

Biographical Sketch

IRENE ATHANASSAKIS

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POST SECONDARY EDUCATION

1. GENERAL UNIVERSITY STUDIES DEGREE IN BIOLOGY (Diplome d' Etude Universitaire Generale, DEUG). Université Paris Val-de-Marne (Paris XII), Paris, FRANCE. (1977-1979)
2. LICENCE IN BIOCHEMISTRY. Université Pierre et Marie Curie (PARIS VI), Paris, FRANCE. (1979-1980)
3. MAITRISE IN BIOCHEMISTRY. Université Pierre et Marie Curie (PARIS VI), Paris, FRANCE. (1980-1982)
4. Ph.D. IN IMMUNOLOGY. University of ALBERTA, Medical School, Department of Immunology, Edmonton, Alberta, CANADA. (1983-1988)

RESEARCH/ACADEMIC ACTIVITY

2007- present: Full Professor in the Department of Biology, University of Crete, Heraklion, Crete, GREECE.

1997-2007: Associate Professor in the Department of Biology, University of Crete

1991-1997: Assistant Professor in the Department of Biology, University of Crete

1991-1993: Research Associate at the Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, Heraklion, Crete

1988-1990: Post-doctoral fellow in the Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, Heraklion, Crete

1983-1988: Ph.D. student in the Department of Immunology, U of A, Edmonton, Alberta, CANADA

1982 : Research Associate in the Department of Immunology, Villejuif, Paris, FRANCE

1981-1982: Research Associate at the immunological Laboratory of Broussais Hospital, Broussais Hospital, Paris

1979-1981: Research Assistant in the Laboratory of Renal Pathology, INSERM Unit 28, Broussais Hospital, Paris

1994-1999: Specific evaluator for BIOTECH EU grants.

1999- 2003: Specific evaluator for CORDIS EU grants.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITY

Sep 2019- : Director of the graduate program "Protein Biotechnology"

Oct 2011-July 2014: Vice-president of the Special Account for Research Resources

2008-2011: Member of the Special Account for Research Resources

2005-present: Member of the Steering Committee of graduate programs "Protein Biotechnology", "Plant Molecular Biology and Biotechnology" and "Bioethics"

2005-present: Member of the graduate programs "Molecular Biology and Biomedicine", "Protein Biotechnology", "Plant Molecular Biology and Biotechnology" and "Bioethics"

1995-2007: Member of the Undergraduate Steering Committee

1992-1995: Director of the "Electron Microscopy Laboratory"

1989-present: Responsible of the Animal House of the Department of Biology

MEMBER OF SOCIETIES

"Medical Alumni Association" (MAA), Canada, "Hellenic Association of Immunologists",

"International Society for Immunology of Reproduction", "European Society of Reproductive

Immunology", "Hellenic Society of Endometriosis", "Early Pregnancy Society".

JOURNAL REVIEWER

American Journal of Reproductive Immunology, Journal of Reproductive Immunology, Cancer

Research, Cancer Investigation, Journal of Biochemistry, Immunology, Leukocyte Biology, Placenta,

Cellular and Molecular Biology Letters, ISRN Immunology, PLOS, Biofabrication, Nanotechnology, Reproduction, Fertility and Development, Scandinavian Journal of Immunology, Advances in Stem Cells, Biochimie, Ethnopharmacology, General surgery.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Mechanisms of the antigen presentation process ** Soluble class II MHC molecules **
Tolerance/Suppression Mechanisms ** Leukemia ** Implantable vaccines ** Cancer vaccines ** Fetal allograft protection ** Sperm immunology ** Pre-implantation embryo imaging ** Pre-implantation embryo development

PUBLICATIONS

1. Wegmann, T.G., Rossant, J., Gambel, P., Hunziker, R., **Athanassakis, I.** The origin and nature of cells at the maternal-fetal interface. **Am. J. Reprod. Immunol.**, 6(2): 57-58, 1984.
2. **Athanassakis, I.**, Wegmann, T.G.. Immunostimulation and the Promotion of Fertility. In "Immunological Approach to Contraception and Promotion of Fertility", pp. 407-415. Talwar, G.P. (ed). Plenum Publ. Corp., N.Y., 1986.
3. **Athanassakis, I.**, Wegmann, T.G. The Immunotrophic Interaction between Maternal T Cells and Fetal Trophoblast/Macrophages during Gestation. In Proceedings of the 3rd Intl. Symposium on Reproductive Immunology. Clark, D.A., Croy, B.A. (eds). Elsevier, North Holland, Amsterdam, pp. 99-105, 1986.
4. **Athanassakis, I.**, Bleackley, R.C., Paetkau, V., Guilbert, L.J., Barr, P.J., Wegmann, T.G. The Immunostimulatory Effect of T Cells and the T cell Lymphokines on Murine Fetally-Derived Placental Cells. **J. Immunol.**, 138: 37-44, 1987.
5. Chaouat, G., Kolb, J., Chaffaux, S., Riviere, M., **Athanassakis, I.**, Green, D., Wegmann, T.G.. The Placenta and the Survival of the Fetal Allograft. In "Immunoregulation and Fetal Survival". Gill, T.J. III, Wegmann, T.G. (eds). Oxford Univ. Press, N.Y., pp 239-262, 1987.
6. Wegmann, T.G., **Athanassakis, I.**, Mogil, R., Chaouat, G.. Placental Immunotrophism: Maternal T Cells Contribute to the Growth and Survival of the Fetal Allograft. In "Proceedings, VI World Congress of Human Reproduction". Elsevier Sci. Publications, Amsterdam, 1988.
7. Chaouat, G., Menu, E., **Athanassakis, I.**, Wegmann, T.G. Maternal T Cells Regulate Placental Size and Fetal Survival. **Regional Immunol.**, 1:143-148, 1988.
8. **Athanassakis, I.** Role of T Cells and T Cell Products in Placental Proliferation and Function During Murine Pregnancy. **Ph.D. Thesis**, University of Alberta, Canada, Natl. Library of Canada- Ottawa, 1988.
9. Chaouat, G., Menu, E., Sadelain, M., **Athanassakis, I.**, Wegmann, T.G. Placental immunotropism – Maternal T-cells contribute to the growth and survival of the fetal allograft. **Am. J. Reprod. Immunol. Microbiol.**, 16: 70-71, 1988.
10. Wegmann, T.G., **Athanassakis, I.**, Guilbert, L.J., Branch, D., Dy, M., Chaouat, G. The Role of M-CSF and GM-CSF in Fostering Placental Growth, Fetal Growth and Fetal Survival. **Transplantation Proc.**, 21: 566-568, 1989.
11. **Athanassakis, I.***, Thanos, D., Papamatheakis, J.. Induction of Class II MHC Antigens on Murine Placental Cells by 5-Azacytidine and γ -Interferon Involves Different Cell Populations. **Eur. J. Immunol.**, 19: 2341-2348, 1989.
12. **Athanassakis, I.***, Chaouat, G., Wegmann, T.G. The Effects of anti-CD4 and anti-CD8 Antibody Treatment on Placental Growth and Function in Allogeneic and Syngeneic Murine Pregnancy. **Cell. Immunol.**, 129: 13-21, 1990.
13. **Athanassakis, I.***, Galanopoulos, V.K., Grigiriou, M., Papamatheakis, J. Induction of Class II MHC Antigen Expression on the Murine Placenta by 5-Azacytidine Correlates with Fetal Abortion. **Cell. Immunol.**, 128: 438-449, 1990.
14. Wegmann, T.G., **Athanassakis, I.**, Guilbert, L., Branch, D., Dy, M., Menu, E., Chaouat, G. Maternal T cell reactivity as a positive determinant of placental growth and fetal survival. In: Transplantation Disorders: Perinatal Detection, Treatment, and Management. R. Bellisario and G. Mizejewski, eds. Alan R. Liss, N.Y., pp. 69-76, 1990.
15. Guilbert, L.J., **Athanassakis, I.**, Branch, D.R., Christopherson, R., Crainie M., Garcia Lloret, M., Mogil, D., Morrish, R., Ramsoondar, M.J., Vassiliadis, S., Wegmann, T.G.. The Placenta as an Immune Endocrine Interface. Placental Cells as Targets for Lymphohematopoietic Cytokine

- Stimulation. In "The Molecular and Cellular Immunobiology of the Maternal Fetal Interface" Gill, T.J. III, Wegmann, T.G., and E. Nisbet-Brown (eds), Oxford Univ. Press, pp. 261-276, 1991.
16. **Athanassakis, I.***, Papamatheakis, J., Modulation of the Class II Negative State of the Murine Placenta Leads to Fetal Abortion. In Cellular and Molecular Biology of the Materno-Fetal Relationship Eds: G. Chaouat and J. Mowbray. **Colloque INSERM**, 212: 69-80, 1991.
 17. **Athanassakis, I.***, Vassiliadis, S., Papamatheakis, J. Common mechanisms govern the expression of p21ras and class II MHC antigens in the murine placenta. **J. Reprod. Immunol.**, 21 : 149-161, 1992.
 18. Vassiliadis, S., **Athanassakis, I.** Type II interferon may be a potential hazardous therapeutic agent during pregnancy. **Brit. J. Haematol.**, 82: 782-783, 1992.
 19. **Athanassakis, I.***, Papamatheakis, J., Vassiliadis, S. Specific CSF-1 binding on murine placental trophoblasts and macrophages serves as a link to placental growth. **J. Recept. Res.**, 13: 739-751, 1993.
 20. **Athanassakis, I.*** Lymphokine production by decidual cells in allogeneic and syngeneic murine pregnancy. **Cytokine**, 5(4): 354-361, 1993. . doi: 10.1016/1043-4666(93)90068-g
 21. Vassiliadis, S., Kypides, N., Stravopodis, D., **Athanassakis, I.**, Papamatheakis, J. Investigation of intracellular signals generated by γ -interferon and IL-4 leading to the induction of class II antigen expression. **Mediat. Inflamm.**, 2: 343-348, 1993.
 22. Vassiliadis, S., **Athanassakis, I.** Two novel CSF-1 properties: It post-transcriptionally inhibits IFN-specific induction of class II antigens and reduces the risk of fetal abortion. **Cytokine**, 6: 295-299, 1994.
 23. Vassiliadis, S., Tsoukatos, D., **Athanassakis, I.** Interferon-induced class II expression at a tissue-specific site on the murine placenta is linked to fetal rejection and developmental abnormalities. **Acta Physiol. Scand.**, 151: 485-495, 1994.
 24. Tsoukatos, D., Skarpelis, G., **Athanassakis, I.*** Placenta-specific growth factor production by splenic cells during pregnancy. **Placenta**, 15: 467-476, 1994.
 25. **Athanassakis, I.*** Analysis of the γ -IFN-induced signal transduction pathway in fetal rejection. **Mediat. Inflamm.**, 4: 209-216, 1995.
 26. Vassiliadis, S., Papadogiorgakis, S., **Athanassakis, I.** Specific nuclear binding of anti-cdc2 on p34cdc2 positive autonomously grown leukemia cells induces differentiation. **Leuk. Res.**, 19: 535-541, 1995.
 27. **Athanassakis, I.***, Aifantis, I., Makrygiannakis, A., Koumantakis, E., Vassiliadis, S. Placental tissue from human miscarriages expresses class II MHC antigens. **Am. J. Reprod. Immunol.**, 34: 281-287, 1995.
 28. **Athanassakis, I.***, Vassiliadis, S. Effect of IFN- γ administration in virgin and pregnant mice: Distribution of lymphoid and myeloid cells in the spleen. **Eur. Cytokine Netw.**, 6: 167-176, 1995.
 29. **Athanassakis I.*** Immunologic factors influencing the survival of fetal allograft. In: **Greek Immunology Association's Newsletters**, Vol. 22, pp. 19-24, 1996.
 30. **Athanassakis I.*** The role of immune system in recurrent abortion. In: **Training Seminars in Gynecologic Endocrinology**, pp. 61-66, 1996.
 31. **Athanassakis, I.***, Iconomidou, B. Cytokine production in the serum and spleen of mice from day 6 to 14 of gestation. **Dev. Immunol.**, 4: 247-255, 1996.
 32. Vassiliadis, S., **Athanassakis, I.** Adsorptive or by pit formation endocytosis of immunoglobulin without loss of function as potential biotherapeutical application. **Cancer Biother. Radiopharm.**, 11: 259-266, 1996.
 33. **Athanassakis, I.***, Aifantis, y., Ranella, A., Vassiliadis, S. Production of embryotoxic IgG antibodies during IFN- γ treatment of pregnant mice. **Am. J. Reprod. Immunol.**, 36: 111-117, 1996
 34. **Athanassakis I.*** Immunoregulation and pregnancy. In: **Immunology Seminars**; 15th cycle, pp. 94-98, 1997.
 35. Menu, E., B. & **The European Network for in utero Transmission of HIV**. Insights into the mechanisms of vertical transmission of HIV-1. BIOMED2 Working Group on the *in utero* transmission of HIV-1. **Early Pregnancy**, 3:245-58, 1997.
 36. Vassiliadis, S., Ranella, A., Papadimitriou, L., Makrygiannakis, A., **Athanassakis, I.** Serum levels of pro- and anti-inflammatory cytokines in non-pregnant women, during pregnancy, labour and abortion. **Med. Inflamm.**, 7: 69-72, 1998.
 37. Vassiliadis, S., **Athanassakis, I.** Preventive immunotherapy for high-risk aborters. **Rus. J. Immunol.**, 3: 46-52, 1998.

38. **Athanassakis, I.*** Protopapadakis, E., Vassiliadis, S. Analysis of the endocytic pathway upon intracellular transport of IgG molecules through Fc receptors. **J. Recept. Signal Transd. Res.**, 19: 143-154, 1999.
39. Vassiliadis, S., Dragiotis, V., Protopapadakis, E., **Athanassakis, I.**, Mitlianga, P., Konidaris, K., Papadopoulos, G.K. The destructive action of IL-1 α and IL-1 β in IDDM is a multistage process: Evidence and confirmation by apoptotic studies, induction of intermediates and electron microscopy. **Med. Inflamm.**, 8: 85-91, 1999.
40. **Athanassakis, I.***, Farmakiotis, V., Papadimitriou, L. Uterine cytokine production during the menstrual cycle and pre-implantation stages in mice. **Dev. Immunol.**, 7: 33-42, 1999.
41. **Athanassakis, I.***, Pafis, M., Ranella, A., Vassiliadis, S. Detection of soluble HLA-G levels in maternal serum can be predictive for a successful pregnancy. **Transplantation Proc.**, 31: 1834-1837, 1999.
42. **Athanassakis, I.*** Cytokine / hormonal production, responsiveness to growth factors and MHC inducibility of the murine trophoblast cell line TROPHO-1. **Trophoblast Res.**, 13: 55-67, 1999.
43. **Athanassakis, I.***, Aifantis, I., Ranella, A., Giouremou, K., Vassiliadis, S. Inhibition of nitric oxide production rescues LPS-induced fetal abortion in mice. **Nitric Oxide**, 3: 216-224, 1999.
44. **Athanassakis, I.***, Farmakiotis, V., Aifantis, Y., Gravanis, A., Vassiliadis, S. Expression of the corticotropin-releasing hormone in the mouse uterus: Participation in embryo implantation. **J. Endocrinology**, 163: 221-227, 1999.
45. **Athanassakis, I.***, Protopapadakis, E., Vassiliadis, S. Localisation of pepstatins's inhibitory action during Fc-mediated antibody internalisation: Possible implication in antibody-mediated viral transmission. **Cell. Immunol.**, 199: 81-88, 2000.
46. **Athanassakis, I.***, Papadimitriou, L., Bouris, G., Vassiliadis, S. IFN- γ induces trophoblast differentiation of ectoplacental cone cells **Dev. Comp. Immunol.**, 24:663-672, 2000.
47. Tscherning-Casper, C., & **The European Network for in utero Transmission of HIV**. Coreceptor usage of HIV isolates representing different genetic subtypes obtained from pregnant Cameroonian women. **J. AIDS**, 24: 1-9, 2000
48. Tscherning-Casper, C., & **The European Network for in utero Transmission of HIV**. Evidence of the existence of a new circulating recombinant form of HIV type 1 subtype A/J in Cameroon. **AIDS Res. Human Retrov.**, 16: 1313-1318, 2000.
49. **Athanassakis, I.***, Papadimitriou, L., Koumantakis, E., Vassiliadis, S. Th1- and Th2-type lymphokine-assisted induction and release of chemokine receptors from primary human trophoblast cells. **Human Immunol.**, 61: 651-657, 2000.
50. **Athanassakis, I.***, Aifantis, I., Baritakis, S., Farmakiotis, V., Koumantakis, E., Vassiliadis, S. Nitric oxide production by pre-implantation embryos in response to embryotoxic factors. **Cell. Physiol. Biochem.**, 10: 169-176, 2000.
51. **Athanassakis, I.***, Protopapadakis, E., Papadimitriou, L., Vassiliadis, S. Pepstatin A inhibits the rapid turnover of chemokine receptors on trophoblast cells: Application on HIV therapy. **Exp. AIDS Res.**, 5: 95-103, 2000.
52. **Athanassakis, I.***, Ranella, A., Vassiliadis, S. IFN - γ facilitates release of class II-loaded intracellular pools in trophoblast cells: A novel property independent of protein synthesis. **J. Interferon Cytok. Res.**, 20: 823-830, 2000.
53. **Athanassakis, I.***, Vassiliadis, S. Embryonic immune development and risks of HIV infection. **Nutr. Health**, 15: 197-205, 2001 (Review).
54. **Athanassakis, I.***, Papadimitriou, L., Vassiliadis, S. Murine ectoplacental cone-derived trophoblast cells express chemokine receptors. **J. Reprod. Immunol.**, 50: 105-119, 2001.
55. Matalliotakis, I., Vassiliadis, S., Goumenou, A., **Athanassakis, I.**, Koumantakis, G., Neonaki M., Koumantakis, E. Soluble ICAM-1 levels in the serum of endometriotic patients appear to be independent of medical treatment. **J. Reprod. Immunol.**, 51: 9-19, 2001.
56. Matalliotakis, I., **Athanassakis, I.**, Neonaki M., Goumenou, A., Vassiliadis, S., Koumantakis, E. The possible anti-inflammatory role of circulating human leukocyte antigen levels in women with endometriosis after treatment with danazol and leuporelin acetate depot. **Med. Inflamm.**, 10: 75-80, 2001.
57. Vassiliadis, S., Pafis, M., **Athanassakis, I.***. Serum-soluble HLA class I and class II levels as an alternative diagnostic test for determining immune indexes required for normal pregnancies. **Reprod. Fertil. Dev.**, 13: 427-433, 2001.

58. Matalliotakis, I., **Athanassakis, I.**, Goumenou, A., Vassiliadis, S., Neonaki M., Koumantakis, E. Corticotrophin releasing hormone (CRH) in endometriosis: The effect of danazol and leuporelin acetate depot treatments. **Inflammopharmacol.**, 9: 249-255, 2002.
59. **Athanassakis, I.**, Mouratidou, M., Sakka, P., Evangeliou, A.E., Spilioti, M., Vassiliadis, S. L-Carnitine modifies the humoral immune response in mice after *in vitro* and *in vivo* treatment. **Intl. Immunopharmacol.**, 1: 1813-1822, 2001.
60. **Athanassakis, I.***, Zarifi, J., Evangeliou, A., Spilioti, M., Vassiliadis, S. L-carnitine facilitates the *in vitro* regeneration of neuronal-network from adult murine brain cells. **Brain Res.**, 932: 70-78, 2002.
61. Vassiliadis, S., Balabanidou, V., Papadopoulos, G.K., **Athanassakis, I.** Localization and expression of CCR3 and CCR5 by IL-1 β in the RIN-5AH model of type I diabetes. **J. Pancreas**, 3: 66-75, 2002.
62. **Athanassakis, I.***, Vassiliadis, S. Interplay between T_{H1}/T_{H2} cytokines and soluble MHC molecules: A paradigm in pregnancy. **Immunology**, 107: 281-287, 2002 (**Review**).
63. **Athanassakis, I.***, Vassiliadis, S. T-regulatory cells: are we re-discovering T suppressors? **Immunology Lett.**, 84: 179-183, 2002 (**Review**).
64. Vassiliadis, S., Evangeliou, A., Basta, E., Dionyssopoulou, E., Dimitriou, H., Stiakaki, E., Kalmanti, M., **Athanassakis, I.** The role of L-Carnitine on a restricted number of myeloid leukemia progenitor cells: Generation of atypical cell types. **Haematologia** 32: 341-353, 2002.
65. Vassiliadis, S., Kalmanti, M., **Athanassakis, I.** Plasticity: Advantages over cloning and gene therapy. **Haematologia**, 32: 337-339, 2002 (**Editorial Commentary**).
66. Matalliotakis, I.M., Goumenou, A.G., Koumantakis G.E., Neonaki, M.A., Koumantakis, E.E., Dionyssopoulou, E., **Athanassakis, I.**, Vassiliadis, S. Serum concentrations of growth factors in women with endometriosis: The action of anti-endometriosis medicines. **Intl. Immunopharmacol.**, 3: 81-89, 2003.
67. Matalliotakis, I., Goumenou, A.G., Koumantakis, G.E., **Athanassakis, I.**, Dionyssopoulou, E., Neonaki, M.A., Vassiliadis, S. Expression of serum human leukocyte antigen (HLA) and growth factor (VEGF and EGF-Rc) levels in a Greek case of familial endometriosis. **J. Soc. Gynecol. Invest.**, 10: 118-121, 2003.
68. **Athanassakis, I.***, Dionyssopoulou, E., Papanikou, S., Evangeliou, A., Vassiliadis, S. Early Events of the Exogenously Provided L-Carnitine in Murine Macrophages, T- and B-Lymphocytes: Modulation of prostaglandin E1 and E2 production in response to arachidonic acid. **J. Nutr. Biochem.**, 14: 350-357, 2003.
69. Matalliotakis, I.M., Goumenou, A.G., Koumantakis G.E., Neonaki, M.A., Koumantakis, E.E., Dionyssopoulou, E., **Athanassakis, I.**, Vassiliadis, S. Increased soluble VEGF levels in endometriosis appears independent of clinical indices. **Intl. Immunopharmacol.**, 4: 159-160, 2004.
70. Ranella A., Vassiliadis S., Mastora C., Michailidou V., Dionyssopoulou E., **Athanassakis I.***. Constitutive intracellular expression of HLA-DO and HLA-DR but not HLA-DM in trophoblast cells. **Hum. Immunol.**, 66: 43-55, 2005.
71. Dionyssopoulou E., Vassiliadis S., Evangeliou A., Koumantakis E., **Athanassakis I.***. Constitutive or induced elevated levels of L-carnitine correlate with the cytokine and cellular profile of endometriosis. **J. Reprod. Immunol.**, 65: 159-170, 2005. (**NOMINATED FOR THE 7th ROYAN INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AWARD-Reproductive Biomedicine & Stem Cell**)
72. Vassiliadis S., Relakis K., Papageorgiou A., **Athanassakis I.***. Endometriosis and infertility: a multi-cytokine imbalance *versus* ovulation, fertilization and early embryo development. **Clinical Devel. Immunol.**, 12: 125-129, 2005 (**Review**).
73. Βασιλειάδη, Μ.Α., Θεοχάρη Α., Γεωργιακάκης Π., Μπούρα Β., **Αθανασάκη Ε.***, Κουζούπης Σ. Μεταφορά συναισθήματος μέσω εκπομπής ηχητικών μηνυμάτων στα ποντίκια. Ακουστική 2006, ΕΛ.ΙΝ.Α (Ελληνικό Ινστιτούτο Ακουστικής) pp 483-490.
74. Vassiliadis MA, Theochari C, Georgiakakis P, Boura B, **Athanassakis I**, Kouzoupis S. Emotion transfer through transmission of vocal messages in mice. *Proceedings of Institute of Acoustics*, 29, Pt.3.2007. pp 170-177.
75. Matalliotakis I.M, Vassiliadis S., Goumenou A.G., Fragouli Y., **Athanassakis I.** Suggested markers for the diagnosis of Endometriosis. **Curr. Wom. Health Rev.**, 4:25-28, 2008 (**Review**).
76. Vassiliadis S., **Athanassakis I.***. Recent knowledge and new pharmaceutical products in potential alleviation of endometriosis. **Recent Patents on Inflammation & Allergy Drug Discovery**, 2: 128-138, 2008 (**Review**).

77. Papadimitriou, L., Morianos, I., Michailidou, V., Dionyssopoulou, E., Vassiliadis, S., **Athanassakis, I.***. Characterization of intracellular HLA-DR, DM and DO profile in K562 and HL-60 leukemic cells. **Mol. Immunol.** 45: 3965–3973, 2008.
78. Kyvelidou, C., Chatzi, K., Semitekolou, M., Papathanassiou, X., Vassiliadis, S., **Athanassakis, I.** Characterization of CD25-positive T cells during syngeneic pregnancy: production of stimulatory class II MHC molecules. **Scand. J. Immunol.** 70: 584-595, 2009.
79. Sardis, M.F., Miltiadou, P., Bakela, K., **Athanassakis, I.*** Serum-derived MHC class II molecules: Potent regulators of the cellular and humoral immune response. **Immunobiol.** 215: 194-205, 2010. [doi:10.1016/j.imbio.2009.04.005](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.imbio.2009.04.005)
80. Daglas, M., Petoussi, V., Dionisiou G., **Athanassakis, I.** Do maternity hospital practices support Greek mothers' decision to breastfeed? **Clin. Exp. Obst. Gynecol.** 37: 43-48, 2010.
81. Neocleous A, Kouzoupis S, **Athanassakis I.** Categorization of the experimental mice ultrasonic vocalizations during the male-female intercourse. Proceedings of Institute of Acoustics, 29, Pt.3.2010.
82. Dionyssopoulou, E., Anagnostaki, E., Tselekidou, A., S. Vassiliadis, S., **Athanassakis, I.*** Establishment or aggravation of endometriosis by L-carnitine: the role of PGE1 and PGE2 in the endometriosis-induction process. In Endometriosis-Adenomyosis, Eds Matalliotakis, I.M., Arici, A. pp 144-162, 2011.
83. Vassiliadis, S., **Athanassakis, I.**, Matalliotakis I.M. The endometriotic stem cell and known immunological processes as stepping stones for the onset of endometriosis: a novel theory. In Endometriosis-Adenomyosis, Eds Matalliotakis, I.M., Arici, A. pp 116-143, 2011.
84. Vassiliadis, S., **Athanassakis, I.**, A “conditionally essential” nutrient, L-carnitine, as a primary suspect in endometriosis. **Fertil. Steril.** 95, No. 8, 2759-60, 2011.
85. Kyvelidou, C., Tserevelakis, J.G., Filippidis, G., Ranella, A., Neokleous, A., Fotakis, C., **Athanassakis, I.*** Following the course of pre-implantation embryo patterning by non-linear microscopy. **J. Struct. Biol.** 176, 379-386, 2011. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jsb.2011.09.007>
86. Vevis, C., Matheakakis, A., Kyvelidou, C., Bakela, K., **Athanassakis, I.*** Characterization of Antigen-binding and MHC class II-bearing T Cells with Suppressive Activity in Response to Tolerogenic Stimulus. **Immunobiology** 217: 100-110, 2012. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.imbio.2011.07.029>
87. Dionyssopoulou, E., Anagnostakis E, Tselikidou, S., **Athanassakis, I.*** Role of prostaglandin E2 in experimental L-carnitine-induced endometriosis-like inflammatory model. **J. Endometriosis** 4: 57-67, 2012.
88. Simon, S., **Athanassakis, I.**, Powrie, F., Montoya, M. Gender equality: is it real? **Eur. J. Immunol.** 42: 3095–3096, 2012.
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90. Papadimitriou, L., Zerva, I., Georgouli, M., Makatounakis, T., Papamatheakis, J., **Athanassakis I.*** DO α β^+ expression in favor of HLA-DR engagement in exosomes. **Immunobiology** 218: 1019-1025, 2013. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.imbio.2012.12.003>
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ABSTRACTS AND ORAL PRESENTATIONS

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101. *Athanassakis, I.* Non-linear microscopy for imaging pre-implantation embryo health. Photonics for Life, April 2011, Crete, Greece. (invited speaker)
102. Simitzi, Ch., Barberoglou, M., Ranella, A., Fotakis, C., *Athanassakis, I.*, Stratakis, E. "The effect of substrate roughness and chemistry on cell response" Photonics for Life, April 2011, Crete, Greece.
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108. Kalognomou, M., Athanassakis, I. Regulation of class II MHC antigen expression in microglia cells. European Congress of Immunology, September 5-8, 2012, Glasgow, Scotland.
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111. Athanassakis, I. Women in science through the Mediterranean temperament. European Congress of Immunology, September 5-8, 2012, Glasgow, Scotland. (invited speaker)
112. Neocleous, A., Kouzoupis, S., Athanassakis, I. "*Classification of Experimental Mice Ultrasonic Vocalizations Using Machine Learning Techniques*", 6th HELINA Conference, (Hellenic Institute of Acoustics), 8-10 Oct. 2012, Ionian University, Corfu, Greece.
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114. Simitzi, Ch., Ranella, A., Stratakis, E., Fotakis, C., Athanassakis, I. Material microstructuring with ultrashort laser: Study of the outgrowth and interfacing of neural networks in 3D implantable scaffolds. 3^d Tissue Engineering and Regenerating Medicine World Congress, 5-8 September, 2012, Vienna, Austria
115. Athanassakis, I. Evaluation of embryo quality using non-linear microscopy. Current Aspects of IVF, 3 November 2012, Athens, Greece. (invited speaker)
116. Bakela, K., Grigoriou M., Gizeli E., Athanassakis, I. Immunomodulation mediated by soluble MHC class II antigens, [63rd HSBMB conference, 9-11 November, FORTH, Heraklion Crete](#)
117. Georgouli, M., Athanassakis, I. Detection of intracellular and secreted MIF in leukemic cells – a novel player in the immune surveillance process. [63rd HSBMB conference, 9-11 November, FORTH, Heraklion Crete](#)
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120. Bakela K., Grigoriou M., Petroulakis P., Gizeli E., Athanassakis, I. Soluble MHC class II antigens could regulate an immune response. 10th International Conference on Immunosuppression and Immunotherapy in Barcelona, Spain, March 11-12, 2013.
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123. Zerva, I., Simitzi C., Ranella A., Stratakis E., Fotakis C., Athanassakis, I. 3-dimensional laser structured scaffolds improve macrophage adherence and antigen-specific response. ICTE2013, International Conference of Tissue Engineering, June 2013, Leiria. Portugal.

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130. Ranella A., Zerva, I., Simitzi C., Fotakis C., Stratakis E., Athanassakis I. 3D micro laser textured transplantable scaffolds improve macrophage adherence and antigen-specific response. E-MRS 2013 FALL MEETING September 16-20, Warsaw University of Technology.
131. Athanassakis I. Immune Cells and Cytokines in Implantation. ESRI SUMMER SCHOOL, 9-12 October, 2013, Kos Island Greece (invited speaker)
132. Athanassakis I. Reproduction process: Differences between mice and human. ESRI SUMMER SCHOOL, 9-12 October, 2013, Kos Island Greece (invited speaker)
133. Κυβελίδου, Χ., Τσερεβελάκης, Γ., Φιλιππίδης, Γ., Φωτάκης, Κ., Αθανασάκη Ε. Παρακολούθηση της ανάπτυξης εμβρύων προεμφυτευτικού σταδίου με μη-γραμμική μικροσκοπία. 1^ο Συνέδριο Ελληνικής Εταιρείας Ιατρών Υποβοηθούμενης Αναπαραγωγής. 22-24 Νοεμβρίου, 2013, Αθήνα
134. Αθανασάκη Ε. Βιοϋλικά και Ανοσιακό Σύστημα. 9^ο Πανελλήνιο Συνέδριο Ανοσολογίας, Δεκέμβριος 2013, Αθήνα. (invited speaker)
135. Μπακέλα Κ., Γρηγορίου Μ., Ανθούση Α., Πετρουλάκης Π., Γκιζελή Η., Αθανασάκη Ε. Ανοσολογική ρύθμιση μέσω διαλυτών ΜHC-II μορίων με στόχο CD4+ T-λεμφοκύτταρα. 9^ο Πανελλήνιο Συνέδριο Ανοσολογίας, Δεκέμβριος 2013, Αθήνα.
136. Athanassakis I., Anthousi, A., Bakela, K., Kyvelidou, C., Papadogianni, G., Sardis, M. Soluble MHC antigens isolated from syngeneically pregnant mice promote cellular immunity. 11th congress of the European Society for Immunology of Reproduction, 3-March-2April, 2014, Budapest, Hungary, J. Reprod. Immunol. 101-102, 24, 2014.
137. Vardaki, K., Kourletakis, S., Athanassakis, I. Analysis of class II antigen expression in human spermatozoa and cytokine levels in the seminal plasma. 11th congress of the European Society for Immunology of Reproduction, 3-March-2April, 2014, Budapest, Hungary, J. Reprod. Immunol. 101-102, 27, 2014.
138. Kyvelidou, C., Tserevelakis, J.G., Filippidis, G., Tsaglaraki, M., Tsouko, A., Fotakis, C., Athanassakis, I. L-carnitine alters lipid body content in pre-implantation embryos leading to infertility. 11th congress of the European Society for Immunology of Reproduction, 3-March-2April, 2014, Budapest, Hungary, J. Reprod. Immunol. 101-102, 38, 2014.
139. Athanassakis I. Introduction to animal ethics. Care and use of laboratory animals, Erasmus Summer School, May 2014, Heraklion (invited speaker)
140. Αθανασάκη Ε. Μοριακή βάση της επιλογής συντρόφου στην αναπαραγωγή. 2ο επιστημονικό συνέδριο της Ελληνικής Εταιρείας Αναπαραγωγικής Ιατρικής. Ιούνιος 12-15 2014, Θεσσαλονίκη (προσκεκλημένη ομιλήτρια)

141. Bakela, K., Grigoriou, M., Anthousi, A., Gizeli, E., **Athanassakis, I.** Immune regulation mediated by soluble MHC-II targeting CD4+ T-cells. 9th International Congress on Autoimmunity, Nice, March 26-30, 2014.
142. Bakela, K., Grigoriou, M., Gizeli, E., **Athanassakis, I.** Immune regulation mediated by soluble MHC-II targeting CD4+ T-cells. 7th Frontiers in Immunology Research Network (FIRN) Conference in Florence (2014)
143. Zerva, I., Simitzi C., Ranella A., Stratakis E., **Athanassakis I.** Biomaterial-induced inflammatory reaction upon *in vivo* implantation in mice. **E-MRS 2014 FALL MEETING**, Warsaw University of Technology.
144. Αθανασάκη Ε. Οδεύοντας προς την άρια φυλή: βιοηθικοί προβληματισμοί της προεμφυτευτικής γενετικής διάγνωσης. Ιπποκράτειο πνεύμα: Βιοηθικές προσεγγίσεις στην ανθρώπινη αναπαραγωγή. Αθήνα, 13 Δεκεμβρίου 2014. (προσκεκλημένη ομιλήτρια)
145. Αθανασάκη Ε. IVIg θεραπεία στις καθ' έξιν αποβολές. ΘΕΜΑΤΑ ΠΕΡΙΓΕΝΝΗΤΙΚΗΣ ΙΑΤΡΙΚΗΣ: ΣΥΝΕΡΓΑΣΙΑ ΚΛΙΝΙΚΩΝ ΙΑΤΡΩΝ –ΠΑΘΟΛΟΓΟΑΝΑΤΟΜΟΥ –ΓΕΝΕΤΙΣΤΗ, Αθήνα, 25 Απριλίου 2015. (προσκεκλημένη ομιλήτρια)
146. Αθανασάκη Ε. Ανοσολογία Σπέρματος. Ο ΑΝΔΡΙΚΟΣ ΠΑΡΑΓΩΝ ΣΤΗΝ ΥΠΟΓΟΝΙΜΟΤΗΤΑ & Ο ΡΟΛΟΣ ΤΟΥ ΣΤΗΝ ΕΞΩΣΩΜΑΤΙΚΗ ΓΟΝΙΜΟΠΟΙΗΣΗ. Αθήνα, 7 Νοεμβρίου 2015. (προσκεκλημένη ομιλήτρια)
147. K. Brintakis, A. Kostopoulou, M. Vasilakaki, K. N. Trohidou, A. Ranella, I. Athanassakis, M. Angelakeris, A. Lascialfari, A. P. Douvalis, A. Lappas. Maghemite Nanocrystal Clusters for MRI Diagnosis and Hyperthermia Medical Treatment. ICM 2015, July 5-10, Barcelona, Spain
148. Kyvelidou, C., Sotiriou, D., **Athanassakis, I.** Modulation of CD11b+Gr1+ MDSCs function by IgG and IgM. 4th European Congress of Immunology, September 6-9, 2015, Vienna
149. Katsoni, E., Zerva, I., Simitzi, C., Ranella, A., Stratakis, E., **Athanassakis, I.** Controllable mitogenic response by peptidoglycan-activated macrophages loaded on laser micro-structured Si scaffolds. 4th European Congress of Immunology, September 6-9, 2015, Vienna
150. Papadogianni, G., Giannaki, A., **Athanassakis, I.** Immune response repression by tolerant CD4-derived soluble MHC-II molecules. 4th European Congress of Immunology, September 6-9, 2015, Vienna.
151. Zerva, I., Simitzi, C., Stratakis, E., Ranella, A., **Athanassakis, I.** Transplantable immune modulation in response to autologous cancer cells. 4th European Congress of Immunology, September 6-9, 2015, Vienna
152. Drougkas, E., Dimitropoulos, C., **Athanassakis, I.** Immunostimulation of placental cells by Fcy fragments: Potential replacement of IVIg therapy in recurrent abortions. 4th European Congress of Immunology, September 6-9, 2015, Vienna.
153. Gavgiotaki, E., Filippidis, G., Psilodimitrakopoulos, S., Markomanolaki, H., Kalognomou, M., Agelaki, S., Georgoulas, V., **Athanassakis, I.** Third Harmonic Generation microscopy as a diagnostic tool for the investigation of microglia BV-2 and breast cancer cells activation. SPIE, 2015
154. Anyfantaki, A., **Athanassakis, I.**, Sachinidi F., Fraidakis, M., Bili X., Tsakoumi P., Koukaki E. Comparative study of embryo transfer success rates 4 and 5 days after PGD embryo diagnosis. 2d Hellenic Congress IVF, November 2015, Athens, Greece.
155. **Athanassakis I.** MHC evolution through embryo allorecognition. 30th European Immunogenetics and Histocompatibility Conference, 11-14 May 2016, Kos island, Greece (invited speaker)
156. Gavgiotaki, E., Filippidis, G., Psilodimitrakopoulos, S., Markomanolaki, H., Agelaki, S., Georgoulas, V., **Athanassakis, I.** Third Harmonic Generation microscopy as a diagnostic tool for the investigation of breast cancer cells activation. Clinical and translational oncology, November 17-20, 2016, Heraklion, Crete.
157. Gavgiotaki, E., Filippidis, G., Markomanolaki, H., Ke Nanakis, G., Agelaki, S., Georgoulas, V., **Athanassakis, I.** Breast cancer cell line discrimination by employing Third Harmonic Generation microscopy as a diagnostic tool. 2d Israel-Greece joint meeting on nanotechnology & bionanoscience. October 2016, Heraklion, Crete.
158. Gavgiotaki, E., Filippidis, G., Markomanolaki, H., Ke Nanakis, G., Agelaki, S., Georgoulas, V., **Athanassakis, I.** Breast cancer cell line discrimination by employing Third Harmonic Generation microscopy as a diagnostic tool. Nanomedicine- European Technology Platform ETPN2016, October 2016, Heraklion, Crete

159. Anyfantaki, A., Fraidakis, M., Sachouli E., Tsakoumi P., Koukaki E., Apostolaki, Z., **Athanassakis, I.** Effect of superovulation on Integrin $\alpha v \beta 3$ expression in mouse 2- and 4-cell embryos. 5th MSRM annual meeting, Thessaloniki, December 2016
160. **Athanassakis, I.** Molecular basis of partner choice in reproduction. Bioethical problems in life sciences. 9th annual congress, October 2016, Rethymnon, Crete, Greece
161. Lambrinidi, S., **Athanassakis, I.** Zoophilia, bestiality and bioethical animal status: thoughts and suggestions. 9th annual congress, October 2016, Rethymnon, Crete, Greece
162. **Athanassakis, I.** Molecular markers in mate choice. 18th Medical Congress, November 2016, Rethymnon, Crete, Greece
163. Bakela K., Dimakopoulou M., Batsou P., **Athanassakis I.** Soluble MHC-II are capable to modulate CD4⁺ activation and reduce autoantibody production in inducible in vitro SLE in Balb/c. 10th FRONTIERS IN IMMUNOLOGY RESEARCH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE Island of Crete, Greece Minoa Palace Resort & Spa, July 1-4, 2017
164. Zerva I., E. Katsoni E., Simitzi C., Ranella A., Stratakis E., **Athanassakis I.** Differential behavior of laser micro-structured Si scaffolds according to the biological stimulant 10th FRONTIERS IN IMMUNOLOGY RESEARCH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE Island of Crete, Greece Minoa Palace Resort & Spa, July 1-4, 2017
165. Bakela K, Dimopoulou Mirsini, Batsou Panagiota, **Athanassakis I.** Modulation of Immune Activation And Reduction of Autoantibody Production In Inducible in vitro and in vivo SLE in Mice by Soluble MHC-II Molecules. Chemical Biology of Disease, 15-18 September 2017 Heraklion, Crete, Greece.
166. Sachouli I, Tsagdi S., Kyvelidou C., **Athanassakis I.** Polymorphic immune molecules in gametes and gametal fluids. 14th Conference of the European Society for Reproductive Immunology, Kos Island, 29 Sept-2Oct, 2017. **Journal of Reproductive Immunology. 123:40, 2017.**
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