ Transplantation.”

Regarding her research activity, she has more than 130 publications, with a Hirsch-index of 18, and more than 1,000 citations (Scopus, status end 2024).

Her scientific, educational, and organizing activities are domestically and internationally acknowledged: she participates in committees of the Hellenic Transplant Organization and the European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines and Health Care (EDQM). Finally, she has also contributed to the writing of a total of 8 Greek and 4 English-language academic textbooks.

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Prof. Ioannis N. Boletis

*President of the Onassis Hospital, Professor of Internal Medicine - Nephrology,
Medical School National and Kapodistrian University of Athens*

Professor Ioannis N. Boletis is a graduate of the Medical School of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA), where he completed his PhD in renal transplantation. He obtained his Internal Medicine and Nephrology specialties at the “Laiko” General Hospital of Athens and received further training at the Royal Hallamshire Hospital of the University of Sheffield, funded by a European Union scholarship.

He served as the Director of the Nephrology Department and Renal Transplantation Unit at the “Laiko” Hospital (2003–2022), as well as the hospital’s Chief Medical Officer. In 2013, he was named Professor of Internal Medicine and Nephrology at the Medical School of NKUA and served as the Director of the Internal Medicine Department. Since 2019, he has been President of the Board of Directors of the Onassis Hospital. His research work focuses mainly on renal

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transplantation and clinical nephrology, with a significant international presence and a special interest in immunological diseases of the kidney. An important part of his scientific activity is the organization and promotion of organ donation and kidney transplantation in Greece.

He has served as Vice President of the Hellenic Transplant Organization, President of the Hellenic Society of Organ Transplantation, as well as President of the Hellenic Society of Nephrology and the

Athens Medical Society. He has also been a member of the Board of Directors of the European Society for Organ Transplantation (ESOT) and Co-Chair of the European Transplant Congress (ESOT Congress) in Athens in 2023. In 2024, he was awarded the honorary title of Fellow by the European Renal Association.

He is a long-standing National Representative to the Council of Europe and co-organizer of the European Donation Day in 2025.