

# Constantina Koutsofti

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## EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS

Sept 2019- **Department of Biological Sciences, University of Cyprus**

To date **PhD Biomedical Sciences**

- Modules included: Human Molecular and Medical Genetics, Molecular Biotechnology
- Research project on inherited cardiomyopathies in Cyprus

Sept 2013- **Department of Biological Sciences, University of Cyprus**

June 2015 **MSc Biomedical Sciences**

- Modules included: Cancer Biology, Tumor Virology, Epigenetics, Nucleic Acids
- Research project on breast cancer resistance to drug Tamoxifen

Sept 2009- **Department of Biological Sciences, University of Cyprus**

June 2013 **BSc Biological Sciences**

- Modules included: Cell Biology, Molecular Biology, Microbiology, Biochemistry
- Research project on breast cancer resistance to drug Tamoxifen

Sept 2006- **Apostolos Marcos Lyceum, Nicosia, Cyprus**

June 2009 **Apolyterion**

- Advanced modules included: Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics
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## RESEARCH & LABORATORY EXPERIENCE

Sept 2019- **Molecular Medicine Research Center (MMRC), University of Cyprus**

To date **Researcher for the PhD research thesis (supervisor: Prof. Constantinos Deltas)**

- **Project subject:** Studying inherited cardiomyopathies in the Cypriot population
- **Techniques used:** Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS), Sanger Sequencing

July 2015- **Molecular Medicine Research Center (MMRC), University of Cyprus**

To date **Special Scientist (supervisor: Prof. Constantinos Deltas)**

- Receiving patients' biological samples from nephrologists
- Extracting DNA from blood or saliva samples of patients and healthy volunteers
- Carrying out genetic techniques used for the diagnosis of kidney diseases, such as PCR, sanger sequencing, digestion with restriction enzymes and linkage analysis
- Processing biological samples & responsible to store them in the Biobank of MMRC

- Developing knowledge around the NGS process
- Involved in research projects focused on the genetic basis of nephropathies

June 2015- **The Cyprus Institute of Neurology and Genetics**

July 2015 **Placement at the Electron Microscopy and Molecular Pathology Department**

- Involved in genetic techniques used for the diagnosis of familial breast and colorectal cancer (e.g. PCR method and DNA sequencing)
- Developed knowledge around the biopsy specimen's diagnosis in the electron microscope and applications of mass spectrometry

June 2012- **Cancer biology and Chemoprevention laboratory, University of Cyprus**

June 2015 **Researcher for the undergraduate/postgraduate dissertation (supervisor: Prof. Andreas Constantinou)**

- **Research Project Title:** "The combination of 5-aza-2'-deoxycytidine and Genistein reverses Tamoxifen resistance in breast cancer cells"
- **Molecular techniques used:** Mammalian cell culture, real-time PCR, western blotting, immunofluorescence, MTT method, Annexin V/PI assay, FACS analysis, ChIP assay

June 2012- **Nicosia General Hospital, Cyprus**

July 2012 **Placement at the Hematology Laboratory**

- Participated in the daily activities of the Hematology Laboratory, including full blood count (FBC) and erythrocyte sedimentation rate (ESR)
- Developed knowledge around blood diseases, such as leukemia

May 2012- **Nicosia General Hospital, Cyprus**

June 2012 **Placement at the Histopathology Laboratory**

- Involved in various routine practices of the Histopathology Laboratory, including biopsy process, real-time PCR analysis, histochemistry and immunohistochemistry
- Responsibilities entailed the execution of biopsy process

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- Papazachariou L, Papagregoriou G, Hadjipanagi D, Demosthenous P, Voskarides K, **Koutsofti C**, Stylianou K, Ioannou P, Xydakis D, Tzanakis I, Papadaki A, Kallivretakis N, Nikolakakis N, Perysinaki G, Gale DP, Diamantopoulos A, Goudas P, Goumenos D, Soloukides A, Boletis I, Melexopoulou C, Georgaki E, Frysira E, Komianou F, Grekas D, Paliouras C, Alivanis P, Vergoulas G, Pierides A, Daphnis E, Deltas C. (2017) "Frequent COL4 mutations in familial microhematuria accompanied by later-onset Alport nephropathy due to focal segmental glomerulosclerosis", *Clinical Genetics*

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Assisted in the implementation of a laboratory technique called “Electrophoresis of Proteins in SDS-page” (under supervision of Dr Konstantinos Voskarides) for the students of Medical School of the University of Cyprus in March 2016 and 2017
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## ORAL & POSTER PRESENTATIONS

- Deltas C, Hadjipanagi D, **Koutsofti C**, Papagregoriou G, Attique Z, Tahir Jamil O, Said Wali H, AlFarsi H. “Familial Hematuric Nephropathies”. International Biobanking Conference 2019, 25-27 March 2019, Doha, Qatar (Oral and poster presentation)
  - **Koutsofti C**, Pitta CA, Constantinou AI. “The combination of 5-aza-2'-deoxycytidine and Genistein reverses Tamoxifen resistance in breast cancer cells”. “Research and Innovation: Research Activities of the Department of Biological Sciences of the University of Cyprus” conference, May 2015, Nicosia, Cyprus (Poster presentation)
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## CONFERENCES & SEMINARS

- Participated in the 2019 International Workshop for Alport Syndrome, 22-24 October 2019, Siena, Italy
  - Represented the MMRC of the University of Cyprus at the Researchers' Night of the Cyprus Research Promotion Foundation, September 2016 & 2019, Nicosia, Cyprus
  - Participated in the seminar called “Genetics, Inheritance and Innovative Therapies for children for cancer and leukaemia” organised by the Elpida Foundation, February 2018, Nicosia, Cyprus
  - Participated in the 6th International Conference of the Cyprus Society of Human Genetics, November 2017, Nicosia, Cyprus
  - Represented the MMRC at the Mediterranean Science Festival, December 2015, Limassol, Cyprus
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## HONORS & AWARDS

- Awarded with the third national prize for my postgraduate research at the competition “Master Students in Research 2014-2015” of the Cyprus Research Promotion Foundation in December 2015
  - Awarded by the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences of the University of Cyprus for my research and academic performance (highest overall mark) in the MSc programme in June 2015
  - Awarded as the high school student with the highest-grade point average in 2007 and 2009
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## ADDITIONAL COURSES

- Attended an online course called “Stem cells and Regenerative Medicine” of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens from December 2018 to February 2019
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