

Short Curriculum Vitae

Blevrakis Evangelos

Assistant Professor of Pediatric Surgery
Head of the Department of Pediatric Surgery
Medical Scholl, University of Crete

CURRICULUM VITAE

Evangelos G. Blevrakis, MD, MSc, PhD

Pediatric Surgeon – Intensivist

Director, Department of Pediatric Surgery, University Hospital of Heraklion (Pa.G.N.H.) –

Assistant Professor of Pediatric Surgery, Medical School, University of Crete

Personal Information

- **Last Name:** Blevrakis
- **First Name:** Evangelos
- **Father's Name:** Georgios
- **Mother's Name:** Aspasia
- **Date of Birth:** March 8, 1975
- **Marital Status:** Married, father of two children
- **Military Service:** Completed
- **Telephone:** +30 2810 232956 (home), +30 6975556538 (mobile)
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DEGREES – QUALIFICATIONS

Title	Institution	Date Obtained
Primary Degree	MD Degree	School of Medicine, University of Catania
Postgraduate Training Program	EPIM (Emergency Prehospital Medicine)	National Emergency Aid Center (EKAV), Hellenic Republic, Ministry of Health and Social Solidarity (Board Decision EKAV No. 5/5-3-2010)
Master's Degree	MSc in Bioethics	School of Medicine, University of Crete
Medical Specialty Title	Specialty in Pediatric Surgery	General Directorate of Public Health and Social Welfare, Ministry of Health
Certificate of Pedagogical and Teaching Competence	Graduate of the Annual Pedagogical Training Program (EPPAIK – ASPAITE)	Higher School of Pedagogical and Technological Education (ASPAITE), Hellenic Republic
Subspecialization	Intensive Care Medicine	Ministry of Health, General Directorate of Health, Directorate of Health Professions and Welfare

Professional & Educational Roles

- **Board Member of APLS Crete** – Instructor
- **Secretary & Treasurer, Board of Directors, APLS Crete**
 - Instructor in *Basic and Advanced Life Support for Infants and Children*
 - Instructor in *PLS – APLS*
 - **From 2014 to present**

Role	Project Description	<u>Research Activities</u>	
		Institution	Year
Project Contractor	Research protocol on Pediatric ICU patients with sepsis and trauma	Special Account for Research Funds	2014

Doctoral Degree

- **PhD Title:**
Study of serum Inhibin B levels in adolescents with varicocele for the investigation of its role as a prognostic factor of infertility
 - **Institution:** School of Medicine, University of Crete
 - **Year:** 2015
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University Teaching Experience

- **University Teaching Fellow**
Acquisition of Academic Teaching Experience for Early-Career Scientists Holding a PhD
- Independent teaching of the course “**Neonatal Surgery**”
- **Institution:** School of Medicine, University of Crete

Academic Years:

2015–2016
2016–2017
2017–2018
2018–2019
2019–2020

Additional Master’s Degree

- **MSc in Emergency and Intensive Care of Children and Adolescents**
 - School of Medicine, University of Crete
 - **Year:** 2018
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Postgraduate Training

- **Advanced Training in Laparoscopic and Robotic Pediatric Surgery**
 - Pediatric Surgery
 - School of Medicine, University of Naples “Federico II”, Italy
 - **07/06/2019 – 02/08/2019**
 - **Advanced Training in Neonatal and Pediatric Surgery**
 - Pediatric Surgery
 - School of Medicine, University of Belgrade – Serbia
 - *University Children’s Hospital Belgrade*
 - **29/06/2020 – 01/03/2021**
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Certifications

- **Certified Researcher – GCP (Good Clinical Practice)**
 - Good Clinical Practice, Version 5 (effective 03-Mar-2017)
 - Training funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIH, USA)
 - In collaboration with **Pfizer**
 - **Year:** 2023
 - **NAEMT Certified Instructor**
 - EPC (Emergency Pediatric Care) Instructor
 - **From 2023**
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Recent Advanced Training

- **Advanced Training in Laparoscopic and Robotic Pediatric & Neonatal Surgery**
 - School of Medicine, University of Naples “Federico II”, Italy
 - **01/08/2024 – 30/09/2024**
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Professional Memberships

- **Founding Member** of the *Hellenic Society of Minimally Invasive Pediatric Surgery*
 - Specialty: Pediatric Surgery
 - **From March 2023 to present**

EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

School of Medicine, University of Crete — 2015

Dissertation: *Study of serum Inhibin B levels in adolescents with varicocele investigating its role as a prognostic marker of infertility. (Impact of varicocele on biological markers of gonadal function)*

MD Degree

School of Medicine, University of Catania — 2000

Medical Specialty

Pediatric Surgery

Ministry of Health, General Directorate of Public Health and Social Welfare — **2011**

Subspecialty / Advanced Training

Intensive Care Medicine

Ministry of Health — **2014**

POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

MSc in Bioethics

School of Medicine, University of Crete — 2010

MSc in Emergency and Intensive Care of Children and Adolescents

School of Medicine, University of Crete — 2018

POSTGRADUATE & ADVANCED CLINICAL TRAINING

Emergency Prehospital Medicine (EPIM)

National Emergency Aid Center (EKAV), Ministry of Health — **2009**

Advanced Training in Laparoscopic and Robotic Pediatric Surgery

School of Medicine, University of Naples “Federico II”, Italy

07/06/2019 – 02/08/2019

Advanced Training in Neonatal and Pediatric Surgery

University Children’s Hospital Belgrade, Serbia

29/06/2020 – 01/03/2021

Advanced Training in Laparoscopic and Robotic Pediatric & Neonatal Surgery

School of Medicine, University of Naples “Federico II”, Italy

01/08/2024 – 30/09/2024

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University Teaching Fellow (Adjunct Academic Staff) School of Medicine, University of Crete

Independent teaching of the undergraduate course:
“Neonatal Surgery”

Academic Years:

2015–2016

2016–2017

2017–2018

2018–2019

2019–2020

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Principal Contractor / Researcher

Research protocol on pediatric ICU patients with sepsis and trauma
Special Account for Research Funds, University of Crete — **2014**

Certified Researcher

Good Clinical Practice (GCP), Version 5 (03-Mar-2017)

Training funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIH, USA)

In collaboration with Pfizer — **2023**

PROFESSIONAL & ACADEMIC SERVICE

Board Member, APLS Crete

Secretary & Treasurer, Board of Directors, APLS Crete

Instructor in:

- Basic & Advanced Life Support for Infants and Children
- PLS – APLS

From 2014 to present

NAEMT Certified Instructor

Emergency Pediatric Care (EPC) — **From 2023**

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Founding Member

Hellenic Society of Minimally Invasive Pediatric Surgery

From March 2023 to present

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS & CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Institution	From	To	Position / Duties
Rural Medical Service	28/08/2001	28/11/2001	Rural General Practitioner. Outpatient clinics in Internal Medicine, Surgery, Cardiology, and Emergency Department duties, Venizeleio General Hospital of Heraklion
Rural Medical Service	06/12/2001	06/12/2002	Rural General Practitioner, Regional Medical Office of Metaxochori, Harakas Health Center
General Surgery Residency, General Hospital of Athens “G. Gennimatas”	24/02/2003	24/11/2006	Resident in General Surgery
Pediatric Surgery Residency, Penteli Children’s General Hospital	30/01/2007	17/12/2007	Resident in Pediatric Surgery
Pediatric Surgery Residency, University General Hospital of Heraklion (PAGNI)	20/12/2007	09/06/2011	Resident in Pediatric Surgery
Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU), PAGNI	10/06/2011	26/03/2014	Fellow in Pediatric Intensive Care Medicine
Department of Pediatric Surgery, PAGNI	13/08/2014	30/07/2017	Consultant Pediatric Surgeon (Auxiliary Consultant, NHS Greece)

Institution	From	To	Position / Duties
Department of Pediatric Surgery, Chania General Hospital	31/07/2017	07/10/2021	Consultant Pediatric Surgeon (Senior Consultant, NHS Greece)
Private Practice & Scientific Associate, “Asklipieion” Private Clinic of Crete	25/08/2023	30/12/2023	Private Pediatric Surgeon
Mediterranean Hospital of Cyprus, Limassol, Cyprus	01/01/2024	15/11/2024	Pediatric Surgeon (Consultant)
School of Medicine, University of Crete – Department of Pediatric Surgery, PAGNI	08/10/2021	Present	Assistant Professor of Pediatric Surgery, School of Medicine, University of Crete (Government Gazette No. 2204/21-09-2021, Series C); Director, Department of Pediatric Surgery, PAGNI

POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION

Emergency Prehospital Medicine (EPM) — 2009

I successfully completed the postgraduate training program in *Emergency Prehospital Medicine (EPM)* at the **National Emergency Aid Center (EKAV)**.

Established under Law 2345/12-09-1995 (Government Gazette 213/12-10-1995, Series A), the program aims to train physicians capable of rapidly and effectively managing acute medical emergencies regardless of etiology and ensuring the safe transfer of patients to appropriate healthcare facilities. The program emphasizes advanced clinical decision-making and life-saving interventions in time-critical settings.

Duration: one year.

MSc in Bioethics — 2010

I successfully completed the *Interdepartmental Master's Program in Bioethics*, jointly organized by the Departments of **Medicine, Biology, Philosophy, and Social Sciences**.

The program focuses on the critical ethical evaluation of biomedical innovations and biotechnological applications, addressing moral, legal, and social issues arising in contemporary medical practice.

Duration: two years.

Certificate in Pedagogical Training (EPPAIK) — 2012

Higher School of Pedagogical and Technological Education (ASPAITE)

The program provided theoretical and applied training in **Pedagogy, Didactics, and Psychology**, as well as foundational education in the natural sciences, with emphasis on teaching methodology and educational practice.

Duration: one year.

Instructor Certification in Pediatric Life Support — 2014

Certified Instructor in Basic and Advanced Life Support for Infants and Children (PLS – APLS).

Currently serving as **Secretary of the Board of Directors, APLS Crete**.

APLS Crete is the official representative of the **Advanced Life Support Group (UK)**, delivering training through interactive educational methods in the initial management of life-threatening conditions and trauma, as well as prevention and treatment of cardiopulmonary arrest in infants and children.

MSc in Emergency and Intensive Care in Children, Adolescents and Young Adults — 2018

The program aims to advance knowledge and research in contemporary issues of pediatric and adolescent emergency and intensive care. Training includes research methodology, bioethical and legal aspects, structured management of life-threatening conditions, current emergency medicine strategies, ICU guidelines, and related fields such as surgery, pathophysiology,

genetics, epidemiology, imaging, immunology, and infectious diseases.

Duration: two years.

Good Clinical Practice (GCP) Certification

Certified in **Good Clinical Practice (GCP)**, ensuring compliance with ethical and scientific standards in clinical research involving human subjects, safeguarding participants' rights, safety, and well-being, and ensuring data integrity and reliability.

NAEMT Certified Instructor – Emergency Pediatric Care (EPC) — From 2023

Certified instructor of the **Emergency Pediatric Care (EPC) Course**, developed by the **National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT)**.

NAEMT is a US-based organization providing internationally recognized training programs (EPC, PHTLS, AMLS) aimed at improving the quality of prehospital and emergency care, with a focus on the management of critically ill pediatric patients.

ADVANCED TRAINING IN ITALY

Advanced Training in Laparoscopic and Robotic Pediatric Surgery

School of Medicine, University of Naples "Federico II", Italy

07/06/2019 – 02/08/2019

During this period, I participated in all clinical activities of the Pediatric Surgery Department, including surgical procedures, outpatient clinics, on-call duties, and scientific meetings. I acquired advanced skills in laparoscopic pediatric surgery under the supervision of **Professor Ciro Esposito**, internationally recognized for his contribution to robotic and minimally invasive pediatric surgery.

Additional training was obtained in **Pediatric Urology**, as the department serves as a national referral center in Italy for pediatric urological disorders and pediatric oncology.

ADVANCED TRAINING IN SERBIA

Advanced Training in Neonatal and Pediatric Surgery

University Children's Hospital Belgrade, Serbia

29/06/2020 – 01/03/2021

I actively participated in all aspects of clinical practice, including surgeries, outpatient services, on-call duties, and academic meetings. I gained extensive experience in **neonatal surgery** as well as **open and laparoscopic pediatric surgery** under the supervision of **Professor Zoran Golubović**, internationally recognized for his contribution to neonatal and pediatric surgery.

The institution serves as a referral center for congenital and acquired neonatal and pediatric conditions across the Balkan region.

ADVANCED TRAINING IN ITALY

Advanced Training in Laparoscopic and Robotic Pediatric Surgery

School of Medicine, University of Naples “Federico II”, Italy

01/08/2024 – 30/09/2024

I undertook further advanced clinical training in minimally invasive pediatric and neonatal surgery, building upon prior expertise in laparoscopic and robotic surgical techniques.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

(Conferences – Seminars – Postgraduate Courses)**

Conference Attendance

Participation in:

- **45 international conferences**
- **200 national (Greek) conferences**

Educational Activities as a Trainee

1. **Emergency Pediatric Care (EPC)**
Course ID: PC-23-03225-04
Athens, 26–27 January 2023
Provider: EPC Italian Faculty (NAEMT)
2. **Advanced Course in Robotic Surgery in Pediatric Urology**
Naples, Italy, 11–12 July 2019
Provider: School of Medicine, University of Naples “Federico II”
3. **Basic Laparoscopic Surgery, Laparoscopic Suturing and Anastomosis Course**
Athens, 24–25 May 2019
Provider: Hellenic Surgical Society
4. **Advanced Pediatric Life Support (APLS) – Instructor Course**
Heraklion, 2017
Provider: Advanced Life Support Group (ALSG)
5. **Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS) – Instructor Provider (IP)**
Heraklion, 2014
Provider: Advanced Life Support Group (ALSG),
American College of Surgeons – Hellenic Chapter
6. **15th Postgraduate Training Program in Emergency Prehospital Medicine**
National Emergency Aid Center (EKAV), 2009
Provider: National Emergency Aid Center (EKAV),
Ministry of Health and Social Solidarity, Hellenic Republic
7. **Annual Pedagogical Training Program (EPPAIK)**
Certificate of Pedagogical and Teaching Competence
Heraklion, 2012
Provider: Higher School of Pedagogical and Technological Education (ASPAITE),
Hellenic Republic
8. **Pediatric Life Support (PLS)**
Basic Life Support and Defibrillation for Infants and Children
Heraklion, 2008
Provider: Advanced Life Support Group (ALSG)
9. **9th Annual Congress and Live Laparoscopic Workshop**
Turkey, 2007
Provider: British Association of Paediatric Endoscopic Surgeons (BAPES)

10. Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS)

Ioannina, 2007

Provider: Advanced Life Support Group (ALSG),
American College of Surgeons – Hellenic Chapter

11. Pediatric Trauma Life Support (PTLS)

Heraklion, 2007

Provider: Advanced Life Support Group (ALSG)

12. Professional Training Program: “Burns and Trauma”

Athens, 2006

Provider: Ministry of Health and Social Solidarity

13. Professional Training Program: “Pain Management”

Athens, 2004

Provider: Ministry of Health and Social Solidarity

14. Certificate in Practical Training in Ultrasonography

Heraklion, 2002

Provider: Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Crete

15. Certificate of Attendance, Emergency Medicine Department

University of Catania, Italy, 1998

Provider: University of Medicine and Surgery, Catania, Italy

SPECIALIZATION IN PEDIATRIC SURGERY

I initially trained for three years as a resident in General Surgery at the 1st Surgical Clinic of the General Hospital of Athens “G. Gennimatas” (Director: Prof. S. Koundourakis). During this period, I performed a substantial number of procedures across the full spectrum of general surgery.

Subsequently, I began my specialization in Pediatric Surgery. I trained at the General Children’s Hospital of Athens, Penteli (Director: Prof. G. Vaos) for approximately one year, followed by three years at the University Pediatric Surgery Clinic of the University General Hospital of Heraklion (Directors: Prof. G. Charisis, Prof. O. Zoras, Prof. Emmanouil Chrysos), with an additional six-month extension.

As a pediatric surgery resident, I actively participated in nearly all surgical procedures, diagnostic evaluations, and immediate clinical decision-making for pediatric patients. My tenure as a First Assistant for approximately three years was pivotal in the organization and operation of the clinic, providing me the opportunity to assume responsibilities as the resident in charge of all wards (26 beds) and to perform on-call duties actively more than ten days per month.

The Pediatric Surgery Clinic of the University General Hospital of Heraklion covered the entire region of Crete on a daily on-call basis, where I actively participated in over ten on-call shifts per month. During my residency, I participated in a significant number of elective and emergency pediatric surgical procedures (1,922 operations), performing 1,051 of these as the primary surgeon.

SPECIALIZATION IN PEDIATRIC INTENSIVE CARE

After obtaining my specialty, I served for 2 years and 9 months as a specialized physician in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) at the University General Hospital of Heraklion, where I subsequently earned the subspecialty title in Intensive Care.

During this period, I gained experience performing all required and advanced interventional procedures for critically ill children. I acquired the knowledge and skills to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation, mechanical ventilation, hemodynamic monitoring, emergency ultrasonography, renal replacement therapy, and plasmapheresis. I also gained substantial experience in managing emergency cases involving trauma, sepsis, respiratory failure, and circulatory failure, as well as applying PiCCO monitoring and current SCCM-recommended protocols.

ACADEMIC AND CLINICAL APPOINTMENTS

Positions Held:

- Assistant Consultant B' (Epikourikos Epimelitis B') – 3 years
- Consultant B' & Consultant A' ESY – 3 years at Chania General Hospital

- Assistant Professor of Pediatric Surgery, School of Medicine, University of Crete
- Director, Pediatric Surgery Clinic, University General Hospital of Heraklion

In these roles, I was responsible for the organization, admission, preparation, and postoperative follow-up of all patients. I actively and independently participated in outpatient clinics, day-long operations, and on-call shifts exceeding ten active duties per month.

The Pediatric Surgery Clinic I lead as a faculty member is the only one in southern Greece and manages all pediatric surgical cases for Crete and the southern Aegean. Since August 2014, I have participated in over 4,000 elective and emergency pediatric surgical procedures, performing more than 2,500 as the primary surgeon.

I have gained significant expertise in neonatal surgery, actively contributing to decision-making for both elective and emergency procedures, performing the majority of operations as the primary surgeon.

POSTGRADUATE TRAINING IN ITALY

(Refer to educational activities)

POSTGRADUATE TRAINING IN SERBIA

(Refer to educational activities)

TEACHING ACTIVITIES

Undergraduate Education

Teaching Experience at the Undergraduate Level – Medical Students, University of Crete

- **08/10/2021 – Present:** Course Director of *Neonatal Surgery* as a faculty member, appointed by the Surgical Department of the School of Medicine, University of Crete (Decision No. 16660/05/08/2021, Government Gazette 2204/21-09-2021/Issue Γ').
- **08/10/2021 – Present:** Course Director of *Pediatric Surgery* as a faculty member, appointed by the Surgical Department of the School of Medicine, University of Crete (Decision No. 16660/05/08/2021, Government Gazette 2204/21-09-2021/Issue Γ').
- Responsible for independent teaching of *Neonatal Surgery* to 8th-semester medical students, Academic Years 2015–2016 to 2019–2020 (University Fellow, School of Medicine, University of Crete).
- Participated in the weekly educational program of the Pediatric Surgery Clinic, University Hospital of Belgrade, 2020–2021.
- Participated in the weekly educational program of the Pediatric Surgery Clinic, University Hospital Federico II, Naples, Italy, 2019, 2024.
- **13/08/2014 – 30/07/2017:** As Consultant B' in Pediatric Surgery at the University General Hospital of Heraklion, I participated in lecture-based teaching for medical students and in clinical training within the Pediatric Surgery ward.
- Participated in the training of 5th-year medical students during elective clinical rotations, Academic Years 2014–2015, 2015–2016, 2016–2017.
- **10/06/2011 – 26/03/2014:** During my specialization in Pediatric Intensive Care, I actively contributed to theoretical and practical training of medical students, performing basic and specialized procedures in critically ill children.
- **20/12/2007 – 09/06/2011:** Throughout my Pediatric Surgery residency at the University General Hospital of Heraklion, I participated in the training of medical students.

Postgraduate Education

Teaching Experience at the Postgraduate Level – Instructor Roles

- **2011 – Present:** Instructor (Secretary, Board Member, APLS Crete) in *Advanced Pediatric Life Support (APLS)* courses (3-day course, 2 courses per year).
- **2011 – Present:** Instructor (Secretary and Treasurer, Board Member, APLS Crete) in *Pediatric Life Support (PLS)* courses (1-day course, 3 courses per year).

As Secretary of the APLS board, I am responsible for coordinating the course program. APLS Crete is the official representative of the Advanced Life Support Group (United Kingdom). These courses provide interactive training in theoretical knowledge and practical skills for the initial management of life-threatening conditions or trauma and for the prevention and treatment of cardiopulmonary arrest in infants and children. Completion of APLS certification

is currently a prerequisite for pediatric specialty training in the USA, Israel, UK, Netherlands, Italy, Sweden, and for the recruitment of residents in hospitals.

- **2020 – Present:** As a faculty member, responsible for the organization of postgraduate courses at the Pediatric Surgery Clinic, Pediatric Clinic, and Neonatal ICU of the University General Hospital of Heraklion and the Pediatric Clinic – Neonatal ICU of Venizeleio General Hospital.
 - **2020–2021:** Participation in weekly educational programs at the Pediatric Surgery Clinic, University Hospital of Belgrade.
 - **2019, 2024:** Participation in weekly educational programs at the Pediatric Surgery Clinic, University Hospital Federico II, Naples, Italy.
 - **2017–2020:** Participation in the educational program of the Pediatric Surgery Clinic, Neonatal ICU, and Pediatric Clinic of Chania General Hospital, including case presentations and discussion of recent literature.
 - **2015–2017:** Participation in the educational program of the Pediatric Surgery Clinic, Neonatal ICU, Pediatric ICU, and Pediatric Clinic of the University General Hospital of Heraklion.
 - **2016–2017:** Responsible for teaching *Prevention of Surgical Infections* within the postgraduate program *Vaccinations and Infection Prevention* (Supervisor: Prof. Manolis Galanakis).
 - **2012–2014:** Participation in postgraduate Pediatric Intensive Care courses at the University General Hospital of Heraklion.
 - **2012–2013:** Teaching topics including *Disorders of Consciousness – Seizures, Initial Trauma Management – Traumatic Brain Injury, Acid-Base Balance – Drowning – Burns, Burn Management, Seizure Simulation* (Pediatric Emergency & Intensive Care).
 - **2007–2012:** Participation in postgraduate courses in Pediatric Surgery at the University General Hospital of Heraklion.
 - **2007:** Participation in postgraduate courses in Pediatric Surgery at the Children's Hospital of Penteli.
 - **2004–2006:** Participation in postgraduate courses in General Surgery at the General Hospital of Athens “G. Gennimatas”.
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Doctoral Thesis Supervision

As Primary Supervisor

1. Identification of SARS-CoV-2 in children and adolescents with acute appendicitis and its association with disease pathogenesis and severity.
 - Candidate: Sophia Barbagadaki (Consultant B', Pediatric Surgery, University General Hospital of Heraklion)
 - Co-supervisors: Prof. Georgios Sourvinos (Clinical Virology), Prof. Anastasios Koutsopoulos (Pathology)
 - Status: Ongoing

2. Laparoscopic Palomo Procedure with lymphatic preservation using indocyanine green fluorescence lymphangiography for the treatment of pediatric varicocele.
 - Candidate: Georgios Pantalos (Consultant B', Pediatric Surgery, Children's Hospital Penteli)
 - Co-supervisors: Assoc. Prof. Xenofontas Sinopidis (Pediatric Surgery), Assoc. Prof. Stylianos Roupakias (Pediatric Surgery, National & Kapodistrian University of Athens)

As Co-Supervisor

1. Investigation of the effectiveness and safety of laser treatment in pilonidal sinus in adolescents and children.
 - Candidate: Anastasia Vareli
 - Supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Xenofontas Sinopidis (Pediatric Surgery, University of Patras)
 - Co-supervisors: Prof. Emmanouil Blevrakis (Pediatric Surgery, University of Crete), Prof. Dimitra Gkentzi (Pediatric Surgery, University of Patras)
 - Status: Ongoing (Start date: 21/08/2025, University of Patras)

As Member of a Seven-Member Committee

- Study on the quality of life of children undergoing prosthetic implantation surgery and their families.
 - Doctoral Candidate: Zoe Chantzi, School of Medicine, University of Patras
 - Status: Completed

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

I am a certified researcher and hold a **GCP (Good Clinical Practice) certificate.**

(Good Clinical Practice (GCP) is an international ethical and scientific quality standard for designing, recording, and reporting trials involving human subjects. Compliance with this standard ensures that the rights, safety, and well-being of trial participants are protected, and that clinical trial data are credible and reliable.)

Research Projects – Principal Investigator

- **Academic Year 2014:** Principal Investigator for Project KA 2619 (EU Decision No. 431 – 20/06/2014), funded by the Special Account for Research Grants of the University of Crete. Project: “*Research Protocol on Pediatric ICU Patients with Sepsis and Trauma*”. Results have been published. (See Publications, pp. 34, 38)
- **Principal Investigator:** “*Impact of varicocele on biological markers of gonadal function*” (Published,)
- **Principal Investigator:**
 - “*Effects of varicocelectomy on gonadal function of adolescent males*”
 - “*Comparative Study of Conservative versus Surgical Management of Traumatic Solid Organ Injuries in Children*”Both studies are completed; publication of results is pending.
- **Active contributor** to published studies:
 1. “*Longitudinal changes of metabolic and bioenergetic patterns in critically ill children with sepsis compared to those with SIRS*” (Publications)
 2. “*Lipoprotein patterns related to neutrophil CD64-expression and metabolic indices in severe sepsis and non-infectious SIRS in children*” (Publications)
 3. “*Acute coagulopathy in children with multiple trauma*” (Publications)
 4. “*HDL and LDL blood levels are opposed to triglycerides and glucose in severe sepsis*” (Publications)
 5. “*Longitudinal changes in inflammatory response, innate immunity, bioenergetics, and metabolism in children with sepsis*” (Publications)
 6. “*Antibiotic therapy in surgically managed acute appendicitis*” (Publications)
 7. “*Intracellular (IHSPS) and extracellular (EHSPS) heat shock proteins and metabolic stress changes in response to severe sepsis*” (Publications)
 8. “*Changes and correlations of amino acids, NO₂/NO₃, ATP, and intracellular HSPs in severe sepsis and trauma in the ICU*” (Publications)
 9. “*Changes of CD64, cholesterol, and lipoproteins during the first 3 days of stress in children with trauma and severe sepsis*” (Publications)
 10. “*The role of blood inflammatory markers in the diagnosis of appendicitis in children: a prospective study from a University Hospital in Greece*” (Publications)
 11. “*Post-Traumatic Stress as a Psychological Effect of Mild Head Injuries in Children*” (Publications)
 12. “*Child abuse experience, training knowledge, and attitude of health care professionals in sixty hospitals in Greece*” (Publications)

13. “*Quality of Life of Adolescents and Young Adults After Testicular Prosthesis Surgery During Childhood: A Qualitative Study and Literature Review*”
 14. “*Balancing Between Negative Appendectomy and Complicated Appendicitis: A Persisting Reality Under the Rule of the Uncertainty Principle*”
 15. “*Quality of Life of Adolescents and Young Adults After Testicular Prosthesis Surgery During Childhood: A Qualitative Study and Literature Review*”
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Ongoing Research Protocols

1. **Protocol C3601008:** *A Phase 2a multicenter, observer-blinded, randomized 2-arm study to investigate pharmacokinetics, safety, tolerability, and efficacy of intravenous aztreonam-avibactam ± metronidazole compared to best available therapy (BAT) in pediatric participants 9 months to <18 years of age with serious gram-negative bacterial infections including complicated intra-abdominal infection* (Funding: Pfizer)
2. “*The role of ultrasonography in diagnosis and monitoring of children with acute appendicitis*” (Protocol No. 8516/7-6-2019, University General Hospital of Heraklion)
 - Study completed; results pending publication.
3. “*Identification of SARS-CoV-2 in children and adolescents with acute appendicitis and correlation with pathogenesis and disease severity*”
 - Ongoing study.
4. “*Investigation of effectiveness and safety of laser treatment in pilonidal sinus in adolescents and children*”
 - Ongoing study.

DOCTORAL DISSERTATION

Title: *Study of Serum Inhibin B Levels in Adolescents with Varicocele for Investigating Its Prognostic Value for Infertility*

The management of varicocele in adolescents remains controversial. A central issue is the identification of prognostic markers that could guide the decision for surgical intervention and determine the optimal timing for the procedure. Our study aimed to evaluate several biochemical parameters in adolescents with varicocele, correlating them to assess their potential usefulness. Long-term follow-up into adulthood could allow for more definitive identification of prognostic markers of testicular damage.

Based on literature and our findings, **Inhibin B** appears to be a useful diagnostic marker of testicular impairment due to varicocele, assisting in selecting patients for surgery to prevent infertility. Our results indicate that deterioration of testicular function in adolescents with varicocele is a progressive process requiring careful monitoring to detect early signs of dysfunction and prevent further damage. An increase in serum Inhibin B may indicate improvement in testicular function. Therefore, our study supports the notion that surgical correction of varicocele—which affects testicular volume and hormonal parameters—is appropriate and necessary to avoid future infertility. Early diagnosis and treatment of varicocele during adolescence may reduce infertility risk. The recognition of Inhibin B as a sensitive endocrine marker of spermatogenesis and Sertoli cell function, combined with recent advances in detecting its biologically active form, encourages its use for evaluating testicular damage and provides promising indications of its prognostic value in this patient population.

FULL PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS IN INTERNATIONAL INDEXED

JOURNALS (Cited Journals): 26

PUBLICATIONS IN NON-INDEXED JOURNALS: 24

**Director, Department of Pediatric Surgery, University Hospital of Heraklion (Pa.G.N.H.)
08/10/2021 – Present**

I have had the honor of directing the Department of Pediatric Surgery, the **only specialized pediatric surgery unit in southern Greece**, which is therefore responsible for managing all pediatric surgical cases from Crete and the South Aegean region.

Through my initiatives, the Pediatric Surgery Unit was **upgraded from a General Surgery Unit to a full Department of Pediatric Surgery**. This change was officially enacted by Government Gazette ΦΕΚ 2153/τ.Β'/03/04/2023, following Decision No. 6267/22/03/2023, establishing the Department of Pediatric Surgery within the Medical School of the University of Crete.