

Short CV-Panayiotou

Dr Andrie Panayiotou is Assistant Professor in Public Health at the Cyprus International Institute for Environmental and Public Health, CUT, since 2011. She is an epidemiologist with special interest in preventing cardiovascular disease and atherosclerosis and her work has focused mainly on risk factors and biomarkers (genetic, biochemical, environmental and social) for cardiovascular health and disease, while she has recently expanded research work to include risk factors for the cardiorenal syndrome and vascular ageing (arterial stiffness as a proxy for CVD), under the “common grounds for disease” hypothesis. Since 2011 she has established and heads the Cardiovascular Epidemiology and Genetics lab at CII (CVEG – www.cveglab.cut.ac.cy), a dry lab, which houses relevant equipment for arterial stiffness measurements (Complior Analyse, ALAm Medical Inc) and data analysis. She additionally coordinates “The Cyprus Study”, an on-going general population cohort study which she helped set-up and which participates in several large international consortia publishing joint results in high-impact journals such as Nature Genetics, JACC, BMJ and others (see list of publications). She is experienced in study design, logistics, including sample acquiring and storage, and analysis of large epidemiological studies. AP is also the Secretary and founding member of the newly established Cyprus Atherosclerosis Society (CAS), while she also sits at the board of the National Bioethics Committee and heads the Cyprus Unit on Bioethics under the UNESCO Chair in Bioethics (Haifa). She was recently appointed by CAS as National Lead Co-investigator to set-up the Cyprus National Registry for Familial Hypercholesterolemia (Cyprus-FH), part of a global effort on FH (EAS-FHSC).

Short CV-Panayiotou

Research Group on cardiovascular epidemiology and ageing

The research group on cardiovascular epidemiology and ageing will focus on research related to population markers of cardiovascular and arterial health, with an emphasis on arterial ageing. Although, ageing is a physiological, inevitable process that occurs in every individual, the rate of ageing and its associated conditions/diseases differ among individuals.

While usually studied separately, diseases of the arteries (ageing of the arteries) and diseases of the kidneys (renal ageing) and the brain (neurological ageing) are ageing diseases and may share common risk factors, while they also often co-exist. Using the “common grounds” hypothesis, efforts will be made to investigate possible shared risk factors in ageing diseases such as arterial, renal and cognitive disease, using a variety of epidemiological methods in collaboration with other research groups in the Biobank. Emphasis will be placed on environmental and social determinants of ageing, working on multiple levels; individual, family, neighborhood, community etc.

Research will be directed mainly in the following areas:

- Arterial ageing of population and patient groups using non-invasive measurements such as carotid-femoral Pulse Wave Velocity (cfPWV)
- Early Vascular Ageing in younger individuals as a risk marker in adulthood.
- The cardiorenal syndrome highlighting the higher CVD risk in patients with renal disease and evidence-based management/treatment options
- Social and environmental determinants of arterial health: from community assessment to individual risk assessment
- Epidemiology of Familial Hypercholesterolemia (FH) in Cyprus. Diagnostic and management protocols and outcomes