



Small Molecules (Original-Generics) and Biotechnological Drugs (Biosimilars)

Computational-Experimental, Scientific-Regulatory Advances in Drug Discovery,
Formulation Strategies, Drug Delivery, ADMET, PK-PD

1st International Congress of Controlled Release Society-Greek local chapter

May 27th-28th 2015

Aegli Zappiou Athens, Greece



Final Program

Welcome Message

Dear Colleagues,

From my position as Chairman of the **1st International CRS Congress**, which will be held in Athens on **27-28 May 2015**, it is my pleasure to welcome you all to Athens.

This congress program includes both small molecules (innovative drugs-generics) and biotechnological drugs-biosimilars in parallel sessions. The program on small molecules includes drug discovery and design, drug delivery and nanotechnology, pharmacokinetic-pharmacodynamic and pharmacogenomics studies for the rational therapeutic use of drugs.

In parallel, the recent developments in the basic research of biotechnologically produced macromolecules such as dynamic configuration of proteins, formulation of biotechnological molecules, proteomics, therapeutic targeting of biological pathways and biomarkers will be discussed; also, applied aspects of the clinical practice of biotechnological drugs like the interchangeability of biotechnological drugs and biosimilars, the optimization of therapeutic use of monoclonal antibodies in oncology and rheumatology along with the health economics of biotechnological medicines and biosimilars will be presented. Eminent world-wide scientists are listed among the confirmed speakers.

In order to guarantee the quality of future research and new practical applications, a dialogue between experienced colleagues, young scientists and professionals is be encouraged.

Emeritus Professor Panos Macheras



Chairman of the Congress

- ✦ ADMET Studies
- ✦ Analytical Sciences and Pharmaceutical Quality
 - ✦ Biosimilars
 - ✦ Biotechnological Drugs
 - ✦ Computational Studies
 - ✦ Drug Delivery
- ✦ Drug Design and Discovery
- ✦ Formulation Design and Pharmaceutical Technology
 - ✦ Natural Products
 - ✦ Pharmaceutical Biotechnology
- ✦ Pharmacoepidemiology and Health Technology Assessment
- ✦ Pharmacokinetics, Pharmacodynamics and Systems Pharmacology
 - ✦ Pharmacology
- ✦ Regulatory Sciences (including Dissolution/In vitro drug release, BCS and Biowaivers, BA/BE and Clinical Bridging Studies)
- ✦ Translational Research and Individualized Medicines

Co-chairs

Emeritus Professor Macheras Panos, University of Athens,
President of the CRS Chapter
Professor Karamanos Nikos, University of Patras

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Under the Auspices of



Scientific Program

27 MAY 2015

Olympia A

Drug Design and Discovery

Moderators: A. Tsantilli-Kakoulidou - E. Mikros

- 09.00-09.30 **Vasillis Roussis** "Bioactive natural products from marine macro- and micro-organisms"
- 09.30-10.00 **Maria Koufaki** "Bioinspired synthetic antioxidants"
- 10.00-10.30 **Theodora Calogeropoulou** "Antiparasitic constrained ether phospholipid derivatives with broad spectrum activity against trypanosomatidic infections"
- 10.30-11.00 **Meir Bialer** "New potential new anti-epileptic drugs for benzodiazepine resistant status epilepticus"

11.00-11.30 **Coffee Break**

PK-PD, Metabolism, Transporters

Moderators: S. Kyroudi - E. Karalis

- 11.30-12.00 **Ana Ruiz** "Quantitative pharmacology role in drug development"
- 12.00-12.30 **Hartmut Derendorf** "Applications of pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamics models for the development of antimicrobial agents"
- 12.30-13.00 **Athanasios Armakolas** "The role of the Ec peptide, a by-product of Ec domain in the IGF-1Ec transcript, in prostate cancer"

27 MAY 2015

Olympia A

- 13.00-13.30 **Imre Klebovich** "Interactions of drugs and pleasure-giving materials and their clinical relevance"
- 13.30-14.15 **Break**
- 14.15-15.00 **Poster Presentations**
Moderators: G. Valsami - L. Kalantzi
- 15.00-15.30 **Leslie Benet** "Transporter - Enzyme interplay in predicting drug absorption and disposition"
- 15.30-16.00 **Sophie Peigne** "Paediatric PK predictions and population analysis"
- 16.00-16.30 **Aris Dokoumetzides** "Extrapolation of drug efficacy to children based on mathematical modeling and literature data: The example of valacyclovir"
- 16.30-17.00 **Andrés Olivares** "Applications of mechanistic PBPK absorption models for controlled release formulations: Understanding the interplay between absorption and first pass metabolism in the distal GI tract"
- 17.00-17.30 **Panos Macheras** "Milk as a medium for paediatric formulations: experimental findings and regulatory aspects"
- 17.30-18.00 **Opening Ceremony - Honorable Recognition from GR5 to Dimitris Pentafragas**
- 18.00 **Welcome Reception**

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Olympia B

Biotechnological Drugs: Biological, Chemical, Pharmaceutical Aspects

Moderators: S. Antimisiaris - G. Panayiotou

- 09.00-09.30 **Sophia Antimisiaris** "Advanced drug delivery systems for small molecules and biotechnological drugs: differences and similarities"
- 09.30-10.00 **George Spyroulias** "NMR insights into the conformational dynamics and interaction of biomolecules with therapeutic interest"
- 10.00-10.30 **Christos Panagiotidis** "Strategies for improved folding and refolding of recombinant proteins"
- 10.30-11.00 **Martina Samiotaki** "Advances in pharmacoproteomics"
- 11.00-11.30 **Coffee Break**
Moderators: D. Sanoudou - M. Samiotaki
- 11.30-12.00 **Evi Lianidou** "Liquid biopsy: Following the tumor in peripheral blood"
- 12.00-12.30 **Eleni Douni** "Identification of small molecule inhibitors of RANKL as novel antiresorptive agents in osteoporosis"
- 12.30-13.00 **Maria Deni** "Next generation therapeutics targeting the TNF pathway"
- 13.00-13.30 **Antonia Vlachou** "Application of mass spectrometry in proteomic biomarker discovery"
- 13.30-14.15 **Break**
- 14.15-15.00 **Poster Presentations**
Moderators: Ch. Panagiotidis - E. Lianidou
- 15.00-15.30 **Georgia Sotiropoulou** "Novel animal models for validation of KLK5 protease as a drug target for skin overdesquamation/inflammatory diseases"

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Olympia B

- 15.30-16.00 **Despina Sanoudou** "Genomics approaches in novel therapeutic target identification and potential therapeutic compound assessment"
- 16.00-16.30 **Konstantinos Poulas** "Crystallization of proteins under the influence of microcurrents and electromagnetic fields"
- 16.30-17.00 **Gregory Sivolapenko** "Monoclonal anti-body conjugates"

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Olympia A

Drug Delivery - Nanotechnology

Moderators: N. Nicolletos - D. Psachoulis

- 09.00-09.30 **Panayiotis P. Constantinides** "Oral lipid-based formulations as enabling strategy in drug discovery and life cycle management"
- 09.30-10.00 **Dimitrios Fatouros** "Development and characterization of novel microparticles for nasal administration"
- 10.00-10.30 **Penelope Bouziotis** "Molecular platforms as probes for targeted dual-modality imaging"
- 10.30-11.00 **Costas Demetzos** "Nanosimilars: The scientific debate has just begun"
- 11.00-11.30 **Coffee Break**

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Olympia A

Moderators: M. Vlachou - M. Rallis

- 11.30-12.00 **Abeer Al- Ghananeem** "Eye on the future: transmucosal drug delivery as a promising avenue for breakthrough cancer therapy"
- 12.00-12.30 **Stavros Politis** "Development of a flexible hot melt pelletization process through the QbD approach"
- 12.30-13.00 **Makis Koutris** "Pharmaceutical technologies for sustained release parenteral depots (Long acting injectable) - applications"
- 13.00-13.30 **Maria Thanou** "Image guided drug delivery in tumours"
- 13.30-14.15 **Break**
- 14.15-15.00 **Poster Presentations**

Regulatory Science

Moderators: G. Digenis – D. Rekkas

- 15.00-15.30 **Vinod P. Shah** "Complex drugs"
- 15.30-16.00 **Gordon Amidon** "BCS and formulation optimization: implications for pediatric optimization"
- 16.00-16.30 **Maria Vertzoni** "Implementing luminal conditions into *in vitro* tools"
- 16.30-17.00 **Christos Reppas** "Predictive *in vitro* tests for locally acting oral medicinal products?"

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Olympia B

Biotechnological Drugs: Applied Science

Moderators: P. Macheras - A. Docoumetzides

- 09.00-09.30 **Nikos Karamanos** "Biotechnological drugs: Biosimilars"
- 09.30-10.00 **Laszlo Endrenyi** "Evaluation of the similarity and interchangeability of biological drug products"
- 10.00-10.30 **Dinesh De Alwis** "Optimal dosing for targeted therapies in oncology: a focus on monoclonal antibodies in clinical development"
- 10.30-11.00 **Panayiotis Vlachoyiannopoulos** "Adverse events and infections in patients with rheumatoid arthritis treated with conventional drugs or biologic agents: a real world study"
- 11.00-11.30 **Coffee Break**
- 11.30-12.00 **Spiros Nikas** "Biosimilars: A challenge for rheumatology"
With the support of Hellenic Rheumatology Society
- 12.00-12.30 **Kyriakos Souliotis** "Health economics: Biotechnological drugs and biosimilars"
- 12.30-13.00 **Nikolaos Kentepozidis** "New biotechnological agents for metastatic renal cancer treatment"
- 13.00-13.30 **Panagiota Economopoulou** "New era in molecular cancer treatment"





Poster Presentations

Πρωτοπορούμε

Είμαστε αθεράπευτα φιλόδοξοι.

Θέτουμε υψηλούς στόχους για νέες θεραπευτικές μεθόδους.

Δεσμευόμαστε να στηρίζουμε καθημερινά την ποιότητα ζωής των ασθενών, δημιουργώντας καινοτομίες που θα αλλάξουν το μέλλον της υγείας.

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Poster Presentations

PP01

SIBUTRAMINE IN SLIMMING DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS

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PP02

POPULATION PHARMACOKINETIC STUDY OF MYCOPHENOLIC ACID IN PATIENTS WITH LUPUS ERYTHEMATOSUS NEPHRITIS

E. Neroutsos, G. Valsami, A. Dokoumetzidis, E. Grika, P. Vlachoyannopoulos, P. Macheras
School of Pharmacy, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens, Greece

PP03

AN ACCOUNT OF MODIFIED RELEASE OF MELATONIN FROM SOLID PHARMACEUTICAL FORMULATIONS

I. Pareli¹, A. Zampakola¹, S. Konstantinidou²
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2. King's College London, London, U.K.

PP04

ANALYSIS OF PATIENTS' BELIEFS, OPINIONS AND ATTITUDES TOWARDS GENERIC DRUGS AND GENERIC SUBSTITUTION IN REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

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PP05

NOVEL ROLES OF HEPARIN NANO-FORMULATIONS IN MODULATION OF THE EXPRESSION OF MATRIX MACROMOLECULES, IMMUNE EFFECTORS AND APOPTOSIS IN AGGRESSIVE BREAST CANCER CELLS

Z. Piperigkou¹, K. Karamanou¹, K. Zioutou¹, A.M. Tsatsakis², M.S.G. Pavao³, N.K. Karamanos¹
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2. University of Crete, Heraklion, Crete, Greece
3. Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

PP06

INHIBITION OF EPIDERMAL- AND INSULIN- GROWTH FACTOR RECEPTORS DURING THEIR CROSS-TALK WITH ERs AFFECTS THE EXPRESSION AND DISTRIBUTION OF BREAST CANCER-ASSOCIATED HEPARAN SULFATE PROTEOGLYCANS

N. Afratis¹, D. Barbouri, S.S. Skandalis¹, A. Theocharis¹, N.K.Karamanos¹
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PP07

NOVEL Al18F-CHELATES-CONJUGATED MANNOSYLATED DEXTRANS AS SENTINEL NODE DETECTION AGENT FOR PET IMAGING

A. Lazopoulos¹, A. Segani¹, I. Pirmettis², T. Tsotakos², P. Kyprianidou², M. Nikoladou¹, M. Pelecanou³, M. Papadopoulos², P. Bouziotis², C. Tsoukalas¹
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3. Biosciences & Applications (IB-A), NCSR "Demokritos", A. Paraskevi, 15310, Greece.

PP08

ANTIBODY- DRUG CONJUGATES ARE ALREADY MARKETED: LESSONS LEARNED

A. Papachristos¹, N. Pippa², C. Demetzos^{2*}, G. Sivolapenko³
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PP09

TEMPERATURE-DEPENDENT DRUG RELEASE FROM INNOVATIVE POLYMER GRAFTED LIPOSOMES.

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PP10

HERBAL DRUGS WITH ANTIOXIDANT ACTIVITY IN CROATIAN ETHNOMEDICINE

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PP11

OPTIMIZATION OF CYCLODEXTRIN-ASSISTED EXTRACTION OF BIOACTIVE COMPOUNDS FROM MEDICAGO SATIVA L.

B. Fumic, S. Simic, J. Jablan, S. Inic, M. Jug, M. Zovko Koncic
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PP12

NOVEL INHALED MEDICINES FABRICATED USING NATURAL CELLULOSE NANOCARRIERS

K. Vandra¹, H. Chen¹, J. Cai¹, S. Baba Hamed², M.B. Baba. Hamed², S.M.E.A. Abi-ayad², S. A. Jones¹

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PP13

PHARMACOKINETIC STUDIES: IN VITRO AND IN SILICO APPROACHES

S. Cascone¹, G. Lamberti¹

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PP14

HYDROGEL-BASED CRSs ANALYSES: TESTING AND MODELING

D. Caccavo¹, S. Cascone¹, G. Lamberti¹, A.A. Barba¹

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PP15

PHARMACOKINETICS OF REMIFENTANIL: METABOLISM AND MODELING

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PP16

ENTERIC DOSAGE SYSTEMS BY ULTRASONIC ATOMIZATION OF NATURAL BIOPOLYMERS COUPLED TO POLYELECTROLYTE COMPLEXATION

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PP17

dsDNA ENCAPSULATING IN NANOLIPOSOMAL STRUCTURES TOWARDS GENE THERAPIES

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PP18

BIOACTIVE SMALL MOLECULES OF PISTACIA LENTISCUS L. (MASTIC TREE): LEAF STRUCTURE, HISTOCHEMISTRY AND PHYTOCHEMICAL INVESTIGATION

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PP19

INVESTIGATIONS ON THE MOST POISONOUS PLANT OF THE WORLD: LEAF STRUCTURE, HISTOCHEMISTRY AND BIOACTIVE INGREDIENTS OF RICINUS COMMUNIS L. (EUPHORBIACEAE)

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PP20

LEAF STRUCTURE, HISTOCHEMISTRY AND SCREENING FOR BIOACTIVE METABOLITES OF GLOBULARIA ALYPUM L. (GLOBULARIACEAE)

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PP21

INVESTIGATION OF THE INTERACTIONS OF SUMATRIPTAN WITH CYCLODEXTRINS THROUGH PHYSIOCHEMICAL TECHNIQUES AND COMPUTATIONAL METHODS

M. Paczkowska¹, A. Talaczynska¹, M. Mizera¹, K. Lewandowska², D. Szymanowska-Powatowska³, A. Krause⁴, J. Cielecka-Piontek¹

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PP22

EFFECTS OF SILVER NANOPARTICLES ON PLEURAL SODIUM TRANSPORT AND ON MIGRATORY AND ADHESIVE PROPERTIES OF PLEURAL MESOTHELIAL CELLS

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PP23

INFLUENCE OF HYDROLYZED COLLAGEN IN COMBINATION WITH OTHER ACTIVE INGREDIENTS AND BETA-ALANINE ON SKIN ELASTICITY & BODY MASS INDICES

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PP24

THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SOFTWARE SYSTEM FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF CHEMOTHERAPY FOR COLORECTAL CANCER: A PILOT STUDY

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PP025

THE INHIBITION OF EGFR & HER2 RECEPTORS MODULATES THE EXPRESSION & THE ACTIVITY OF THE CATALYTIC PROTEASOMAL SUBUNITS IN COLON CANCER CELLS

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PP26

PERIVASCULAR ADMINISTRATION OF ATORVASTATIN FROM A HYDROGEL/MICRO-PARTICLES FORMULATION DECREASES STENOSIS IN MICE CAROTID ARTERIES

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PP27

GREEK PLANTS: ANATOMY & SUBCELLULAR LOCALIZATION OF BIOACTIVE MOLECULES

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PP28

INFLUENCE OF MODIFIED CYCLODEXTRINS ON STABILITY AND APPARENT SOLUBILITY OF BENZOCAINE

P. Garbacki¹, M. Paczkowska¹, M. Mizera¹, W. Btaszczak², A. Talaczynska¹, P. Zalewski¹, D. Szymanowska-Powatowska³, J. Cielecka-Piontek¹

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PP29

DEVELOPMENT OF A POPPK MODEL FOR CLOPIDOGREL ACID METABOLITE IN PATIENTS WITH ACUTE CORONARY SYNDROME

K. Soulele¹, Eι. Christodoulou¹, E. Neroutsos¹, G. Valsami¹, A. Dokoumetzidis¹, A. Koniaris², F. Kolokathis², E. Iliodromitis², P. Macheras¹

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PP30

PHARMACOKINETICS OF CROCUS SATIVUS L. AQUEOUS EXTRACT AFTER PEROS AND INTRAVENOUS ADMINISTRATION TO C57/BL6J MICE

Eι. Christodoulou¹, Z.I. Kakazanis², N. Kostomitsopoulos², A. Dokoumetzidis¹, G. Valsami¹

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2. Biomedical Research Foundation, Academy of Athens, Greece

PP32

EVALUATION OF MICROPOROUS ZEOLITES BEA AND ZSM AS FORMULATION PLATFORMS FOR POORLY WATER SOLUBLE DRUGS

E. Kontogiannidou¹, C. Karavasili¹, G. Eleftheriadis¹, I. Kontopoulou², N. Bouropoulos², D.G. Fatouros¹

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2. University of Patras, Patras, Greece

PP33

IN VITROBUCCAL DRUG DELIVERY OF ROPINIROLE HYDROCHLORIDE IN THE PRESENCE OF PERMEATION ENHANCERS: THE EFFECT OF CHARGE

E. Kontogiannidou¹, D. A. Andreadis¹, A. Zografos¹, H. Nazar², S. M. van der Merwe³, D. G. Fatouros¹

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Speakers & Moderators List

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Gordon Amidon <i>The Charles R. Walgreen Jr. Professor of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences</i>	10	Eleni Douni <i>Assistant Professor, Laboratory of Genetics Department of Biotechnology, Agricultural University of Athens Associated Researcher, Biomedical Sciences Research Center "Alexander Fleming"</i>	8
Sophia Antimisiaris <i>B.Pharm, PhD. Dept. of Pharmacy, University of Patras, Greece</i>	8	Panagiota Economopoulou <i>Medical Oncology Fellow at 251 GNA</i>	11
Athanasios Armakolas <i>National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece</i>	6	Laszlo Endrenyi <i>Professor Emeritus Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto, Canada</i>	11
Leslie Benet <i>Professor, Department of Bioengineering & Therapeutic Sciences Schools of Pharmacy & Medicine University of California San Francisco, USA</i>	7	Dimitrios Fatouros <i>Assistant Professor Department of Pharmaceutical Technology, School of Pharmacy, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece</i>	9
Meir Bialer <i>Ph.D., M.B.A., Professor of Pharmacy Department of Pharmaceutics School of Pharmacy Faculty of Medicine Ein Karem The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel</i>	6	Lida Kalantzi <i>PhD, Product Evaluation Manager, Pharmathen</i>	7
Penelope Bouziotis <i>Radiochemical Studies Laboratory, Institute of Nuclear and Radiological Sciences and Technology, Energy and Safety, N.C.S.R. "Demokritos", Athens, Greece</i>	9	Evangelos Karalis <i>National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Athens, Greece</i>	6
Theodora Calogeropoulou <i>National Hellenic Research Foundation, Institute of Biology, Medicinal Chemistry and Biotechnology, Athens, Greece</i>	6	Nikos Karamanos <i>Professor of Biochemistry and Organic Biochemical Analysis, Dept. of Chemistry, University of Patras</i>	11
Panayiotis P. Constantinides <i>PhD, Biopharmaceutical & Drug Delivery Consulting, LLC, Gurnee, Illinois, USA</i>	9	Nikolaos Kentepozidis <i>Dr. Oncologist</i>	11
Dinesh De Alwis <i>Merck Sharp and Dohme, USA</i>	11	Imre Klebovich <i>Semmelweis University, Budapest, Hungary</i>	7
Costas Demetzos <i>Professor in Pharmaceutical Nanotechnology Dept. of Pharmaceutical Technology Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Athens, Greece</i>	9	Maria Koufaki <i>Institute of Biology, Medicinal Chemistry & Biotechnology, National Hellenic Research Foundation</i>	6
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Hartmut Derendorf <i>Professor, University of Florida</i>	6	Sofia Kyroudi <i>Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Athens, Greece</i>	6
George Digenis <i>Chief Scientific Officer US WorldMeds, LLC Emeritus Professor Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmaceutics College of Pharmacy University of Kentucky, USA</i>	10	Evi Lianidou <i>Professor of Analytical Chemistry - Clinical Chemistry, Laboratory of Analytical Chemistry, Dept of Chemistry, University of Athens</i>	8

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Rheumatologist, Musculoskeletal U/S Specialist, ERE Sp.Secretary

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George Panayiotou 8
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MSc, PhD, Research and Development officer, Unipharma S.A.

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Dimitris Rekkas 10
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Ana Ruiz 6
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General Information

Congress Secretariat

The Congress Secretariat is located at the foyer of **Olympia Halls** during the following days and hours.

Hours of Operation

Wednesday, May 27, 2015, 08:00 - 18:00

Thursday, May 28, 2015, 08:30 - 17:00

Conference Venue

Aegli Zappiou

Kipos Zappiou, Athens 105 57

Tel. 210-3369300, Fax. 210-3252952

web: www.aeglizappiou.gr

Lecture Halls

Lecture halls "OLYMPIA A" & "OLYMPIA B"

Congress material

Badges & Congress material can be provided by the Congress Secretariat which will be located at the **foyer of Olympia Halls**. The badges are absolutely necessary for the admission and access to the Congress halls.

Registrations

Registration Fees	Onsite
Participants	300€
Students	180€

Registration Fees include:

Admission to the Congress Sessions, Final program, Congress bag, Welcome reception, Coffee breaks, Certificate of attendance.

Internet access

Wireless Internet access is provided free of charge. Participants may use their own laptops. Access code will be available at the Congress Secretariat.

Lost & Found

For lost & found items, please contact the Congress Secretariat.

Certificate of Attendance

A Certificate of attendance will be available for all registered participants at the Congress Secretariat, on **Thursday May 28th**.

Official language

The Congress' official language is English. No interpretation will be provided.

Coffee Breaks

Coffee is offered to all registered participants according to the time schedule announced in the Program.

Important Dates

Congress dates: **May 27-28, 2015**

Opening Ceremony & Welcome Reception: **May 27th, 2015**

Social Events

Welcome Reception

The Welcome Reception will take place at the foyer of **Olympia Halls**.

Destination Information

The City of Athens

Athens - The city of mythology and modernity, the city of history and vision. Each year, more and more travelers are choosing Athens for their leisure and business travel all year round. There are several reasons; Athens offers a variety of things to see and do, and most of the times, under favorable weather conditions. Athens

is considered one of Europe's safest capitals; its transportation network is user-friendly; there are numerous museums and archeological sites and hundreds of restaurants to satisfy every taste.

Surrounded by a lining of stunning seas and mountains, Athens is filled with gems just waiting to be discovered. Located at the crossroads of three continents, the capital of Greece with an overall population of close to four million has often been the hub of many cultures. Characterized by a culture and people that are welcoming and hospitable, every visitor just feels at home. Athens takes the fuss out of sightseeing. Athens is an ideal congress destination, combining state-of-the-art infrastructure, excellent conference facilities and easy access from all over the world with world-class cultural attractions, modern amenities, diverse entertainment and natural beauty. In addition, most hotels in Athens underwent extensive renovation in preparation of the 2004 Olympic Games, a great benefit for contemporary visitors that can enjoy comfortable and stylish accommodation.

From the Airport: The airport is easily accessible from MAICC and the city centre via motorway, express bus or metro. An average journey by taxi from the airport to the city centre should take approximately 40-50 minutes, depending on traffic, costing around € 25-30. The express bus line X95 (direction "Syntagma") serves Athens city centre & MAICC. The metro line 3 runs every 10 minutes from the airport and the trip to "Megaro Mousikis" station takes approximately 30 minutes.

Travelling in & around Athens

The Athens public transportation network offers a wide variety of routes, combining many different means, namely the metro, railway, buses, trolley buses and trams. With a 1,40 € ticket anyone can move around using one or more means of transport within 1 hour and 30 minutes. Tickets are available at all metro and train stations as well as at the kiosks on the streets. Day or weekly tickets are also available offering public transport at a discounted rate. When travelling on the bus, metro, railway and tram, passengers are required to validate their tickets after purchasing them and before boarding (metro, tram) or on board (busses etc). The fine for a non-validated ticket in Athens is 40 times its value. The validation machines in the buses and trolley buses are orange boxes. On the metro, the boxes are in the station lobby and on the tram, there are beige boxes located on the platform and inside the car

Integrated Ticket: 1,40 € (valid for multiple trips on all public transport options, in urban zone - buses, trolleys, tram, metro, suburban railway-, in any direction for up to 90 minutes).

- One Way Ticket: **1.20 € (valid only on buses and trolleys for only one trip.)**
- Airport Express Bus Lines Ticket: **5 € (valid only for one trip from or to the airport)**

- Airport Metro And Suburban Railway Ticket: 8 € (valid only for one trip from or to the airport)
- Day ticket: 4 € (valid for all means of public transport for 24 hours)
- Weekly ticket: 14 € (valid for all means of public transport for 7 days)

Currency & Banking

Greece is a full member of the European Union since 1981 and its currency is the Euro (€). All major credit cards are widely accepted in Greece. ATMs and Exchange Offices are widely available.

Foreign currency may be exchanged to Euros at most Greek and foreign banks and at exchange bureaus located in the city centre. Travelers are kindly requested to bring their passport when exchanging money as they will need it for the transaction. Traveler's checks and credit cards issued by major companies are also widely recognized and an accepted means of purchasing items in Athens.

Banks are open to the public, Monday through Thursday 08:00 to 14:30 and Friday 08:00 to 14:00, except for public holidays. ATM's can be found almost everywhere.

Sightseeing

Athens takes the fuss of sightseeing. It is a user-friendly town thanks to the pleasant demeanor of the English speaking Athenians and the easy to use and manageable transportation system. The visitor can see a lot in one day. Archaeological Sites & Classical Greek, Byzantine & Ottoman Monuments, Museums, Art Galleries, street performances, festivals and many other attractions. Needless to say, the Acropolis remains a "must see"... There is a special ticket package at the price of € 12 with which the visitor can visit almost all archaeological sites within the Athens City Center, namely:

- The Acropolis of Athens (The Museum is not included)
- The Ancient Agora
- Kerameikos
- The North slope of Acropolis
- Olympeion
- The Roman Agora and
- The South Slope of Acropolis

This special ticket package can be bought at the entrance of each one of the above mentioned archaeological sites.

Shopping

Shopping in Athens can be a fascinating and satisfying experience for all. There are many well-known international name brand outlets and traditional Greek art and folklore shops. The visitor must make sure to stop in at least one of the many wonderful year-round outdoor cafes and restaurants in order to make his experience of shopping in the Athenian way, complete!

Shopping Hours:

Major outlets:

Monday - Friday, 09:00 to 21:00

Saturday, 09:00 to 18:00

Other Shops:

Monday, Wednesday & Saturday, 09:00 to 15:30

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, 09:00 to 20:30

Insurance & Liability

The Organizers accept no liability for any personal injury, loss or damage of property or additional expenses incurred to Conference participants either during the Conference or as result of delays, strikes or any other circumstances. Participants are requested to make their own arrangements with respect to health and travel insurance.

Electricity

The electricity current in Greece is **220v, 50Hz** and the socket type is European Standard.

Health

Public hospitals work on a rotation basis with regards to dealing with emergency incidents. To find out which hospitals are open for emergency incidents at a specific time, dial **14944**. Treatment in public hospitals is free of charge.

Restaurants

Restaurants and taverns are normally open for lunch from **12.30hrs** to **16.00hrs**, for dinner from **19.00hrs** to midnight. Fast food and Souvlaki shops usually serve food all day long, and some of them stay open till late at night. Cafes and Bars are open all day long until late at night.

Tipping

Tipping is not compulsory, but it is quite usual in Greece.

Mobile Phones

Please note that mobile phones must be switched off during all sessions.

Smoking Policy

Starting from **July 1st 2009** smoking is prohibited by the law at all indoor public areas in Greece.

Weather

The average daytime temperature in May can vary between **20°C** and **27°C**.

Emergency phone numbers

Ambulance	166
Fire Brigade	199
Hospitals	14944
Athens International Airport	210 3530000
Pharmacies on duty	14944
Poisoning Treatment Centre	210 7793777
Police	100
SOS Doctors	1016
Telephone Directory Service	11888
Tourist Police	71
European Emergency Number	112

Telecommunications

The international access code for Greece is +30 and for Athens 210. The outgoing code is 00 followed by the relevant country code.

Time

Greece is two hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time **GMT+2 Greece 12:00 - London 10:00 - New York 05:00 - Sydney 20:00**

Acknowledgement

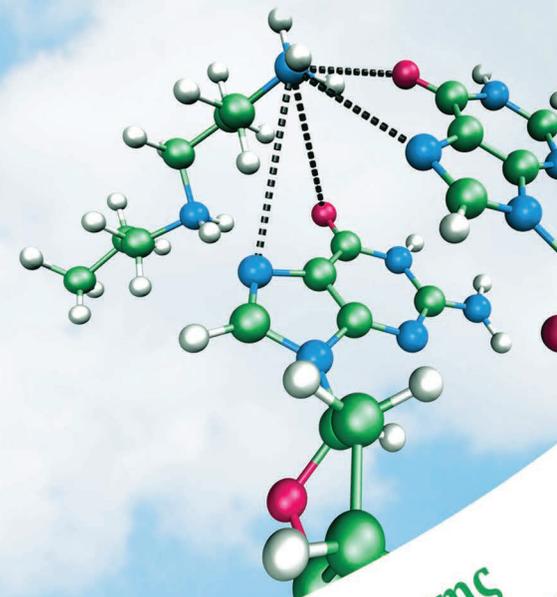
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