

BRIEF CURRICULUM VITAE Maria Exindari, MD, PhD

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I have graduated from the School of Medicine, AUTH in 1986. I completed my specialisation in Microbiology/Medical Biopathology at AHEPA hospital in 1993 and my PhD (thesis in immunobiochemistry) at the Department of Biological Chemistry, School of Medicine AUTH in 1994. I know three foreign languages (English, French, Italian).

I have attended many Greek and European training seminars and workshops including the AUTH Trainers' Training Programme. I have had fellowships in the Departments of Biological Chemistry and of Microbiology in 1994 and 2002.

I am a member of the Department of Microbiology, School of Medicine AUTH since 2002 with full research, diagnostic and teaching activities. At present I am Associate Professor in Medical Microbiology and responsible for the laboratory diagnosis of a variety of viral pathogens. I have been active member of the National Influenza (and SARS-CoV-2) Reference Laboratory for N. Greece since the beginning of my employment, in constant cooperation with international stakeholders concerning epidemiology and public health (WHO, ECDC, etc) throughout normal periods and two pandemics, influenza 2009 and the current COVID-19.

My research activity is mostly on viruses, but on many other aspects of microbiology, such as bacteria and immune response (69 publications in peer review journals, h index 11, >480 citations). I have contributed with chapters ("Viral Infections" and "Infections of the Respiratory System) in two books distributed by the School of Medicine AUTH and I have been a reviewer for 11 Greek and foreign journals.

I am member of the World Society for Virology as well as of national scientific societies, such as the Hellenic Society for Microbiology, the Hellenic Society for Virology, the Society for Medical Biopathology N. Greece and the Medical Society of Thessaloniki.

I am greatly interested in educational issues in Medicine. Besides the Microbiology courses of the Schools of Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmacy, I present lectures or/and supervise thesis on the whole spectrum of Microbiology in numerous pre-, postgraduate and Erasmus courses as well as in specialty seminars within the Medical School AUTH and beyond. Apart from microbiological issues, I have also presented lectures at the AUTH Trainers' Training Programme.

Since 2017 I participate as a main member in the training programme of the ECDC "Support for surveillance activities of human influenza in Europe 2017-2021 – Training". The project has been implemented by the National Influenza Reference Laboratory for N. Greece on behalf of the ECDC and concerns the training of European scientists on most specific issues and techniques of influenza diagnosis, investigation and monitoring through online courses on the ECDC site and live, wet lab training courses held in the Laboratory of Microbiology, Medical School AUTH every year; evaluation reports have always been remarkable. Since the emerging of COVID-19, the European colleagues' training project also includes SARS-CoV-2 particular techniques and the ECDC is in process of prolonging our cooperation on this extended training project for one more year.