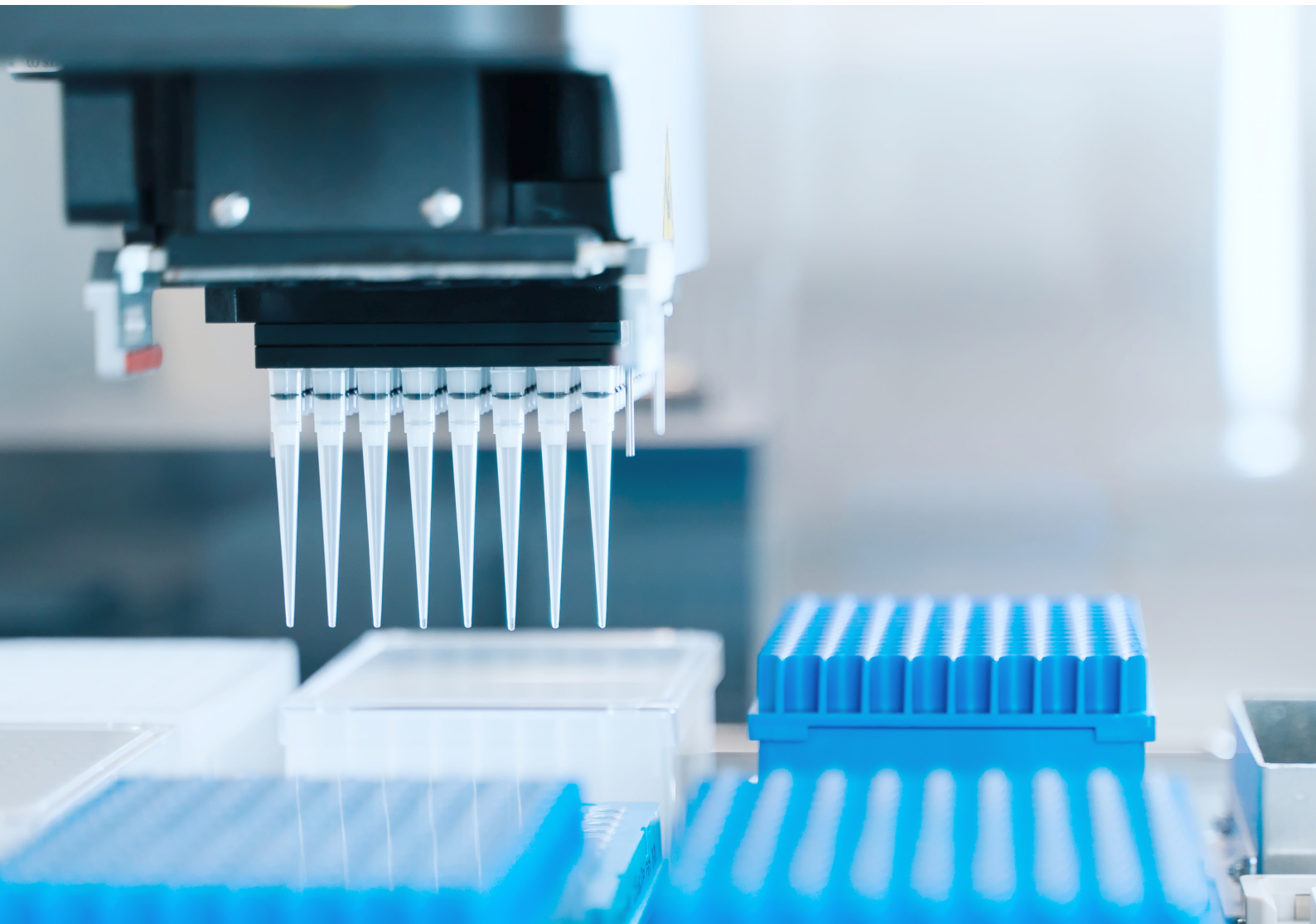


Innovating the Future of Clinical Laboratory: **Automation, Precision, and Quality**

Thursday, 18 May
15:00-18:00

MEETING VENUE:
Rousseau Amphitheatre,
University of Nicosia



Organiser:



Supporter:



Sponsor:



AGENDA

THURSDAY, 18 MAY, 15:00-18:00

Rousseau Amphitheatre, University of Nicosia

14:30-15:00	Registration
	Welcome by: <i>Dr. Christos Papaneophytou</i> Coordinator of the MSc in Biomedical Sciences, Associate Dean of the School of Life and Health Sciences, University of Nicosia
15:00-15:10	Welcome Addresses: <i>Prof. Kyriacos Felekkis</i> Dean of the School of Life and Health Sciences, University of Nicosia <i>Mr. Charis Charilaou</i> President of the Association of Clinical Directors, Biomedical and Clinical Laboratory Scientists

Presentations

15:10-15:40	Lessons Learned: Adjusting Clinical Laboratory Workflow in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic <i>Dr. Carolina Stylianou</i> Chief Inspector for Tissue and Cell Establishments, Ministry of Health, Cyprus
15:40-16:00	The Power of Laboratory Automation: A Journey from Past to Future <i>Dr. Stefanos Pavlidis</i> Director of Pavlides Clinical Laboratory
16:00-16:20	Sophisticated Instrumentation, Sophisticated Professionals: Training Future Clinical Chemists to Understand what is Behind the Scenes of Automation <i>Dr. Vicky Nicolaidou</i> Assistant Professor of Immunology, University of Nicosia
16:20-16:40	Coffee break

16:40-17:00	Automation in the Hematology-Immunology Laboratory: The Challenge of Hemato-oncology Diagnostics <i>Dr. Laura Kouma</i> Head of Cellular Pathology and Immunology Laboratory, Karaiskakio Foundation
17:00-17:20	The Essential Role of Clinical Laboratory Scientist in Ensuring Quality and Accuracy in Automated Laboratories <i>Mr. George Mitis</i> Director of ACTBIO Molecular & Clinical Laboratory
17:20-17:40	Bridging the Gap: Transitioning from Basic to Clinical Science <i>Ms. Stavriia Georgiou</i> Clinical Laboratory Scientist, Biomedical Laboratory Charis Charilaou
17:40-18:00	Discussion/Concluding comments

APPENDIX I: SHORT BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES OF PRESENTERS

Dr. Carolina Stylianou studied Medical Biochemistry at the University of Surrey in the U.K., which was completed in 1986. She conducted her doctoral thesis on Immunogenetics at the same University on the topic of changes in gene expression during the graft versus host disease after allogeneic stem cell transplantation. She also possesses post graduate degree in Business Administration (M.B.A.), with merit and was given the award for the best dissertation of the year by the Mediterranean Institute of Management. She also completed with success the European training programme EUSTITE for Inspectors for Tissue and Cell Establishments and also the European training programme CATIE for Blood Establishment Inspectors. She was one of the trainers in the European programme SOHO V&S (Substances Of Human Origin, Vigilance and Surveillance) and has been one of the editors of the electronic library of the World Health Organisation, NOTIFY, that deals with the serious adverse events and reactions in donors and recipients of organs, tissues and cells and blood. She has contributed in "1st Guide to the quality and safety of tissues and cells for human application" 2013 by the Council of Europe. She is the national representative for issues regarding Tissues and Cells in the European Union and the Council of Europe. She is the National Node for Cyprus at the BBMRI-ERIC that deals with biobank infrastructures in Europe. She is also a member of the Medical/Scientific Committee of the Karaiskakio Foundation (the Cyprus Bone Marrow Donor Registry) and of the Board of Directors of the Centre for the Study of Haematological Malignancies. She serves in the Ministry of Health as the

Chief Inspector for Tissue and Cell Establishments and IVF Centres according to L.187(I)/2007 and L.69(I)/2015 and as the Clinical Laboratory Registrar according to L.132/88. The Council of Ministers recently appointed her as a Member of the Board of Directors of the Cyprus Organization for the Promotion of Quality.

Dr. Stephanos Pavlides went to New York in 2000. He worked and studied at the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene of New York City and Saint Francis College, where he participated in a program focused on the West Nile virus. Additionally, he worked in the laboratory of Professor Dr. Antony de Pass at Long Island University and the laboratory of Biochemical Genetics and Metabolism at Rockefeller University under the supervision of Professor Jan Breslow. There, he began working with mouse models with genetic susceptibility to atherosclerosis and cardiovascular diseases. Later, he was awarded the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF), during which he focused on a gene suspected to be associated with the development of atherosclerosis. The results of his research were published in the scientific journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS) and presented at scientific conferences in the USA and other countries. In 2004, he was admitted to the PhD program at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine of Yeshiva University, where he began his studies in the laboratory of Professor Michael Lisanti, focusing on breast cancer. He completed his PhD program with distinction at the end of 2010 with 45 publications. His breast cancer research was awarded the prize for distinguished research in pathobiology for the University. Following this, Dr. Stephanos Pavlides completed his post-doctorate at the Paterson Institute for Cancer Research at Manchester University. In 2012, he returned to Cyprus, where he established Pavlides Laboratories in Limassol and Pafos with his mother, Olympia Pavlidou, a clinical scientist since 1979. Recently, he joined forces with Vioiatriki Group and Yiannoukas Medical Laboratories.

Dr. Vicky Nicolaidou is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Life Sciences of the University of Nicosia. She holds a BSc in Biology from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece (funded by the Cyprus State Scholarships Foundation (IKYK), an MRes (with Distinction) in Biomedical Science and a PhD (funded by Arthritis Research UK) from Imperial College London, UK. Her work regarding the interaction between the immune system and the regulation of bone homeostasis is highly cited and considered central in the field. She has worked as a postdoctoral researcher in Imperial College London, UK, University of Oxford, UK, and The Center for the Study of Haematological Malignancies, Karaiskakio Foundation, Nicosia, Cyprus. Dr Nicolaidou is a member of various professional bodies and is a founding member and elected Treasurer of the Society for Biological Sciences in Cyprus. She is also an appointed member of the Research Review Committee for Biomedical and Clinical Research of the Cyprus National Bioethics Committee (CNBC). Dr Nicolaidou's research interests focus on immune system function and regulation. Her work has been published in various international peer-reviewed journals, conference proceedings, and books.

Dr. Laura Koumas is the Head of Cellular Pathology and Immunology Laboratory at the Karaiskakio Foundation, is affiliated with the Center for the Study of Hematological and other Malignancies and also holds a position as an Adjunct Lecturer at the University of Nicosia. She received her PhD in Immunology from the University of Rochester, NY and her research interests include immune cell interactions, immunological signaling mechanisms, immunodeficiency and immune regulation. She has been involved in hemato-oncology diagnostics for the last 13 years and oversees diagnostic testing and minimal residual disease monitoring of hematological malignancies, namely leukemia, lymphoma and multiple myeloma, immune monitoring, immunodeficiency, stem cell enumeration and other specialized assays that monitor immune cell function.

Mr. George Mitis holds a BSc in Chemistry from the Aristotelio University of Thessaloniki, an MSc in Hospital management, and an MSc in Biomedical Sciences. He has served as the Head of the Immunology Department at Nicosia General Hospital until May 2018, when he moved to the Health Insurance Organization until September 2021. Now he is the director of ACTBIO Laboratory. He has extensive experience in virology, autoimmunity, and allergy testing methods. Further, he participated in local and EU-funded research studies addressing issues related to his responsibilities of Hospital Laboratories and epidemiologic studies. He was the Cyprus Laboratory representative to ECDC and WHO for Vaccine Preventable Disease.

Ms. Stavriia Georgiou is a Clinical/Medical Laboratory Scientist (MLS). She completed her BSc in Human Biology (2017) at the University of Nicosia in Cyprus. Then she proceeded with her MSc studies in Biomedical Research and Medical Genetics (2019) at the Cyprus School of Molecular Medicine in Nicosia, Cyprus. Her research thesis emphasized in the differential targeting of Central Nervous System (CNS) cell subtypes by pseudotyping of Lentiviral vectors to further investigate their efficacy and efficiency (in vivo and in vitro) for potential gene therapy applications. Ms. Georgiou was the Quality Assurance and Safety Manager (QASM) as well as a Laboratory Scientific Officer (LSO) at the Microbiology Department at Nicosia General Hospital (2019-2022). During those years, she had the opportunity to contribute as a frontline healthcare worker against the COVID-19 global pandemic and provide services for the National Reference Center (NRC) of Tuberculosis (TB) at the Microbiology Department at Nicosia General Hospital.

 [UniversityofNicosia](#)

 [universityofnicosia](#)

 [UNIC_ENG](#)

 [UniversityNicosia](#)