



Vangelis Daskalopoulos

Vangelis was born in 1981 in Athens, Greece. He obtained his MPharm/Pharmacy degree with First Class Honours at the University of Brighton (UK) in 2005. He then completed his Pharmacy Pre-Registration, working for 12 months at the Darent Valley Hospital NHS Trust (Kent, UK), which led to his registration with the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

Following that, he developed a great interest in research and he returned to Greece to start a PhD thesis at the Pharmacology Department of the Medical School in the University of Ioannina (UOI). His PhD Thesis, with the title "Investigation of the role of the adrenergic and dopaminergic systems in the regulation of the cytochromes CYP3A1/2, CYP2C11 and CYP2D1/2", was defended successfully, receiving a mark "Excellent" in early 2012. In the meantime he accomplished his compulsory 12-month military service in the Hellenic Air Forces, serving as a Sergeant Pharmacist.

His genuine interest in cardiovascular diseases, led him to pursue a position as a Post-Doctoral Fellow at the Pharmacology Department of the Maastricht University. There, he received extensive experience in Heart Failure models and gained an insight in the role of Wnt/frizzled signaling in cardiac ischemia, as well as high-throughput methods to identify peptides with potential to serve as drug candidates. Furthermore, he initiated a collaboration with the Cardiovascular Research Institute in Greece (currently active as an External Collaborator), where his interests range from polymer applications following Myocardial Infarction, to the study of arrhythmogenesis.

Vangelis is currently working as a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow in the [Pôle de Recherche Cardiovasculaire of UCL](#), Brussels, supported by 3 prestigious Personal Grants. His interests focus on cardiac metabolism and the roles of glycogen, glycogen synthase and AMPK in the pathophysiology of cardiac ischemia and hypertrophy. Furthermore, he is involved in various projects and collaborations, while he is the echography platform's responsible person, providing hands-on experience, support and training.

Projects on which he is currently working:

- 1) The intricate roles of glycogen and glycogen synthase in the adaptation of the myocardium following permanent ischemia, I/R and hypertrophy in mice.
- 2) Investigation of the exact roles of cardiac fibroblast AMPK in cardiac remodeling following permanent MI in mice.
- 3) Studying of systemic sepsis in mouse models, and its consequences on cardiac function.
- 4) The involvement of AMPK as an essential factor in regulating cardiac hypertrophy via O-GlcNAcylation in mice.
- 5) Research on the utilization of MRI as a reliable method to measure fibrosis following hypertrophy in mice.
- 6) Effects of alginate polymers on cardiac remodeling and arrhythmogenesis following permanent ischemia in rats.