



SHORT CURRICULUM VITAE

*Prof. Konstantinos-Simos Simopoulos, MD, PhD,
PhD(Hon), Academician (c.m)*

Personal Information

Date of Birth: January 5, 1952 – Athens, Greece

Citizenship: Greek

Current Position: Professor Emeritus of Surgery, Democritus University of Thrace (DUTH)

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Education

- MD in Medicine, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (1970–1976), summa cum laude

- Residency in General Surgery, University of Athens, 2nd Surgical Department (1976–1980)

- PhD in Experimental Surgery, University of Athens (1980), summa cum laude (Dissertation:

“Changes in gastric secretion and cyclic adenosine monophosphate (c-AMP) of the gastric mucosa following choledochojejunostomy.”

- Habilitation in Surgery, University of Athens (1986): “The dual action of the vagus nerve on gastrin release”

Postgraduate Training

-Specialized training in **Laparoscopic Surgery** at **King’s College, University of London** (Prof. I. Benjamin, Consultant J. Rennie)and Charite Hospital Berlin (Prof.Wolf)

Earlier postgraduate training:

- **1984:** Gastrointestinal Surgery, University of Strasbourg (Profs. L. Hollender and J. Grennier).
- **1985:** Hepato-Biliary-Pancreatic Surgery, London (Profs. John Dawson and E. Howard, King’s College; L. Blumgart, Hammersmith Hospital; K. Hobbs, Royal Free Hospital).

Academic and Professional Appointments

- **Professor of Surgery, DUTH** (1996–2019) – Senior-most Professor of Surgery in Greece since 2010

- Associate Professor of Surgery, DUTH (1989–1996)

- Assistant Professor of Surgery, DUTH (1985–1989)

- **Director, 2nd University Surgical Department, University General Hospital of Alexandroupolis** (1988–2019), performing thousands of surgical procedures across the spectrum of gastrointestinal and general surgery

- **Director, Laboratory of Experimental Surgery & Surgical Research, DUTH** (1986–2019), overseeing major experimental programs.

- Visiting Professor at **Aarhus University** (Prof. Boné) and **University of Copenhagen** (Prof. Poulsen)

-Visiting Professor at **Humboldt University, Charité Hospital** (Prof. Wolf)

-Visiting Professor, **Department of Surgery, Medical University of Plovdiv** (Prof. G. Pascalev, Rector), with lectures and collaboration over several years (since 1995). Awarded **Honorary Doctorate** by the Medical University of Plovdiv

-Visiting Professor, **Department of Surgery, University of Belgrade** (Prof. M. Milicevich)

-Visiting Professor, **Yerevan Medical University, Armenia**

-Visiting Professor, **University of Tashkent, Uzbekistan**

-Visiting Professor, **Yale University, USA**

Administrative Leadership

- **Rector, Democritus University of Thrace – 3 terms (1997–2000, 2000–2003, 2006–2010)- longest-serving Rector in Greece.**

A sustained and demanding effort that resulted in:

- a. The expansion of the University
- b. The establishment of a new campus in Orestiada
- c. The creation of nine (9) new departments, two of which are unique in Greece («Molecular Biology–Genetics» and «Black Sea Studies»)
- d. A significant increase in student enrollment
- e. Substantial growth in the number of active postgraduate programs
- f. A strengthened contribution to the society of Thrace

-Oversaw the transformation of DUTH from a medium-sized institution with 7,500 undergraduates and one postgraduate program into the **third largest university in Greece**, enrolling over 23,000 students across 23 postgraduate programs.

-Directed the **expansion from 11 to 20 Departments** and the establishment of a **new campus in Orestiada** (1999).

-Supervised major **infrastructure growth**, with educational facilities across Xanthi, Komotini, and Alexandroupolis increasing from 64,634 m² (1997) to 258,120 m² (2007), including the **University Hospital (84,000 m²)** as the base of the Medical School.

-Strengthened the University's **presence across four cities in Thrace**, enhancing its academic and social contribution to the region.

-Recognized DUTH as the **largest driver of regional development in Thrace** (Rectorial-term reports available online).

-Chair, Medical School, Democritus University of Thrace (1989–1991, subsequent terms)

- Established a **fully functioning Medical School** with **155 elected faculty members (D.E.P.)**, overseeing the development of **clinics across all major specialties and laboratories/subspecialties** (Cardiac, Thoracic, Neurosurgery, Pediatric Surgery, ENT, Plastic Surgery, Vascular Surgery, etc.). (*See DUTH Medical School Internal Evaluation, 2009*).
- Played a **decisive role in site selection (Dragana)** for the Medical School and University Hospital during the first term (1989–1991).
- Collaborated with the **Ministry of Education (Minister Prof. K. Despotopoulos)** and the **Ministry of Health (Minister Prof. G. Merikas)** to contribute decisively to the **founding of the University Hospital of Alexandroupolis**.

-Presidency of the 36th and 57th Conferences of Rectors (Alexandroupolis 2000; Komotini 2008) and participation of DUTH (by the Rector and/or Vice-Rector) in committees that set the agenda for **Higher Education** at the **Ministry of Education** and in the **legislative work** of the relevant committees of the **Hellenic Parliament**

- Founder and Director of MSc Programs:

- Hepato-Biliary-Pancreatic Surgery (2004–2019)
- Bioethics (2015–2019) – introduced bioethics as a compulsory undergraduate course for the first time in Greece
- Education in Surgical Sciences (2015–2019) – established the Laboratory of Virtual Reality Surgical Interventions

-Vice-President of the University Governing Council during its term of operation(2013-2015)

-1997: Founding Member, Balkan Universities Network.

1988–1989: Vice-President, Research Committee, DUTH.

2008–2010: Higher Education Expert, Educational Platform of ASEP

Member, Selection Board for Chief Surgeons, National Health System.
Alternate Member, Secondary Selection Committee for Chief Surgeons, Athens.
Member, Secondary Selection Committee for Chief Surgeons, Thessaloniki.

Research Contributions

Publications & Research Output

- **Journal Articles & Conference Papers**
 - Authored and published **362 international** and **60 Greek-language journal articles**.
 - Published **209 Greek** and **79 international conference papers**, included in the proceedings of national and international congresses.
 - Of the international articles, **340 have appeared in journals indexed in PubMed and Scopus**.
- **Google Scholar Profile:**
<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=pTM13I8AAAAJ&hl=el>
 - Currently records **>400 publications, >11,898 citations, h-index 53**.

In the experimental and surgical research unit the research group's work spans a wide spectrum of collaborations and protocols, particularly linked with the MSc Program "Hepato-Biliary-Pancreatic Surgery" (HBPS), launched in 2004 as the first clinical postgraduate program in Greece. A substantial part of the program is conducted at the Laboratory and, in recent years, at the Biomedical Research Foundation of the Academy of Athens, with the participation of leading Greek and international scholars.

Research and training focus on:

1. Hepatocyte allotransplantation and immunosuppression
2. Study of apoptosis and necrosis markers in cancer tissues
3. Inflammatory diseases and administration of antioxidants
4. Hepatic ischemia-reperfusion (I/R) injury and antioxidant interventions
5. Experimental models of acute pancreatitis
6. Drug and antioxidant effects on hepatocellular carcinoma cell lines
7. Endoscopic and minimally invasive surgical techniques (including pioneering studies in Endoscopic Transgastric Surgery)

The protocols aim to clarify tissue injury, apoptosis, necrosis, and autophagy at both local and systemic levels, with the ultimate goal of translating findings into prospective clinical applications.

Editorial & Authorship Contributions

- **Edited Greek editions (in collaboration) of major international surgical textbooks:**
 - *Hamilton Bailey – Clinical Signs in Surgery* (Ed. J. S. P. Lumley), Paschalidis Publishers, 2010.
 - *Sabiston – Textbook of Surgery*, Paschalidis Publishers, 2004.
 - *Current Surgical Diagnosis & Treatment*, Paschalidis Publishers, 2007.
 - *Essentials of Emergency Surgery*, Parisianos Publishers, 2010.
- **Book Chapter (co-authored):**
 - “Cholelithiasis and Choledocholithiasis,” in *Advances in Obstructive Jaundice Diagnosis and Treatment* (Eds. M. J. McMahon, P. Scandalakis), Paschalidis Medical Books, 2007, pp. 75–81.
- **Edited Volume:**
 - *Book of Resolutions of the Conferences of the Rectors and Presidents of Greek Universities* (covering all resolutions from the inception of the Conference until 2008).
- **Books & Textbooks**
 - **Author of the book *Experimental Surgery & Surgical Research* (2019-Paschalidis – Broken Hill Publishers).**
 - **Author of six Greek textbooks and manuals, including:**
 - *Elements of Medical Statistics* (1987)
 - *Elements of Gastrointestinal Surgery* (1986)
 - *First Aid and Traumatology* (1988)
 - *Notes on Experimental Surgery and Surgical Research* (1991)
 - *Surgical Pathology* (1989)
 - *Biliary Tract Diseases* (1988)

Honors & Awards (National and International Distinctions)

1. **Academy of Athens Award, Division of Natural Sciences (2003)**
Study: “Circulating VEGF levels in the serum of gastric cancer patients: Correlation with pathological variables, patient survival, and tumor surgery.”
2. **Best Paper Award in Biology and Biomedicine** – International Conference of the World Scientific and Engineering Academy and Society on Computers
“A fuzzy model for non-linear segment-dependent equalization of radiographs used to detect intraperitoneal free air.”

3. **First Prize for Oral Presentation** – 7th Congress of the Surgical Society of Northern Greece
“Experimental investigation of the neo-angiogenic action of leptin.”
4. **Second Prize for Oral Presentation** – 7th Congress of the Surgical Society of Northern Greece
“Experimental study of surgical wound healing in mice after local administration of leptin.”
5. **“I. Ioannovits” Award** – Hellenic Society for Wound Healing and Ulcers
“Topical administration of leptin enhances angiogenesis in burns.”
6. **“G. Polykratis” Award** – Hellenic Society of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery
“The effect of leptin on the survival of random skin flaps.”
7. **Best Paper Award** – 14th Panhellenic Congress of Transplantation
“Evaluation of new immunosuppressive regimens and molecules in an experimental model of xenotransplantation of rabbit hepatocytes into rats with acute liver failure.”
8. **First Prize** – 1st Panhellenic Congress of the Hellenic Society of Digestive Surgery
“Serum leptin levels in patients with gastric and colorectal cancer: Correlation with nutritional parameters.”
9. **Honorary Distinction** – 23rd Panhellenic Congress of Surgery
“Serum leptin levels in patients with pancreatic cancer: Correlation with nutritional parameters.”
10. **Honorary Distinction** – 23rd Panhellenic Congress of Surgery
“The significance of serum epithelial cadherin levels in pancreatic cancer.”
11. **First Prize** – 19th Inter-University Congress of Radiology
“Unusual pathological conditions of the gallbladder: Correlation of radiological and macroscopic surgical findings.”
12. **Selection & republication** in *Medical Tribune Verlagsgesellschaft*
Paper: “Giant adrenal pseudocyst presenting with gastric outlet obstruction and hypertension.” (Urology 2002; 59(6):946).
13. **Selection & commentary inclusion** in *Year Book of Surgery 2003*
“Circulating VEGF levels in the serum of gastric cancer patients.” Ann Surg 2002; 236(1):37–42.
14. **First Prize** – 5th Panhellenic & 2nd Balkan Congress of Thoracic, Cardiac & Vascular Surgery (2004)
“Are low doses of the angiogenic factor bFGF sufficient to induce angiogenesis in infarcted rabbit myocardium?”
15. **Award for Research Announcement** – Hellenic Cardiological Society (2003)
“Effect of intramyocardial injection of angiogenic factors (VEGF and bFGF) in surgically induced heart ischemia in rabbits.”
16. **First Prize** – Hellenic Surgical Society
“Endotoxemia in the portal and systemic circulation during obstructive jaundice.” (1998)
17. **Second Prize** – 9th Congress of the Surgical Society of Northern Greece
“Administration of MESNA protects hepatocyte regenerative capacity after radiofrequency ablation of the liver combined with Pringle maneuver. Experimental study.”
18. **“Sotiris Papastamatis” Award** – Medical Society of Athens, 30th Panhellenic Medical Congress (2004)
Comparative study of the angiogenetic activity of free grafts in the repair of experimental urethral defects in rabbits.

19. **Stathatos First Prize** – 5th Panhellenic & 2nd Balkan Congress of Thoracic, Cardiac & Vascular Surgery (2004)
“Are low doses of the angiogenic factor bFGF effective to induce angiogenesis in the infarcted rabbit heart?”
20. **First Prize, Research Presentation** – 12th Congress of the Surgical Society of Northern Greece (2015)
“Experimental study of tissue damage and inflammatory response of residual hepatic parenchyma after hepatectomy with radiofrequency assistance.”
21. **Best Oral Presentation Award** – 13th Panhellenic Congress of Surgical Oncology (2015)
“Tissue damage and inflammatory response of hepatic parenchyma near the resection margin after partial hepatectomy with radiofrequency assistance: Experimental study.”
22. **Best Oral Scientific Presentation Award (Experimental Work)** – 30th Panhellenic Surgical Congress & International Surgical Forum (2016)
“Tissue damage and inflammatory response of proximal and distant organs after partial hepatectomy with radiofrequency assistance: Experimental study in pigs.”
23. **Second Prize, Best Oral Presentation** – 1st Panhellenic Congress of the Hellenic Society of Hepato-Biliary-Pancreatic Surgery (2017)
“Histopathological alterations and expression of adhesion molecules in lungs and kidneys after partial hepatectomy in rats: Laparoscopic versus open technique.”
24. **Best Paper Award** – 14th Panhellenic Congress of Transplantation (2005)
“Experimental Isolation and Xenotransplantation of Rabbit Hepatocytes into Rats with Liver Failure using Mycophenolate Mofetil as Immunosuppressive Therapy.” (€3000 award)
25. **Second Best Paper Award** – 29th Panhellenic Surgical Congress (2012)
“Expression of TNF α , MPO, and IL-6 in the lung in an experimental rat model of acute pancreatitis after apigenin administration.”
26. **Best Paper Award** – 5th Health Conference of Messinia (2013)
“Experimental Research in Acute Pancreatitis. The Role of Eugenol in Acute Pancreatitis-Induced Rat Model: MPO Expression and Histopathological Evaluation.”
27. **Second Prize for Best Oral Presentation** – 13th Congress of the Surgical Society of Northern Greece (2017)
“The effect of apigenin in an experimental model of acute pancreatitis: Evaluation of IL-6, IL-18, TNF- α , and HMGB1 expression.”
28. **Honorable Mention for Best International Publication** – 13th Congress of the Surgical Society of Northern Greece (2017)
“Immunohistochemical study of HMGB1, CD45, FAS, FASL in the liver in an experimental model of hepatic ischemia-reperfusion injury with silibinin administration.”

Additional distinctions:

- Honorary distinctions from Hellenic Societies in Plastic Surgery, Wound Healing, and Hepato-Biliary-Pancreatic Surgery.

Supervision of Theses & Dissertations

- **PhD Dissertations supervised:** 149 (**32 as principal supervisor**).
- **MSc Theses supervised:** >100 across multiple postgraduate programs.

Clinical Achievements

- **Pioneer in Laparoscopic Surgery in Greece** – introduced laparoscopic surgery at the University Hospital of Alexandroupolis (1990).
- Established and developed **advanced laparoscopic, vascular, thoracic, and renal surgical procedures** at the University Hospital of Alexandroupolis.
- **Introduced Single-Incision Laparoscopic Surgery (SILS) in Greece**, contributing to minimally invasive surgical innovation.
- Performed **thousands of surgical operations** across the full spectrum of gastrointestinal and general surgery, with a primary focus on **hepato-pancreato-biliary (HPB) surgery**.

Advisory, Leadership, and Bioethics Activities

- **Health and Medical Law Advisor** on malpractice and health law cases.
- **President**, Hellenic Society of Bioethics – <https://hsbioethics.org/en/>
- **Member**, Scientific Committee of the research based initiative *First Steps* – Newborn Genome Screening (bioethics focus).
- **Author**, Policy Study, EVETAM S.A. (Industrial Research, Technological Development, and Laboratory Testing, Certification and Quality SA).
- **Co-Founder**, MSc Program in *Ethics in Information Technology*, Ionian University, <https://msc-ethics.di.ionio.gr/>
- **Co-Coordinator**, Committee for the Development of the Personalized Informed Consent Form, Medical School – University of Athens (NKUA)
- **Co-Author**, forthcoming textbook *Ethics in Information Technology*
- **Honorary Distinction**, Hellenic Society of Hepato-Biliary-Pancreatic Surgery for contribution in HPB surgery
- **Research Collaborator**, Biomedical Research Foundation of the Academy of Athens since 2013
- **Appointed Member**, COVID-19 Special Committee, Hellenic Ministry of Justice since 2020
- **Chair**, Committee on Medical Devices, Hellenic Ministry of Health (in accordance with EU Regulations 745/2017 and 746/2017 on medical devices and in vitro diagnostic medical devices) since 2024

Awards and Honors

- **Corresponding Member**, Academy of Athens (since 2011).
- **Academy of Athens Award (2003)** for research.
- **Honorary Doctorate**, Medical University of Plovdiv, Bulgaria.
- Conferred the title **“Archon Aktouarios”** of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople, upon the recommendation of His All-Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew.
- **Honorary Citizen**, City of Orestiada, Evros.
- **Declared “Great Benefactor of Thrace” (2009)** by the Thracian Center of the Society for Thracian Studies.
- **Honorary Diploma with Gold Cross**, Holy Metropolis of Alexandroupolis and Samothrace
- **Honorary Diploma**, Holy Metropolis of Didymoteicho, Soufli, and Orestiada
- **Honorary Diploma**, Panhellenic Society for Medical Research
- **Honorary Diploma**, World Congress of Thracians
- **Member of the Board of Directors**, World Foundation of Thracians *“Panagia Kosmosotira”*(2004-2007)
- **Member of the Board of Directors**, Organization for the Promotion of Hellenic Culture , Ministry of Culture.