

## Dr PELAGIA FOKA BSc (HONS), PhD

### RESEARCH INTERESTS

My current research interests and lab projects include the study of the Hepatitis, Herpes and Corona viruses and their interactions with their respective hosts, with emphasis on immunometabolism, inflammation and epigenetics. Additional projects involve the development of molecular diagnostics for viral infections (Point of care tests), based on state-of-the-art synthetic biology techniques and the construction of new 3D-based organoid models that may be used to simulate human tissues and organs. My long-term goal is to shed light on the role of viral infections as initiators of human malignancy and autoimmune disease.

Web of Science Researcher ID: [AAQ-4267-2020](https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1234-5678)

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### ACADEMIC EDUCATION

1998-2003: **Ph.D. in Molecular Biology/Biochemistry.**

PhD Theses: Regulation of C/EBP $\alpha$  Gene Expression by Cytokines. Cardiff University, UK.

1993-1998: **BSc in Chemistry**

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.

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### RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE:

04/2018-Present: **Researcher Grade C' (Group Leader)**

*Hellenic Pasteur Institute, Molecular Virology Laboratory*

03/2006-03/2018: **Senior Postdoctoral research assistant**

*Hellenic Pasteur Institute, Molecular Virology Laboratory, Molecular Biology and Immunobiotechnology Laboratory*

03/2003–02/2006: **Postdoctoral Fellow (Wellcome Trust)**

*Cardiff University, Cardiff School of Biosciences, (Dep. Of Biochemistry)*

02/2002-02/2003: **Postdoctoral Fellow (BBSRC)**

*Welsh School of Pharmacy, Cardiff University*

1998-2002: **Demonstrator dental and medical undergraduate laboratory practicals.**

*School of Biological Sciences, Cardiff University, Demonstrating and Marking:*

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### RESEARCH GRANTS

**04/2020-07/2021: ESPA – Support program for young researchers -** Cellular mediator that deregulate the adaptive immune response during HCV infection (Deputy academic Advisor)

**2019-2020: Gilead Science Greece – Asklipios Grants –** Exosomes and deregulation of the immune response in chronic HCV infection following treatment with DAAs (Participant)

**2018: Gilead Science Greece – Asklipios Grants –** HCV-regulated lipid metabolism of the host as a putative mechanism for HCC development (Primary Investigator)

**2015: Hellenic Association for the Study of the Liver –** Deregulation of Lipid Metabolism in Hepatocellular Carcinoma: The HCV paradigm (Primary Investigator)

**2011-2013: ESPA/Synergasia (Hellenic Ministry of Research – EU Research Fund) –** Development of automated methods for measuring Hcpidin and investigation of its diagnostic and physiopathological role in diseases related to deregulated Iron homeostasis (Participant)

**2006-2009: FP6 - THOVLEN “Targeted herpes-virus derived oncolytic vectors for liver cancer European Network”** (Participant)

**2003-2006: Wellcome Trust -** Molecular mechanisms involved in the transforming growth factor-beta-mediated inhibition of macrophage gene-expression relevant to foam cell formation and atherogenesis (Named Co-applicant and participant)

**2002-2003: BBSRC –** Synthesis of Poly(amidoamines) block copolymers and application in non-viral vector gene delivery (Participant)

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### AWARDS AND DISTINCTIONS

**10/2018:** Bronze medal in the iGEM 2018 Competition, as instructor of the iGEM Athens 2018 team (Undergraduate category / Diagnostics track) for the project: Ntekas Y., Litsa M., Krokos V., Katopodi X.-L., Kanata E., Kostadima E., Bartzoka N., Kotzastatis S., Spatharas P., Eliadis P., Georgopoulou U., Topakas E.,

Foka P. “GENOMERS: Toehold switch enabled viral detection via routine glucose monitoring technology”, oral & poster presentation @ iGEM 2018 Giant Jamboree, Boston, USA.

**2017:** Greek candidate for the International Pasteur Network Talent Award.

**2015:** 1<sup>st</sup> Oral Presentation Award for the presentation titled “Hepatitis C and cellular kinase network: An intriguing relationship” 14<sup>th</sup> Hellenic Liver Congress, Kos, Greece.

**2006:** “BOURSE DE STAGE” Fellowship – Training in Molecular Virology, University of Lyon, France, Scientific department of the French Institute of Athens

**2003-2006:** Wellcome Trust Fellowship - Molecular mechanisms involved in the transforming growth factor-beta-mediated inhibition of macrophage gene-expression relevant to foam cell formation and atherogenesis. Cardiff School of Biosciences, Cardiff University, UK

**2002-2003:** BBSRC (Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council) Fellowship – Synthesis of Poly(amidoamines) block copolymers and application in non-viral vector gene delivery (Centre for Polymer Therapeutics, Welsh School of Pharmacy, UK under the supervision of Prof. R. Duncan)

**1998:** PhD Studentship – School of Biosciences, Cardiff University, UK.

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## PUBLICATIONS

### *i) Publications in International Peer-reviewed journals*

1. Dimitriadis A.\*, **Foka P.\***, Kyrtzopoulou E., Karamichali E., Petroulia S., Tsitoura P., Kakkanas A., Eliadis P., Georgopoulou U., Mamalaki A. The Hepatitis C Virus NS5A and core proteins exert antagonistic effects on HAMP gene expression: the hidden interplay with the MTF-1/MRE pathway. (2020). *FEBS Open Bio.* 2020 doi: 10.1002/2211-5463.13048. Online ahead of print. (\* **Joint First Authors**) (**IF<sub>2019</sub>:2.231**).

2. Karamichali E., Chihab H., Kakkanas A., Marchio A., Karamitros T., Pogka V., Varaklioti A., Kalliaropoulos A., Martinez-Gonzales B., **Foka P.**, Koskinas I., Mentis A., Benjelloun S., Pineau P., Georgopoulou U. (2018). HCV Defective Genomes Promote Persistent Infection by Modulating the Viral Life Cycle. *Front. Microbiol.* 9:2942. (**IF<sub>2017</sub>:4.019**).

3. Chihab H., Jadid F.Z., **Foka P.**, Zaidane I., El Fihry R., Georgopoulou U., Marchio A., Elhabazi A., Chair M., Pineau P., Ezzikouri S., Benjelloun S. (2018). Programmed cell death-1 3'-untranslated region polymorphism is associated with spontaneous clearance of hepatitis B virus infection. *J. Med. Virol.* 90(11):1730-1738. (**IF<sub>2017</sub>:1.988**).

4. Molyvdas A., Georgopoulou U., Lazaridis N., Hytioglou P., Dimitriadis A., **Foka P.**, Vassiliadis T., Loli G., Phillipidis A., Zebekakis P., Germanis A.E., Speletas M., Germanidis G. (2018). The role of the NLRP3 inflammasome and the activation of IL-1 $\beta$  in the pathogenesis of chronic viral hepatic inflammation. *Cytokine* 110:389-396. (**IF<sub>2017</sub>:3.514**)

5. Karamichali E., Serti E., Gianneli A., Papaefthymiou A., Kakkanas A., **Foka P.**, Seremetakis A., Katsarou K., Trougakov I.P., Georgopoulou U. (2017). The unexpected function of a highly conserved YXX $\Phi$  motif in HCV core protein. *Infect. Genet. Evol.* 54:251-262. (**IF<sub>2017</sub>:2.545**)

6. E. Kaffe, A. Katsifa, N. Xylourgidis, I. Ninou, M. Zannikou, V. Harokopos, **P. Foka**, A. Dimitriadis, K. Evangelou, A. Moulas, U. Georgopoulou, V. Gorgoulis, G. Dalekos, V. Aidinis (2017). Hepatocyte Autotaxin expression promotes liver fibrosis and cancer. *Hepatology* 65(4):1369-1383. (**IF<sub>2017</sub>:14.079**)

7. R.C. Salter\*, **P. Foka\***, T.S. Davies, H. Gallagher, D.R. Michael, T.G. Ashlin, D.P. Ramji (2016). Key roles for mitogen-activated protein kinases and sterol receptor coactivator-1 in TGF- $\beta$ -regulated expression of genes implicated in macrophage cholesterol uptake. *Sci. Rep.* 6:34368 (\* **Joint First Authors**). (**IF<sub>2016</sub>:4.259**)

8. **P. Foka**, A. Dimitriadis, E. Karamichali, E. Kyrtzopoulou, D. Giannimaras, J. Koskinas, A. Varaklioti, A. Mamalaki, U. Georgopoulou (2016). Alterations in the iron homeostasis network: A driving force for macrophage-mediated Hepatitis C virus persistency. *Virulence* 7(6):679-690. (**IF<sub>2016</sub>:4.665**)

9. **P. Foka**, E. Karamichali, G. Dalagiorgou, E. Serti, P.P. Doumba, G. Pissas, A. Kakkanas, D. Kazazi, E. Kochlios, M. Gaitanou, J. Koskinas, U. Georgopoulou, P. Mavromara (2014). Hepatitis C virus (HCV) regulates the lipid metabolism regulatory factor Angiopoietin-like 3 (ANGPTL3) gene expression through repression of HNF-1 $\alpha$  activity. *J. Hepatol.* 60(1):30-38. (**Corresponding Author**) (**IF<sub>2014</sub>:11.336**)

10. **P. Foka**, A. Dimitriadis, E. Kyrtzopoulou, D. Giannimaras, S. Sarno, G. Simos, U. Georgopoulou, A. Mamalaki (2014). Hepatitis C virus (HCV) core protein induces iron-regulatory Hcpidin (HAMP) gene expression via a signalling network that requires SMAD/BMP, STAT3 and CK2 pathway activation. *Cell. Mol. Life. Sci.* 71(21):4243-4258. (**IF<sub>2014</sub>:5.808**)

11. Georgopoulou, U., Dimitriadis, A., **Foka, P.**, Karamichali, E., Mamalaki, A. (2014). Hcpidin and the iron enigma in HCV infection. *Virulence* 5(4):465-476. (**IF<sub>2014</sub>:4.216**)

12. Karamichali, E., **Foka, P.**, Tsitoura, E., Kalliampakou, K., Kazazi, D., Karayiannis, P., Georgopoulou, U., Mavromara, P. (2014). HCV NS5A co-operates with PKR in modulating HCV IRES-dependent translation. **Infect. Genet. Evol.** 26:113-122. (IF<sub>2014</sub>:3.015)
13. Vassilaki, N., Kalliampakou, K.I., Kotta-Loizou, I., Befani, C., Liakos, P., Simos, G., Mentis, A.F., Kalliaropoulos, A., Doumba, P.P., Smirlis, D., **Foka, P.**, Bauhofer, O., Poenisch, M., Windisch, M.P., Lee, M.E., Koskinas, J., Bartenschlager, R., Mavromara, P. (2013). Low Oxygen Tension Enhances Hepatitis C Virus Replication. **J. Virol.** 87(5), 2935-2948. (IF<sub>2013</sub>:4.648)
14. E. Kochlios, **P. Foka**, P. Mavromara (2012). Modulation of monocyte/macrophage-derived cytokine and chemokine expression profile by persistent Hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection leads to chronic inflammation. **J. Mol. Biochem.** 1, 40-53. (IF<sub>2014</sub>:3.300)
15. Dalagiorgou, G., Vassilaki, N., **Foka, P.**, Boumlic, A., Kakkanas, A., Kochlios, E., Khalili, S., Aslanoglou, E., Veletza, S., Orfanoudakis, G., Vassilopoulos, D., Hadziyannis, S., Koskinas, J., Mavromara, P. (2011). High Levels of HCV core+1 Antibodies in HCV Patients with Hepatocellular Carcinoma. **J. Gen. Virol.** 92(6), 1343-1351. (IF<sub>2011</sub>:3.360)
16. Serti, E., Doumba, P.P., Thyphronitis, G., Tsitoura, P., Katsarou, K., **Foka, P.**, Konstandoulakis, M.M., Koskinas, J., Mavromara, P., Georgopoulou, U. (2011). Modulation of IL-2 expression after uptake of hepatitis C virus non-enveloped capsid-like particles: the role of p38 kinase. **Cell. Mol. Life Sci.** 68(3), 505-522. (IF<sub>2011</sub>:6.570)
17. **Foka, P.**, Pourchet, A., Hernandez-Alcoceba, R., Doumba, P.P., Pissas, G., Kouvatsis, V., Dalagiorgou, G., Kazazi, D., Marconi, P., Foschini, M., Manservigi, R., Konstadoulakis, M.M., Koskinas, J., Epstein, A.L., Mavromara, P. (2010). Novel tumour-specific promoters for transcriptional targeting of hepatocellular carcinoma by herpes simplex virus vectors. **J. Gene Med.** 12(12), 956-967. (IF<sub>2010</sub>:3.080)
18. **Foka, P.**, Singh, N.N., Salter, R.C., Ramji, D.P. (2009). The tumour necrosis factor-alpha-mediated suppression of the CCAAT/enhancer binding protein-alpha gene transcription in hepatocytes involves inhibition of autoregulation. **Int. J. Biochem. Cell Biol.** 41(5), 1189-97. (IF<sub>2009</sub>:4.890)
19. Ramji, D.P., Singh, N.N., **Foka, P.**, Irvine, S.A., Arnaoutakis, K. (2006). Transforming growth factor-beta-regulated expression of genes in macrophages implicated in the control of cholesterol homeostasis. **Biochem. Soc. Trans.** 34(6), 1141-1144. (IF<sub>2006</sub>:2.960)
20. Monslow, J, Williams, J.D., Fraser, D.J., Michael, D.R., **Foka, P.**, Kift-Morgan, A.P., Luo, D.D., Fielding, C.A., Craig, K.J., Topley, N., Jones, S.A., Ramji, D.P., Bowen, T. (2006). Sp1 and Sp3 mediate constitutive transcription of the human hyaluronan synthase 2 gene. **J. Biol Chem.**, 281(26), 18043-18050. (IF<sub>2006</sub>:5.810)
21. Irvine\*, S.A., **Foka\*, P.**, Rogers, S.A., Mead, J.R., Ramji, D.P. (2005). A critical role for the Sp1 binding sites in the transforming growth factor-β-mediated inhibition of lipoprotein lipase gene expression in macrophages. **Nucleic acids Res.** 33 (5), 1423-1434. (\* Joint First Author). (IF<sub>2005</sub>:7.550)
22. Lavignac, N., Lazenby, M., **Foka, P.**, Malgesini, B., Verpilio, I., Ferruti, P., Duncan, R. (2004). Synthesis and endosomolytic properties of Poly(amidoamine) Block Copolymers. **Macromol. Bioscience**, 4, 922-929. (IF<sub>2004</sub>:1.549)
23. **Foka, P.**, Irvine, S.A., Kockar, F., Ramji, D.P. (2003). Interleukin-6 represses the transcription of the CCAAT/enhancer binding protein-alpha gene in hepatoma cells by inhibiting its ability to autoactivate the proximal promoter region. **Nucleic Acids Res.** 31(23), 6722-6732. 7. (IF<sub>2003</sub>:6.575)
24. Ramji, D.P., **Foka, P.** (2002). CCAAT/Enhancer Binding Proteins: Structure, Function and Regulation. **Biochem. J.**, 365(3), 561-75. (Chosen as Cover Page). (IF<sub>2002</sub>:4.590)
25. **Foka, P.**, Kousteni, S., Ramji, D.P. (2001). Molecular characterization of the *Xenopus* CCAAT-enhancer binding protein beta gene promoter. **Biochem. Biophys. Res. Commun.**, 285(2), 430-6. (IF<sub>2001</sub>:2.946)
26. Kockar, F.T., **Foka, P.**, Hughes, T.R., Kousteni, S., Ramji, D.P. (2001). Analysis of the *Xenopus Laevis* CCAAT-enhancer binding protein α gene promoter demonstrates species-specific differences in the mechanisms for both auto-activation and regulation by Sp1. **Nucleic Acids Res.**, 29(2), 1-11. (IF<sub>2001</sub>:6.373)
27. Tengku-Muhammad, T.S., Hughes, T.R., **Foka, P.**, Cryer, A., Ramji, D.P. (2000). Cytokine-mediated differential regulation of macrophage activator protein-1 genes. **Cytokine**, 12(6), 720-726. (IF<sub>2000</sub>:2.490)
28. Mastronicolis, S.K., German, J.B., Megoulas, N., Petrou, E., **Foka, P.**, Smith, G.M. (1998). Influence of cold shock on the fatty-acid composition of different lipid classes of the food-borne pathogen *Listeria Monocytogenes*. **Food Microbiol.**, 15(3), 299-306. (IF<sub>1998</sub>:1.076)

## *ii) Publications in Greek scientific journals*

1. **Foka, P.**, Epstein, A.L., Mavromara, P. (2008). Cancer virotherapy using recombinant oncolytic herpes simplex virus type 1 (HSV-1)-derived vectors. **Bio**, 25, 32-37. (Invited Review) (IF:n/a)

## *iii) Published Proceedings in International Peer-reviewed journals*

1. **Foka, P.**, Dimitriadis, A., Karamichali, E., Kyrtzopoulou, E., Giannimaras, D., Koskinas, J., Mamalaki, A., Georgopoulou, U. (2015). Regulation of Hepcidin (HAMP) as driving force for macrophage-mediated Hepatitis C (HCV) persistency. **J. Hepatol.** 62(Suppl. 2), S579-S579. (IF<sub>2015</sub>:10.590)

2. **Foka, P.**, Karamichali, E., Doumba, P.P., Dalagiorgou, G., Serti, E., Kochlios, E., Koskinas, J., Georgopoulou, U., Mavromara, P. (2012). Hepatic nuclear factor-1 alpha (HNF-1 alpha) loss of DNA binding activity is essential for HCV core-mediated modulation of lipid metabolism regulatory factor angiopoietin-like 3 (ANGPTL3) expression. **J. Hepatol.** 56(Suppl. 2), S325-S325. (IF<sub>2012</sub>:9.858)

3. E. Kochlios, **P. Foka**, P.P. Doumba, J. Koskinas, P. Mavromara (2010). Effect of Hepatitis C virus core and core+1 proteins on pro- and anti-inflammatory cytokine and chemokine gene expression. **Cytokine** 52(1), 82. (IF<sub>2010</sub>:3.537)

4. A. Pourchet, **P. Foka**, P. Doumba, R. Hernandez-Alcoceba, C. Biollay, M. Melendez, I. Koskinas, A. Greco, P. Mavromara, A. Epstein. (2009). Assessment of liver specific promoters for targeting expression of oncolytic HSV-1 against hepatocellular carcinoma **Human Gene Ther.** 20:1417-1545. (IF<sub>2009</sub>:4.202)

5. Serti, E. Katsarou, K., **Foka, P.**, Thyphronitis, G., Tsitoura, P., Mavromara, P., Georgopoulou, U. (2009). Modulation of p38 signaling pathway by HCV non-enveloped capsid like particles. **FEBS J.** 276(s1), 251. (IF<sub>2009</sub>:3.042)

6. Pourchet, A., **Foka, P.**, Doumba, P., Biollay, C., Melendez, M., Koskinas, I., Mavromara, P., Epstein, A.L. (2009). Identification of Liver Specific Gene Promoters for Transcriptional Targeting of HSV-1 Oncolytic Viruses Against Hepatocellular Carcinoma. **Human Gene Ther.** 20(6), 673-674. (IF<sub>2009</sub>:4.202)

7. **Foka, P.**, Doumba, P.P., Kouvatiss, V., Dalagiorgou, G., Pissas, G., Kazazi, D., Pourchet, A., Epstein, A.L., Nikolopoulou, M., Konstadoulakis, M., Koskinas, I., Mavromara, P. (2008). Evaluation and use of novel liver specific gene promoters for precise targeting of HSV-1 oncolytic viruses against hepatocellular carcinoma. **Hepatology** 48(4S), 495A. (IF<sub>2008</sub>:11.355)

8. Pissas, G., **Foka, P.N.**, Vassilaki, N., Kakkanas, A., Mavromara, P. (2008). Modulation of liver specific gene promoters by the HCV core and core+1/s proteins. **FEBS J.** 275(s1), 275. (IF<sub>2008</sub>:3.139)

9. Ramji, D.P., Singh, N.N., Li, N., Salter, R., Harvey, E.J., **Foka, P.** (2008). Cytokine signalling in macrophages and the expression of key genes implicated in atherosclerosis. **Atherosclerosis Suppl.** 9(1), 53. (IF<sub>2008</sub>:6.560)

10. Singh, N.N., **Foka, P.**, Harvey, E.J., Huwait, E., Ali, S., Li, N., Salter, R., Ramji, D.P. (2007). Signaling pathways underlying cytokine regulated expression of key genes in macrophages implicated in atherosclerosis. **Atherosclerosis Suppl.** 8(1), 4. (IF<sub>2007</sub>:4.930)

11. **Foka, P.**, Singh, N.N., Irvine, S.A., Harvey, E.J., Huwait, E., Rogers, S.A., Ali, S., Arnaoutakis, K., Li, N., Ramji, D.P. (2006). Signalling pathways underlying transforming growth factor-beta regulated expression of key genes implicated in the control of foam cell formation. **Atherosclerosis Suppl.** 7(3), 237. (IF<sub>2006</sub>:5.880)

12. **Foka, P.**, Singh, N.N., Irvine, S.A., Greenow, K., Evans, S., Rogers, S., Harvey, E., Ali, S., Arnaoutakis, K., Ramji, D.P. (2005). Molecular mechanisms involved in the cytokine-regulated expression of genes in macrophages implicated in foam cell formation and atherosclerosis. **Arterioscler. Thromb. Vasc. Biol.** 25(5), E71. (IF<sub>2005</sub>:8.960)

13. Ramji, D.P., Irvine, S.A., **Foka, P.**, Singh, N.N., Rogers, S., Evans, S., Harvey, E., Ali, S., Huwait, E. (2005). Molecular mechanisms involved in the cytokine-regulated expression of genes in macrophages implicated in foam cell formation and atherosclerosis **Atherosclerosis Suppl.** 6 (1), 76. (IF<sub>2005</sub>:8.960)

14. Ramji, D.P., **Foka, P.**, Irvine, S.A., Hughes, T., Rogers, S., Singh, N., Greenow, K., Evans, S., Harvey, E., Ali, S. (2004). Signal transduction pathways and transcriptional control mechanisms involved in the cytokine-mediated regulation of key genes implicated in foam cell formation and atherosclerosis. **Atherosclerosis Suppl.** 5(1) Suppl. S, 29-30. (IF<sub>2004</sub>:4.140)

15. **Foka, P.**, Irvine, S., Ramji, D.P. (2004). Regulation of CCAAT/enhancer binding protein-alpha gene transcription by interleukin-6. **Atherosclerosis Suppl.** 5(1) Suppl. S, 31. (IF<sub>2004</sub>:4.140)

16. Irvine, S.A. **Foka, P.**, Ramji, D.P. (2004). Transcriptional regulation of macrophage lipoprotein lipase gene expression by transforming growth factor-beta. **Atherosclerosis Suppl.** 5(1) Suppl. S, 31-32. (IF<sub>2004</sub>:4.140)

17. Ramji, D.P., Hughes, T.R., Irvine, S.A. Mead, J.R., **Foka, P.**, Evans, S., Harvey, E. (2003). Novel pathways for cytokine-mediated regulation of macrophage lipoprotein lipase gene expression. **Atherosclerosis Suppl.** 4(2), 62. (IF<sub>2003</sub>:4.457)

#### *iv) Book Chapters*

1. Kochlios, E., **Foka, P.**, Tsitoura, E., Doumba, P.P., Koskinas, J., Mavromara, P. (2010). Effect of HCV core and core+1/S on pro- and anti-inflammatory cytokine and chemokine gene expression. In: Medimond SRL Publ. 8<sup>th</sup> Joint Conference of the International Cytokine Society and the International Society for Interferon and Cytokine Research. Bologna, Italy, p.21-24.

#### *v) Oral/Poster Presentations in International Conferences*

1. A. Dimitriadis\*, **P. Foka\***, P. Eliadis, D. Giannimaras, K. Katsarou, E. Karamichali, A. Mamalaki, O. Georgopoulou (2019). Hepatitis C virus non-enveloped capsid-like particles (HCVne) in iron homeostasis. 3<sup>rd</sup> International Joint Retreat of the Young Pasteur Institute Researchers StaPa - YouPI, 12 – 15<sup>th</sup> June 2019, Rome, Italy. (\***Κοινοί Πρότοιοι συγγραφοί**)

2. Karamichali E., Anastasiou G., Ioannidou E., **Foka P.**, Koskinas I., Georgopoulou U. (2019). Exosomes as carriers of HCV defective genomes in HCV pathogenesis. 3<sup>rd</sup> International Joint Retreat of the Young Pasteur Institute Researchers StaPa - YouPI, 12 – 15<sup>th</sup> June 2019, Rome, Italy.

3. G. Papadopoulou, S. Petroulia, V. Valiakou, P. Eliadis, A. Dimitriadis, E. Karamichali, A. Kakkanas, A. Mamalaki, **P. Foka**, U. Georgopoulou (2019). Impact of LSD1 in HCV infection and liver disease progression. 3<sup>rd</sup> International Joint Retreat of the Young Pasteur Institute Researchers StaPa - YouPI, 12 – 15<sup>th</sup> June 2019, Rome, Italy.

4. Ntekas Y., Litsa M., Krokos V., Katopodi X.-L., Kanata E., Kostadima E., Bartzoka N., Kotzatratis S., Spatharas P., Eliadis P., Georgopoulou U., Topakas E., **Foka P.** (2018). “GENOMERS: Toehold switch enabled viral detection via routine glucose monitoring technology”, iGEM 2018 Giant Jamboree. 25-28 October 2018, Boston, USA (**oral & poster presentation**).

5. V. Valiakou, P. Eliadis, E. Karamichali, G. Papadopoulou, S. Petroulia, A. Dimitriadis, U. Georgopoulou, **P. Foka.** (2018) A role for regulatory factor ANGPTL-3 in HCV-mediated modulation of host lipid metabolism. 25<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Hepatitis C Virus and Related Viruses (HCV 2018). 8 - 11 October 2018, Dublin, Ireland.

6. Dimitriadis A., **Foka P.**, Karamichali E., Kyratzopoulou E., Giannimaras D.A., Koskinas J., Mamalaki A., Georgopoulou U. (2018). Involvement of iron homeostasis in the establishment of Hepatitis C virus (HCV) persistent infection. 25<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Hepatitis C Virus and Related Viruses (HCV 2018). 8 - 11 October 2018, Dublin, Ireland. (\***Joint First Authors**)

7. Karamichali E., Chihab H., Kakkanas A., Marchio A., Karamitros T., Pogka V., Varaklioti A., Kalliaropoulos A., Martinez-Gonzales B., **Foka P.**, Koskinas J., Mentis A., Benjelloun S., Pineau P., Georgopoulou U. (2018). HCV defective genomes promote persistent infection by modulating the viral life cycle. 25<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Hepatitis C Virus and Related Viruses (HCV 2018). 8 - 11 October 2018, Dublin, Ireland. (**Selected Oral Presentation**)

8. Katopodi X.L., Litsa M., Krokos V., Ntekas Y., Bartzoka N., Kanata E., Kostadima E., Kotzatratis S., Spatharas P., Cournia Z., Georgopoulou U., Eliadis P., Karamitros T., Nikolavits S., Topakas E., **Foka P.**, (2018). Application of Toehold Switches in MERS-CoV Detection. BioExcel 2nd SIG Meeting: “Advanced Simulations for Biomolecular Research”, satellite symposium of the 17<sup>th</sup> European Conference on Computational Biology. 8 September 2018, Athens, Greece.

9. **Foka P.** (2018) Pathogen – Host interactions in viral hepatitis. 2<sup>nd</sup> International Joint Retreat of the Young Pasteur Institute Researchers StaPa - YouPI, 21 - 23 June 2018, Athens. (**Invited Oral Presentation**)

10. Karamichali E., Chihab H., Kakkanas A., Marchio A., Karamitros T., Pogka V., Varaklioti A., Kalliaropoulos A., Martinez-Gonzales B., **Foka P.**, Koskinas I., Mentis A., Benjelloun S., Pineau P., Georgopoulou U. (2018). HCV defective genomes promote persistent infection by modulating the viral life cycle. 2<sup>nd</sup> International Joint Retreat of the Young Pasteur Institute Researchers StaPa - YouPI, 21 - 23 June 2018, Athens.

11. Dimitriadis A.\*, **Foka P.\***, Karamichali E., Kyratzopoulou E., Giannimaras D., Koskinas J., Georgopoulou U., Mamalaki A. (2018). Involvement of iron homeostasis in the establishment of Hepatitis C virus (HCV) persistent infection. 2<sup>nd</sup> International Joint Retreat of the Young Pasteur Institute Researchers StaPa - YouPI, 21 - 23 June 2018, Athens. (\***Joint First Authors**)

12. A. Dimitriadis, **P. Foka**, E. Karamichali, E. Kyratzopoulou, D. Giannimaras, J.Koskinas, A. Varaklioti, A. Mamalaki, U. Georgopoulou (2017). Alterations in the Iron Homeostasis Network: A Driving Force for Macrophage-mediated Hepatitis C Virus Persistence. EASL-basic School of Liver Immunology, 16 - 18 February 2017, Aachen, Germany.

13. H. Chihab, F. Jadid, **P. Foka**, U. Georgopoulou, A. El Habazi, M. Chair, S. Ezzikouri, S. Benjelloun (2016). Programmed cell death-1 (PD-1) polymorphism rs10204525 and Hepatitis B Virus infection in Moroccan Patients. From Basic science to biomarkers & tools in global health. Scientific Symposium, Institut Pasteur International Network, Scientific Symposium, November 29<sup>th</sup> – December 2<sup>nd</sup> 2016, Paris, France.

14. **P. Foka**, A. Dimitriadis, E. Karamichali, E. Kyrtzopoulou, D.A. Giannimaras, J. Koskinas, A. Mamalaki, U. Georgopoulou (2015). Differential modulation of HAMP gene expression occurs at different stages of HCV infection. 22<sup>nd</sup> International Symposium on Hepatitis C Virus and Related Viruses, 9-13 October 2015, Strasbourg, France.
15. E. Kyrtzopoulou, A. Dimitriadis, **P. Foka**, E. Karamichali, A. Mamalaki, U. Georgopoulou (2015). The Hepatitis C virus (HCV) NS5A protein effect on hepcidin gene expression. 22<sup>nd</sup> International Symposium on Hepatitis C Virus and Related Viruses, 9-13 October 2015, Strasbourg, France.
16. E. Karamichali, E. Serti, A. Gianneli, A. Papaefthymiou, A. Kakkanas, **P. Foka**, A. Seremetakis, I.P. Trougakos, U. Georgopoulou (2015). The unexpected function of a highly conserved *γxxI* motif in HCV core protein. 22<sup>nd</sup> International Symposium on Hepatitis C Virus and Related Viruses, 9-13 October 2015, Strasbourg, France.
17. **Foka, P.**, Dimitriadis, A., Karamichali, E., Kakkanas, A., Mavromara, P., Mamalaki, A., Georgopoulou, U. (2014). Hepatitis C virus and host kinome: an intimate relationship. Scientific Symposium of the Institut Pasteur International Network, 10-13 September 2014, Paris, France.
18. Dimitriadis A.\*, **Foka P.\***, Kyrtzopoulou E., Giannimaras D., Simos G., Georgopoulou U., Mamalaki A. A complex signaling network involving CK2 is required for Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) core protein-mediated modulation of the iron-regulatory hepcidin (HAMP) gene expression (2013). EMBO Workshop on Liver and Pancreas Development, Function and Disease, 26-30 May 2013, Athens, Greece. (**\* Joint First Authors**)
19. E. Karamichali, E. Tsitoura, **P. Foka**, U. Georgopoulou, P. Mavromara (2013). Down-regulation of HCV IRES-dependent translation by NS5A is mediated by PKR. 5<sup>th</sup> European Congress of Virology, 11-14 September 2013, Lyon, France.
20. **P. Foka**, E. Karamichali, P. Mavromara (2010). Regulation of Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) internal ribosome entry site (IRES)-dependent translation under hypoxic conditions. 4<sup>th</sup> European Congress of Virology, 7-11 April 2010, Lake Como, Italy.
21. **P. Foka**, G. Dalagiorgou, E. Serti, P.P. Doumba, G. Pissas, E. Tsitoura, J. Koskinas, U. Georgopoulou, P. Mavromara (2010). Modulation of the lipid metabolism regulatory factor Angiopoietin-like 3 (ANGPTL3) gene expression by Hepatitis C virus (HCV). Signalling in the liver: EASL Monothematic Conference, 18-20 February 2010, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
22. G. Dalagiorgou, N. Vassilaki, A. Boumlic, S. Khalili, **P. Foka**, E. Aslanoglou, T. Kakkanas, S. Veletza, D. Vassilopoulos, S.J. Hatziyiannis, J. Koskinas, P. Mavromara (2009). Higher levels of HCV Core+1 antibodies in patients with HCV-associated hepatocellular carcinoma in comparison to chronically infected patients. 6<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on HCV virus and related viruses, 3-7 October 2009, Nice, France.
23. Pourchet, Aldo, **Foka, Pelagia**, Doumba, Polyxeni, Hernandez-Alcoceba, Ruben, Biollay, Coline, Melendez, Matias, Koskinas, Ioannis, Mavromara, Penelope, Epstein, Alberto L. (2009). Identification of Liver Specific Gene Promoters for Transcriptional Targeting of HSV-1 Oncolytic Viruses against Hepatocellular Carcinoma. The 34<sup>th</sup> International Herpesvirus Workshop, July 25-31, 2009, Ithaca, New York, USA.
24. **P. Foka**, P.P. Doumba, V. Kouvatzis, G. Dalagiorgou, G. Pissas, D. Kazazi, A. Pourchet, A.L. Epstein, M. Konstadoulakis, I. Koskinas, P. Mavromara (2009). Identification of Novel Liver Specific Gene Promoters for Specific Targeting of Hepatocellular Carcinoma (HCC) with herpes simplex virus type 1 (HSV-1) Oncolytic Viruses. 5<sup>th</sup> International Greek Biotechnology Forum, May 2009, Athens, Greece.
25. Oz-Arslan, D., Tsitoura, E., Kazazi, D., **Foka, P.**, Epstein, A.L., Mavromara, P. (2008). Characterisation of dendritic cell-related mRNA expression profile elicited by HSV-1 and HSV-1-based amplicon vectors. XIV International Congress of Virology, August 2008, Istanbul, Turkey.
26. Irvine, S.A., Singh, N.N., **Foka, P.**, Greenow, K., Hughes, T.R., Evans, S., Rogers, S., Harvey, E., Ali, S., Huwait, E., Ramji, D.P. (2004). Molecular mechanisms involved in the cytokine-mediated regulation of genes implicated in lipid homeostasis and atherosclerosis. The 2004 HDL Workshop, Heraklion, Crete, Greece. (**Oral Presentation**)
27. **Foka, P.**, Irvine, S.A. and Ramji, D.P. (2004). Transcriptional regulation of macrophage lipoprotein lipase gene expression by transforming growth factor-beta. The 2004 HDL Workshop, Heraklion, Crete, Greece.

**vi) Oral/Poster Presentations in Greek Conferences**

1. V.Valiakou, P.Eliadis, E. Karamichali, J. Koskinas, U Georgopoulou, **P.Foka** (2020). Differential expression of the lipid metabolism regulators ANGPTLs in HCV infection. 18<sup>th</sup> Hellenic Liver Congress, 11-13 September 2020, Athens, Greece.

2. E. Ioannidou, V. Valiakou, G. Papadopoulou, E. Karamichali, U. Georgopoulou, **P. Foka** (2019). The epigenetic factor LSD2 mediates virus-host immunometabolic interactions in HCV infection. 70<sup>th</sup> Hellenic Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and 7<sup>th</sup> Young Scientists Forum of HSBMB, 28<sup>th</sup> November – 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019, Athens, Greece.
3. M. Litsa, Y. Ntekas, V. Krokos, X.L. Katopodi, E. Kanata, N. Bartzoka, S. Kotzistratis, E. Kostadima, P. Spatharas, E. Topakas, **P. Foka** (2019). Toehold Switch-enabled viral detection via routine glucose monitoring technology. 12<sup>th</sup> Panhellenic Scientific Conference in Chemical Engineering, 29-31 May 2019, Athens, Greece (**Προφορική Ανακοίνωση**)
4. G. Papadopoulou, S. Petroulia, V. Valiakou, A. Dimitriadis, E. Karamichali, A. Mamalaki, **P. Foka**, J. Koskinas, U. Georgopoulou (2019). LSD1 as key molecule for HCV-mediated hepatic steatosis and HCC. 17<sup>th</sup> Hellenic Liver Congress, 9-11 May 2019, Kalamata, Greece (**Invited Oral Presentation**)
5. Litsa M., Bartzoka N., Krokos V., Ntekas Y., Katopodi X.L., Kanata E., Kostadima E., Kotzistratis S., Spatharas P., Eliadis P., Georgopoulou U., Topakas E., **Foka P.** (2018). “GENOMERS: Toehold switch enabled viral detection via routine glucose monitoring technology”, by YouPI (Young Pasteur Institute) Open Seminar Series, Hellenic Pasteur Institute, Athens, Greece. (**Invited Oral Presentation**).
6. Litsa M., Bartzoka N., Krokos V., Ntekas I., Katopodi X.L., Kanata E., Kostadima E., Kotzistratis S., Spatharas P., Papadopoulou G., Nikolaivits S., Cournia Z., Karamichali E., Eliadis P., Karamitros T., Georgopoulou U., Topakas E., **Foka P.** (2018). Toehold switch enabled viral detection via routine glucose monitoring technology. 4<sup>th</sup> One-Day Conference of HPI PhD and Post-doctoral Scientists. 28<sup>th</sup> September 2017, Athens, Greece. (**Oral Presentation**).
7. Dimitriadis A., **Foka P.**, Petroulia S., Eliadis P., Giannimaras D.A., Katsarou K., Karamichali E., Mamalaki A., Georgopoulou U. (2018). Investigation of the effect of HCVcc particles on iron homeostasis. 4<sup>th</sup> One-Day Conference of HPI PhD and Post-doctoral Scientists. 28<sup>th</sup> September 2017, Athens, Greece. (**Oral Presentation**).
8. G. Papadopoulou, S. Petroulia, V. Valiakou, E. Kyrtzopoulou, A. Dimitriadis, E. Karamichali, A. Mamalaki, **P. Foka**, U. Georgopoulou (2018). LSD-1 and hepatic steatosis in HCV infection. 4<sup>th</sup> One-Day Conference of HPI PhD and Post-doctoral Scientists. 28<sup>th</sup> September 2017, Athens, Greece.
9. **Foka P.** (2018) Pathogen – Host interactions in viral hepatitis. 2<sup>nd</sup> International Joint Retreat of the Young Pasteur Institute Researchers StaPa - YouPI, 21 - 23 June 2018, Athens. (**Invited Oral Presentation**).
10. Karamichali E., Chihab H., Kakkanas A., Marchio A., Karamitros T., Pogka V., Varaklioti A., Kalliaropoulos A., Martinez-Gonzales B., **Foka P.**, Koskinas I., Mentis A., Benjelloun S., Pineau P., Georgopoulou U. (2018). HCV defective genomes promote persistent infection by modulating the viral life cycle. 2<sup>nd</sup> International Joint Retreat of the Young Pasteur Institute Researchers StaPa - YouPI, 21 - 23 June 2018, Athens.
11. Dimitriadis A.\*, **Foka P.\***, Karamichali E., Kyrtzopoulou E., Giannimaras D., Koskinas J., Georgopoulou U., Mamalaki A. (2018). Involvement of iron homeostasis in the establishment of Hepatitis C virus (HCV) persistent infection. 2<sup>nd</sup> International Joint Retreat of the Young Pasteur Institute Researchers StaPa - YouPI, 21 - 23 June 2018, Athens. (**\* Joint First Authors**)
12. E. Karamichali, A. Kakkanas, T. Karamitros, V. Pogka, H. Chihab, A. Varaklioti, A. Marchio, A. Kalliaropoulos, **P. Foka**, A. Dimitriadis, B. Martinez-Gonzales, S. Benjelloun, P. Pineau, A. Mentis, U. Georgopoulou (2018). Investigation of the role of exosomes as transporters of HCV genomes and miRNAs in Hepatocellular Carcinoma Progression. Research Podium Lecture Series, 2<sup>nd</sup> Department of Internal Medicine, Medical School of Athens, 6 June 2018, Hippokraton Hospital, Athens, Greece. (**Invited Oral Presentation**)
13. **Foka, P.**, Dimitriadis, A., Karamichali, E., Kyrtzopoulou, E., Giannimaras, D., Koskinas, J., Mamalaki, A., Georgopoulou, U. (2018). Input of iron homeostasis in Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) persistent infection. 16<sup>th</sup> Hellenic Liver Congress, 4-6<sup>th</sup> May, Athens, Greece.
14. E. Karamichali, A. Kakkanas, T. Karamitros, V. Pogka, H. Chihab, A. Varaklioti, A. Marchio, A. Kalliaropoulos, **P. Foka**, A. Dimitriadis, B. Martinez-Gonzales, S. Benjelloun, P. Pineau, A. Mentis, U. Georgopoulou (2018). Investigation of the role of exosomes as transporters of HCV genomes and miRNAs in Hepatocellular Carcinoma Progression. 16<sup>th</sup> Hellenic Liver Congress, 4-6<sup>th</sup> May, Athens, Greece. (**Invited Oral Presentation**)
15. **P. Foka**, E. Karamichali, A. Dimitriadis, V. Valiakou, J. Koskinas, U. Georgopoulou (2018). Lipid Metabolism in hepatocellular carcinoma. Research Podium Lecture Series, 2<sup>nd</sup> Department of Internal Medicine, Medical School of Athens, January 2018, Hippokraton Hospital, Athens, Greece. (**Invited Oral Presentation**)
16. E. Karamichali, A. Kakkanas, T. Karamitros, V. Pogka, H. Chihab, A. Varaklioti, A. Marchio, A. Kalliaropoulos, **P. Foka**, A. Dimitriadis, B. Martinez-Gonzales, S. Benjelloun, P. Pineau, A. Mentis, U. Georgopoulou (2017). Hepatitis C

pathogenesis: Importance of HCV defective genomes in the development of hepatocellular carcinoma. 68<sup>th</sup> Hellenic Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, 10 – 12 November 2017, Athens, Greece (**Oral Presentation**).

17. Karamichali E., Kakkanas A., Karamitros T., Pogka V., Chihab H., Varacioti A., Marchio A., Kalliaropoulos A., **Foka P.**, Dimitriadis A., Martinez-Gonzales B., Benjelloun S., Pineau P., Mentis A., Georgopoulou U. (2017). Hepatitis C pathogenesis: Importance of HCV defective genomes in the development of hepatocellular carcinoma. 3<sup>rd</sup> One-Day Conference of HPI PhD and Post-doctoral Scientists. 28<sup>th</sup> September 2017, Athens, Greece. (**Oral Presentation**).

18. V. Valiakou, **P. Foka**, P. Eliadis, E. Karamichali, A. Dimitriadis, G. Papadopoulou, I. Koskinas, O. Georgopoulou (2017). The role of ANGPTLs in liver steatosis development during HCV infection and hepatocellular carcinoma. 3<sup>rd</sup> One-Day Conference of HPI PhD and Post-doctoral Scientists. 28<sup>th</sup> September 2017, Athens, Greece.

19. **P. Foka**, P. Eliadis, E. Karamichali, A. Dimitriadis, V. Valiakou, I. Koskinas, U. Georgopoulou (2017). Lipid Metabolism and Hepatocellular Carcinoma. 15<sup>th</sup> Hellenic Liver Congress, 25-27<sup>th</sup> May 2017, Larissa, Thessaly, Greece (**Invited Oral Presentation**).

20. **P. Foka**, A. Dimitriadis, E. Karamichali, E. Kyrtzopoulou, D. Giannimaras, J. Koskinas, A. Mamalaki, U. Georgopoulou (2016). Hepatitis C Virus (HCV)-mediated immunometabolic regulation of iron homeostasis as probable cause for persistent viral infection. 2<sup>nd</sup> One-Day Conference of HPI PhD and Post-doctoral Scientists. 29<sup>th</sup> September 2016, Athens, Greece (**Oral Presentation**).

21. **P. Foka**, A. Dimitriadis, E. Karamichali, E. Kyrtzopoulou, D. Giannimaras, J. Koskinas, A. Mamalaki, U. Georgopoulou (2015). HCV-mediated regulation of iron homeostasis proteins: Hcpidin and ferritin promote viral propagation and persistence. 66<sup>th</sup> Hellenic Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, 11-13<sup>th</sup> December 2015, Athens, Greece (**Oral Presentation**).

22. E. Karamichali, E. Serti, A. Gianneli, A. Papaefthymiou, A. Kakkanas, **P. Foka**, A. Seremetakis, I .P. Trougakos, U. Georgopoulou (2015). The functional role of a highly conserved *yxq* motif in HCV core protein. 66<sup>th</sup> Hellenic Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, 11-13 December 2015, Athens, Greece.

23. **Foka, P.**, Dimitriadis A, Karamichali E, Doumba PP, Kakkanas A, Mamalaki A, Koskinas J, Georgopoulou U (2015). Hepatitis C and cellular kinase network: An intriguing relationship. 14<sup>th</sup> Hellenic Liver Congress 7-10<sup>th</sup> May 2015, Kos, Greece (**Oral Presentation**).

24. **Foka P.**, Dimitriadis A., Kyrtzopoulou E., Giannimaras D., Sarno S., Simos G., Mamalaki A., Georgopoulou U. (2013). A complex signaling network involving casein kinase 2 is required for Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) core protein-mediated modulation of the iron-regulatory hepcidin gene expression. 64<sup>th</sup> Hellenic Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, 6-8<sup>th</sup> December 2013, Athens. Greece (**Oral Presentation**).

25. **Foka P.**, Dalagiorgou G., Serti E., Doumba P.P., Karamichali E., Kochlios, E., Pissas G., Koskinas J., Georgopoulou U., Mavromara P. Hepatitis C virus (HCV) core protein down-regulates the lipid metabolism regulatory factor Angiopoietin-like 3 (ANGPTL3) gene expression through hepatic nuclear factor 1 $\alpha$  (HNF-1 $\alpha$ ). (2011). 62<sup>nd</sup> Hellenic Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, 9-11<sup>th</sup> December 2013, Athens, Greece.

26. **Foka, P.**, G., Serti E., Doumba P.P., Pissas G., Karamichali E., Kochlios E., Koskinas J., Georgopoulou U., Mavromara P. (2011). Gene expression of the lipid metabolism factor ANGPTL-3 is regulated by HCV core capsid protein through inhibition of the DNA binding activity of liver-specific HNF-1 $\alpha$  transcription factor. 12<sup>th</sup> Hellenic Liver Congress. 12-15<sup>th</sup> May 2011, Chania, Greece.

27. **Foka P.**, Dalagiorgou G., Serti E., Doumba P.P., Pissas G., Karamichali E., Kochlios E., Koskinas J., Georgopoulou U., Mavromara P. (2010). Hepatitis C (HCV) core protein regulates the lipid metabolism factor Angiopoietin-like 3 (ANGPTL-3) gene expression by inhibiting HNF-1 $\alpha$  DNA binding activity. 61<sup>st</sup> Hellenic Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, 15-17<sup>th</sup> November 2010, Alexandroupolis, Greece.

28. **Foka, P.** Karamichali, E., Mavromara, P. (2010). Cellular hypoxia modulates Hepatitis C virus (HCV) internal ribosome entry site (IRES)-dependent translation. 61<sup>st</sup> Hellenic Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, 15-17<sup>th</sup> November 2010, Alexandroupolis, Greece.

29. Dalagiorgou G., Vassilaki, N., **Foka, P.**, Boumlic, A, Kakkanas, A., Veletza, B., Vassilopoulos, D., Hatzigiannis, S., Koskinas, I., Mavromara, P. (2009). High levels of anti-HCV-1 core+1 protein antibodies in patients with HCV-related hepatocellular carcinoma. 60<sup>th</sup> Hellenic Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, 20-22<sup>nd</sup> November 2009, Athens, Greece.



30. **Foka, P.**, Doumba P., Pissas, G., Kouvatsis, V., Dalagiorgou G., Konstadoulakis, M., Koskinas, J., Mavromara, P. (2009). Characterisation and use of novel liver-specific gene promoters for the development of targeted oncolytic HSV-1 vectors against hepatocellular carcinoma. 11<sup>th</sup> Hellenic Liver Congress, May 2009, Corfu, Greece (**Oral Presentation**).

31. **P. Foka**, P.P. Doumba, V. Kouvatsis, G. Dalagiorgou, G. Pissas, D. Kazazi, A.L. Epstein, M. Nikolopoulou, M. Konstadoulakis, J. Koskinas, P. Mavromara (2007). Evaluation and Use of Novel Liver Specific Gene Promoters for Precise Targeting of HSV-1 Oncolytic Viruses against Hepatocellular Carcinoma. 59<sup>th</sup> Hellenic Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, December 2007, Athens, Greece.

32. Pissas, G., **Foka, P.**, Vassilaki, N., Mavromara, P. (2007). Effect of the novel HCV Core+1/S protein on liver specific promoters. 59<sup>th</sup> Hellenic Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, December 2007, Athens, Greece.

33. Megoulas, N., **Foka, P.**, Mastronikoli, S. (1998). Influence of cold-shock on the fatty acid composition of neutral and polar lipids of the food-borne pathogen *Listeria Monocytogenes*. 49<sup>th</sup> Hellenic Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, September 1998, Herakleion, Greece. (**Oral Presentation**)

#### **vii) Deposited DNA Sequences in Public Databases**

1. **Foka, P.**, Kousteni, S., Ramji, D.P. (2001). Sequence of the *Xenopus Laevis* C/EBP beta gene promoter. EMBL/GenBank/DDBJ Accession number AJ319664.

2. Tura-Kockar, F., **Foka, P.**, Hughes, T.R., Kousteni, S., Ramji, D.P. (2000). Sequence of the *Xenopus laevis* C/EBP alpha gene promoter. EMBL/GenBank/DDBJ Accession number AJ250304.

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#### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

- **Visiting Lecturer** (2014- ) MSc in Advanced Systems & Methods in Biomedical Engineering, Department of Biomedical Engineering, University of West Attica

Teaching modules: - Emerging Technologies in Modern *In Vivo* Diagnostics, Telemedicine and Personal Medicine (Microarrays, ArrayCGH)

- Emerging Technologies in Modern *In Vitro* Diagnostics, Molecular Biology and Bioinformatics (Next Generation Sequencing and applications)

#### **Supervision of Research Projects**

##### I. PhD Candidates

- Efthymia-Ioanna Koufogeorgou (9/2020- ) Host immune response mechanisms in HCV and SARS-CoV-2 RNA viruses (Department of Biological Applications and Technology, University of Ioannina) (Primary Supervisor)

- Vaia Valiakou (2016- ): Cellular, signalling and metabolic alterations in HCV infection: Identification of cellular targets implicated in the development and progression of hepatocellular carcinoma (Department of Biology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens) (Assistant Supervisor)

- Georgia Papadopoulou (2018- ): HCV-associated hepatocellular carcinoma and the role of selective biomarkers. (Department of Biology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens) (Assistant Supervisor)

##### II. Pre-graduate Training (Final Year Projects)

- Alfonsos Eleftherios Delis (2020-2021): Investigation of the host lipid profile in the presence of cellular factors that affect hepatic lipid metabolism in HCV-associated hepatocellular carcinoma (Chemical Engineering Department, National Technical University of Athens)

- Maria Litsa (2018-2019): Development of a diagnostic method for the detection of MERS-CoV with the use of Towhold Switches (Chemical Engineering Department, National Technical University of Athens)

- Elisavet Ioannidou (2018-2019): Immunometabolic relations between pathogen and host during HCV infection (Department of Biology, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens)

#### **Co-supervision and Training of final-year, MSc and PhD Students**

**i.** 5 final-year projects during the years 1998 – 2004 (1) (Department of Biochemistry, School of Biosciences, Cardiff University, UK)

**ii.** 3 PhD and one MSc students during the years 2001 – 2006 (Department of Biochemistry, School of Biosciences, Cardiff University, UK)

**iii.** 8 PhD and 3MSc students during the years 2007 – 2018 (Molecular Virology Laboratory, Molecular Biology and Immunobiotechnology Laboratory, Hellenic Pasteur Institute).

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## EDUCATIONAL AND VOCATIONAL COURSES

- Basic Principles of Teaching and Marking - Cardiff University (October 1998)
- Radioactivity Safety and Training - Cardiff University (January 1999)
- GMO Safety and Training - Cardiff University (May 1999)
- Bioinformatics - Human Genome Mapping Project Educational Program, Sanger Institute (July 1999)
- Advanced Statistical Analysis Training Workshop - Cardiff University (July 2000)
- Home Office License – Modules 1.2.3.5 Animal experimentation Training (mice, rats, guinea pigs, rabbits) - Welsh College of Medicine, University of Wales (August 2002)
- Lecturing Skills - Oxford Centre for Staff and Learning Development, Oxford Brookes University (September 2002)
- Grant proposal drafting and Application Training - Cardiff University Staff Development Centre (October 2002)
- “Virology Training” - Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1, CNRS-UMR (November-December 2006)
- Using siRNA in Experimental Design - Qiagen Inc. Workshop (March 2004)
- Human and Microbial Genomics - DNA arrays applied to human pathogens and disease: Training Workshop - Hellenic Pasteur Institute & Institute Pasteur Paris (April 2006)
- “Laboratory Animals: Paradigm change (Theory part), 3<sup>rd</sup> One-day seminar of the Department of Animal Models for Biomedical Research – DAMBR/Hellenic Pasteur Institute (April 2014)
- “Biostatistics using R” Hellenic Pasteur Institute and National Public Health Organization (EODY) (March-April 2017)
- Introduction in statistical analysis of biomedical data” – Medical School of Athens, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (November-December 2017)

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## OTHER SKILLS

### Languages:

- Fluent in English: 1990 Certificate of Proficiency in English – GRADE A, University of Cambridge.
- Good knowledge of French : 1995 Diplôme des Études de la Langue Française - BIEN, French Institute of Athens
- Basic knowledge of Spanish: University of Athens Language School (1993-1995)

### IT Skills:

Proficient in Microsoft Office, Adobe Photoshop, SPSS, Sigma Plot, WDNAsis, Chromas, Biorad - Quantity One, Prophet, GeneSpring, BioInterpreter, Vector NTI, STRING

### Member of Societies

- Association of Greek Chemists
  - Hellenic Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
  - British Biochemical Society
  - Society for Chemistry and Industry
-