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I obtained my PhD in Medical Sciences in 2006 from Radboud University Medical Centre Nijmegen (the Netherlands) and was then awarded with an EMBO Long-Term Fellowships for postdoctoral research on TRP channels implication in physiopathology in Lille University (France) where I currently work as an Associate Professor since 2009. During my scientific career, I had the chance to explore different aspects of Life Sciences. I started in the Biophysics and Cancer Cell Biology field (University of Athens, Greece) during the end of my basic training and continued on Molecular Genetics and Molecular Endocrinology during my Master Degree (University of Montpellier, France). I then worked as Research Associate in clinics and was interested in Stem Cell Biology and Immunity (St Sawas Hospital, Athens, Greece) and changed in Cellular and Molecular Nephrology for my PhD (Radboud University Medical Centre Nijmegen, the Netherlands). Later I was interested in Nociception and Thermosensation Physiology and currently I am working in Cancer Biology and Pathophysiology in the University of Lille, France, where I am currently Associate Professor in Physiology. Since 2017 I was honored by the Institut Universitaire de France where I am currently junior member for 5 years.

I developed a long-standing expertise on TRP channels and their role in physiopathology that was described in 48 publications in high impact international journals such as J Cell Biol, Cancer Cell, Cell Rep, J Clin Invest, EMBO J and Cancer Research) and presented upon invitation in prestigious international meetings such as Gordon Conferences, SfN and European Physiology Societies meetings. I recently initiated a group with a novel research axis on TRP involvement in cell migration and angiogenesis during carcinogenesis that was evaluated as one of the two most promising axes of the Inserm U1003 by the French Evaluation Agency for Research and Higher Education. With this project, I participate in the French network of excellence (LabEx) on the topic of channelopathies in order to identify TRPs and their modulators as novel drug targets for therapeutic and diagnostic use.

Selected Publications

1. Bernardini M et al. **Cancers** (Basel). **2019** Jul 8;11(7). pii: E956. doi: 10.3390/cancers11070956.
2. Fiorio Pla A et al. **Neuroendocrinology. 2019** Jun 10. doi: 10.1159/000501397. Review.
3. Grolez GP et al. **Sci Rep. 2019** May 28;9(1):7926. doi: 10.1038/s41598-019-44452-4.
4. Abeele FV et al. **Genet Med. 2018** Jun 21. doi: 10.1038/s41436-018-0066-9.
5. Genova T et al. **J Cell Biol. 2017** Jul 3;216(7):2107-2130. doi: 10.1083/jcb.201506024.
6. Gkika D et al. **J Cell Biol. 2015** Jan 5;208(1):89-107. doi: 10.1083/jcb.201402076.
7. Fiorio Pla A et al. **BMC Cancer.** *2014* Dec 12;14:939. doi: 10.1186/1471-2407-14-939
8. Gkika D et al. **Cell Rep. 2013** Aug 15;4(3):504-15. doi: 10.1016/j.celrep.2013.07.002.
9. Gkika D et al. **Oncogene. 2010** Aug 12;29(32):4611-6. doi: 10.1038/onc.2010.210. Epub 2010 Jun 7.
10. Gkika D et al. **EMBO J. 2006** Oct 18;25(20):4707-16. Epub 2006 Sep 28. PubMed PMID: 17006539