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CURRENT JOB POSITION AND ORGANIZATION

Superior Medical Officer, Administrator, Nicosia Thalassaemia Centre, Archbishop Makarios III Hospital

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

I am a clinician and the Superior Medical Officer/Administrator of the Nicosia Thalassaemia Centre at the Archbishop Makarios III Hospital. I have extensive experience, for 26 years, in the clinical management of haemoglobinopathies. I oversee all aspects of care for patients with β -thalassaemia, haemoglobin H disease, and heterozygous and homozygous individuals bearing variant haemoglobins. I participate in a number of research projects. My main research interest include chelation therapy, gene therapy for thalassaemia, genotype/phenotype correlations, treatment of osteoporosis. Education activities include training and teaching to medical students and other health professionals in the field of haemoglobinopathies.

EDUCATION

- Doctor of Medicine, 1980-1987
- Professional Training, Nicosia General Hospital, 1988-1989
- Training and specialization in General Medicine, 2004

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Nicosia Thalassaemia Centre, Nov. 1990-present
- Medical Check up Centre, Sept. 1990-Nov. 1990
- Arodafnousa Cancer Clinic, April, 1990-August 1990

RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS

- Hb Famagusta-analysis of a novel δ -globin chain variant [HBD:c.60C>A] in four families with diverse globin genotypes. *Ann Hematol.* 2014 Sep;93(9):1625-7. doi: 10.1007/s00277-013-1996-6. Epub 2014 Jan 23. No abstract available
- The effectiveness of an ACT protocol for improving well-being and medication adherence in Thalassaemia patients. In J.J. Arch (chair), *Psychologists in Medicine: Applying core Act principles to meet the needs of the diverse medical populations.* Paper presented at the 49th Conference of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Chicago, IL, USA.
- KLF10 gene expression is associated with high fetal hemoglobin levels and with response to hydroxyurea treatment in β -hemoglobinopathy patients. *Pharmacogenomics.* 2012 Oct;13(13):1487-500. doi: 10.2217/pgs.12.125
- Growth hormone and adrenal response to intramuscular glucagon test and its relationship to IGF-1 production and left ventricular ejection fraction in adult B-thalassaemia major patients. *PediatrEndocrinol Rev.* 2011 Mar;8 Suppl 2:290-4
- Compounds of the anthracycline family of antibiotics elevate human gamma-globin expression both in erythroid cultures and in a transgenic mouse model. *Blood Cells Mol Dis.* 2010 Mar-Apr;44(2):100-6. doi: 10.1016/j.bcmd.2009.10.008. Epub 2009 Nov 14
- Compounds of the anthracycline family of antibiotics elevate human gamma-globin expression both in erythroid cultures and in a transgenic mouse model. *Blood Cells Mol Dis.* 2010 Mar-Apr;44(2):100-6. Epub 2009 Nov 14.

- An electronic infrastructure for research and treatment of the thalassaemias and other hemoglobinopathies: the Euro-mediterranean ITHANET project. Hemoglobin. 2009;33(3):163-76.PMID: 19657830
- Improved survival in thalassaemia major patients on switching from desferrioxamine to combined chelation therapy with desferrioxamine and deferiprone. Haematologica. 2009 Dec;94(12):1777-8. Epub 2009 Oct 8.
- Effect of bisphosphonate treatment on bone mineral density in patients with thalassaemia major. PediatrEndocrinol Rev. 2008 Oct;6Suppl 1:144-8
- Gender differences in the prevalence and severity of bone disease in thalassaemia. PediatrEndocrinol Rev. 2008 Oct;6Suppl 1:116-22

RELEVANT PROJECTS

- DEferiprone Evaluation in Paediatrics (DEEP) Fp7-Haelth-2010, Collaborator
- THALAssaemiaMODularStratificationSystemforpersonalizedtherapy of beta-thalassaemia 2012 – 2016, Funded by FP7-HEALTH-2012-INNOVATION-1, Collaborator
- Advancing gene therapy vectors for thalassaemia 2012 – 2014. Funded by the RPF, Collaborator
- Genotype / phenotype correlation studies for HbH disease patients and all β -thalassaemia patients in Cyprus 2012-2014. Funded by the RPF, Collaborator.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

A. Collaborating member on the ENERCA project.

B. I participated as a speaker in several Medical Symposiums about Thalassaemia organised by the Pancyprian Antianaemia Association, dealing with issues like:

1. Port-a-cath usage in Thalassaemia.
2. Birth in Thalassaemia.
3. Osteoporosis in Thalassaemia.
4. Reactions during transfusions.
5. Medication in Thalassaemia.
6. Marking of the effectiveness of therapy with SQUID. Liver biopsy.
7. Compliance with the treatment

I have participated as a speaker in many Scientific Workshops organised by the International Thalassaemia Federation in collaboration with the Cypriot Ministry of Health and the International Health Organisation.

Medical announcements in international and in local medical conferences:

1. Cardiac arrhythmias detected by 24-hour holder monitoring in patients with Thalassaemia Major and their correlation to LV function and ferritin levels (4th International Conference on non-invasive cardiology, October 10 -15 1999 Nicosia-Cyprus)
2. Growth and Development in Thalassaemia (5th International Conference on Thalassaemias and the Haemoglobinopathies, 29/3 - 3/4 1993, Nicosia - Cyprus)
3. Rapid desensitization for Desferrioxamine Systemic Adverse Effects (5th International Conference on Thalassaemias and the Haemoglobinopathies, 29 March - 3 April 1993 Nicosia - Cyprus)
4. Fertility in Female Thalassaemics (6th International Conference on Thalassaemias and the Haemoglobinopathies, April 5 -10, 1997, St Paul's Bay - Malta)
5. Malfunction of the autonomous nervous system of the heart in anaemic patients (14th annual 'Hippocratic' conference, 24-25 of April 1999, Nicosia - Cyprus)

6. Fertility in Female Patients with Thalassaemia (26th Pan-Hellenic Endocrinal Conference, 18 - 21 of March 1999, Athens - Greece). This project was awarded with the George Kalaintzoglou prize in 1999.
7. Anti-cardiolipin antibodies in Cypriot Thalassaemia Patients. (7th International Conference on Thalassaemia and the Haemoglobinopathies, Bangkok - Thailand, 31 May - 4 June 1999)
8. Cardiac Autonomy Dysfunction in Patients with Thalassaemia Major. (7th International Conference on Thalassaemia and the Haemoglobinopathies, Bangkok- Thailand, 31 May - 4 June 1999)
9. Transfusion-Transmitted Hepatitis Viruses in Pregnancy. (7th International Conference on Thalassaemia and the Haemoglobinopathies, Bangkok - Thailand, 31 May - 4 June 1999)
10. Investigation of the Parameters Predictive of Progression and Clinical Response to Anti-viral treatment in Thalassaemia Major patients with chronic infection by Hepatitis C (7th International Conference on Thalassaemia and the Haemoglobinopathies, Bangkok - Thailand, 31 May - 4 June 1999)
11. Gonadal Function in women with beta-Thalassaemia in Cyprus (8th International Conference on Thalassaemia and the Haemoglobinopathies, Athens - Greece, 18 - 21 October 2001)
12. Survival of beta-Thalassaemia patients in Cyprus. (9th International Conference on Thalassaemia and the Haemoglobinopathies, Palermo - Italy 15 - 19 October 2003)
13. Improvement in Cardiac function using combination Chelation therapy. (9th International Conference on Thalassaemia and the Haemoglobinopathies, Palermo - Italy 15 - 19 October 2003)
14. Cytokine genotyping of the Cyprus Thalassaemia Patients. (9th International Conference on Thalassaemia and the Haemoglobinopathies, Palermo - Italy 15 - 19 October 2003)
15. Therapy of patients with β thalassaemia with Deferiprone/Desferrioxamine combination. 15 Pan-Hellenic Hematological Conference, 24-28 November 2004, Athens, Greece.
16. "Cardiac Monitoring during pregnancy in women with thalassaemia major", 12th International Conference on Thalassaemia and the Haemoglobinopathies 14th TIF International Conference for Patients and Parents 11-14 May 2011 Antalya, Turkey
17. "An Electronic Health Care record software for beta-Thalassaemia, The Cypriot Experience" 12th International Conference on Thalassaemia and the Haemoglobinopathies 14th TIF International Conference for Patients and Parents 11-14 May 2011 Antalya, Turkey
18. Vitamin D levels correlate with iron load and glycemic intolerance in thalassaemia, (13th International Conference on Thalassaemia & Hemoglobinopathies, 15th TIF International Conference for Patients and Parents (Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre, 20 - 23 October 2013)

19. Evaluation of thyroid ultrasound as a screening tool in patients with Thalassaemia, (13th International Conference on Thalassaemia & Hemoglobinopathies, 15th TIF International Conference for Patients and Parents (Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre, 20 - 23 October 2013))

20. Assessment of non-invasive markers in the multiple etiology of liver disease in patients with thalassaemia, (13th International Conference on Thalassaemia & Hemoglobinopathies, 15th TIF International Conference for Patients and Parents (Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre, 20 - 23 October 2013))

21. 'Reactions in blood transfusion in Thalassaemia'

Conference on development haemovigilance system in Cyprus, organized by the Cyprus Ministry of 30 November 2011

Presentations in international conferences:

1. '1st Bicomunal Conference on Thalassaemia' with an issue titled 'Oral Chelator ICL-670'

2. "β Thalassaemia in Cyprus: a successful story"

18th Congress Union of Arab Pediatric Societies (6-8 October 2011)

3. Doctor/Patient Relationship in Chronic Conditions, 3rd Pan-European Conference on Haemoglobinopathies & Rare Anaemias, Limassol, 24 – 26 October 2012

4. Heart and Chelation (13th International Conference on Thalassaemia & Hemoglobinopathies, (Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre, 20 - 23 October 2013))