

HANDS-ON

WORKSHOP

Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis 2013

Hands-on workshop organised by Embryolab Academy
Friday 27th and Saturday 28th of September 2013



EMBRYOLAB ACADEMY

INTRODUCTION

Dear colleagues, dear scientists and friends,

It is with great pleasure that we invite you to Thessaloniki, Greece for the first state of the art Hands-on Workshop on Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis organised by the Embryolab Academy.

Preimplantation genetic diagnosis is an established technique and it is becoming an integral part of assisted reproduction as it allows the diagnosis of genetic disorders or genetic pre-disposition in gametes and embryos. Moreover, preimplantation genetic diagnosis recently adapted the array CGH technology, which significantly increasing its diagnostic efficacy.

This two-day workshop is designed for reproductive scientists, geneticists and gynaecologists who desire to improve their knowledge and understanding of all the recent advances in the field of preimplantation genetic diagnosis. Lectures by an international panel of experts will provide all the, up to date, theoretical background and will offer an insight in good clinical practice for genetic screening in an IVF setting. In the afternoon sessions, special emphasis will be given on the demonstration and practice of polar body biopsy, cleavage stage and blastocyst biopsy, tubing cells for molecular diagnosis, spreading of cells for FISH, array-CGH analysis on cellular material, aneuploidy screening (FISH) on human sperm. Delegates will have extensive hands on training, under supervision of the trainers, on all the aforementioned techniques.

The 'Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis 2013' workshop will focus on the state of the art of genetic screening of sperm cells, oocytes and embryos in the context of IVF. Prominent experts and speakers, in this domain, have been invited to share their knowledge with the delegates in an informal setting, in a state of the art environment. The number of participants has been limited to 32 for the practical sessions and 50 for the theoretical sessions.

During the morning sessions, the workshop will focus on theoretical lectures, in the afternoon delegates will be exposed to the practical aspects in the hands-on sessions.

Looking forward to welcoming you at our workshop,

Martine Nijs

PhD, M Sc, Bac Sc,
Sr Clinical Embryologist

Alexia Chatziparasidou

M Clin Embryology, M Sc, Bac Sc,
Sr Clinical Embryologist

Christoforidis Nikos, MD

MRCOG, DFFP Gyn & Obstet,
Fertility Specialist

Workshop Directors

HANDS-ON

WORKSHOP

PROGRAM | DAY 1

Friday 27 September 2013

8:30 - 8:40 Welcome by the Director of the Embryolab Academy.
Martine Nijs, Thessaloniki, Greece.

8:40 - 9:20 Preimplantation diagnosis in 2013: state of the ART.
Dagan Wells, Oxford, UK.

9:20 - 10:10 Aneuploidy in male infertile patients: indications and results.
Alexia Chatziparasidou, Thessaloniki.

10:10 - 10:50 Fluorescence in situ hybridisation-based PGD on human embryos.
E. Coonen, Maastricht, the Netherlands.

10:50 - 10:10 *Morning break*

11:10 - 11:40 Oocyte and embryo biopsy: technical aspects
Alexia Chatziparasidou, Thessaloniki, Greece.

11:40 - 12:10 CGH on polar bodies, blastomeres and trophectoderm cells: technical aspects.
Yannis Papoulidis, Thessaloniki, Greece.

12:10 - 12:40 FISH on human spermatozoa: technical aspects
Glykeria Samolada, Thessaloniki, Greece.

12:40 - 13:15 Lunch.

13:15 - 18:15 Afternoon session - 'Practical sessions'

All participants will get hands-on experience at each topic directed by the different experts.

A rota of groups of 8 delegates will be organised.

1. FISH on spermatozoa. **Glykeria Samolada**, Thessaloniki, Greece.
2. Blastomere and trophectoderm biopsy.
Alexia Chatziparasidou, Thessaloniki, Greece
3. Preparation of cells and polar bodies for CGH or FISH.
Edith Coonen, Maastricht, the Netherlands.
4. CGH analysis on PB's, blastomeres and trophectoderm cells in practice.
Yannis Papoulidis, Thessaloniki, Greece.w

CGH Reporting: Polar Body CGH image reporting/ Blastomere and trophectoderm.

CGH image reporting. **Elpida Fragouli**, Oxford, UK/Dagan Wells, Oxford, UK.

20:00 - 00:00 Workshop Reception and dinner
near Mediterranean Sea side

PROGRAM | DAY 2

Saturday 28 September 2013

8:30 - 9:10 Polar body array CGH: a good tool to study the oocytes genetic status?
Fragouli Elpida, Oxford, UK

9:10 - 9:50 CGH on human embryos: successes and pitfalls
Dagan Wells, Oxford, UK

9:50 - 10:30 Is there a role for slow freezing and/or vitrification in a PGD program?
Martine Nijs, Thessaloniki, Greece

10:30 - 11:00 *Coffee break*

11:00 - 11.40 The clinical challenge in a PGD-IVF Unit
Nikos Christoforidis, Thessaloniki, Greece

11:40 Good clinical and laboratory practice in an accredited PGD setting.
E. Coonen, Maastricht, the Netherlands

12:20 - 13:15 *Lunch*

13.15 - 18:15 Afternoon session - 'Practical sessions'

All participants will get hands-on experience at each topic directed by the different experts.

A rota of groups of 8 delegates will be organised.

1. FISH on spermatozoa.
Glykeria Samolada, Thessaloniki, Greece.
2. Blastomere and trophectoderm biopsy.
Alexia Chatziparasidou, Thessaloniki, Greece
3. Preparation of cells and polar bodies for CGH or FISH.
Edith Coonen, Maastricht, the Netherlands.
4. CGH analysis on PB's, blastomeres and trophectoderm cells in practice.
Yannis Papoulidis, Thessaloniki, Greece.

CGH Reporting: Polar Body CGH image reporting/ Blastomere and trophectoderm

CGH image reporting.

Elpida Fragouli, Oxford, UK/Dagan Wells, Oxford, UK.

20:00 - 00:00 Farewell - dinner

HANDS-ON

WORKSHOP

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- A. To present an overview of the current state of genetic screening of gametes and embryos in the field of IVF.
- B. To offer expert hands-on training in the techniques related to the genetic screening: biopsy of polar body, biopsy of blastomeres, preparation of cell material for genetic analysis, FISH on spermatozoa, CGH on polar bodies, CGH on blastomeres or trophectoderm cells.
- C. To offer an insight in good clinical practice for genetic screening in an IVF Unit.
- D. To offer a platform for discussion between experts and participants in an informal structured way.

HANDS-ON WORKSHOP TOPICS

- A. FISH on spermatozoa.
- B. Biopsy techniques: Polar body biopsy and blastomere and trophectoderm biopsy.
- C. Preparation of cells for CGH and FISH.
- D. CGH analysis on cellular material.

TARGET AUDIENCE

The target audience consists of scientists, embryologists, clinical geneticists and gynaecologists working in IVF, PGD and PGS, interested to improve their theoretical and hands-on skills on genetic screening of gametes and embryos.

Accreditation has been requested

PROMINENT SPEAKERS

Alexia Chatziparasidou, Thessaloniki, Greece
Dagan Wells, Oxford, UK
Elpida Fragouli, Oxford, UK
Edith Coonen, Maastricht, the Netherlands
Glykeria Samolada, Thessaloniki, Greece
Martine Nijs, Thessaloniki, Greece
Nikos Christoforidis, Thessaloniki, Greece
Yannis Papoulidis, Thessaloniki, Greece

MEET OUR SPEAKERS



Alexia Chatziparasidou

M Clin Embryology, M Sc, Bac Sc, Sr Clinical Embryologist
Laboratory Director, Embryolab, Thessaloniki, Greece.



Dagan Wells

Senior Fellow, PhD, Bac Sc
Director at University of Oxford, Reprogenetics-UK, Oxford, UK.
h-index: 30



Elpida Fragouli

PhD, M Sc, Bac Sc
Lab Director at Reprogenetics UK, Research Fellow, Oxford, UK.
h-index: 16



Edith Coonen

PhD, M Sc, Bac Sc, Sr Clinical Embryologist,
PGD specialist - IVF Laboratory - Cytogenetics, Academic
Hospital Maastricht, the Netherlands.
h-index: 16



Glykeria Samolada

M Sc, Bac Sc, Molecular Cytogenetics
Associate Geneticists Embryolab, Thessaloniki, Greece.



Martine Nijs

PhD, M Sc, Bac Sc, Sr Clinical Embryologist
Research and Development Consultant, Embryolab,
Thessaloniki, Greece.
h-index: 15



Nikos Christoforidis

MRCOG, DFFP, Gyn & Obstet, Fertility Specialist
Clinical Director, Embryolab, Thessaloniki, Greece.



Yannis Papoulidis

M Sc, Bac Sc, Clinical Laboratory Geneticist
Director Eurogenetica sa Genetic Laboratories,
Thessaloniki, Greece.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Thessaloniki is the second-largest city in Greece and the capital of the region of Central Macedonia. Greece's second major economic, industrial, commercial and political centre, and a major transportation hub for the rest of southeastern Europe. The city is renowned for its festivals, events and vibrant cultural life in general, and is considered to be Greece's cultural capital.

Climate

Day temperatures in September range from 18°C to 27°C, overall days are very sunny and dry.

Travel to Thessaloniki

For your travel arrangements: Direct flights to Thessaloniki, Greece from Vienna, Rome, Frankfurt, Düsseldorf, Munich, Stuttgart, Belgrade, Bucharest, London, Moscow .

Workshop language

The official language of the Workshop is English.

Liability

The Workshop secretariat and organizers cannot assume liability for personal accidents, loss of or damage to private property of participants, either during, or directly arising from the Workshop. Participants should make their own arrangements with respect to health and travel insurance.

Visas

International participants to the Workshop may require visas in order to Greece. Participants are requested to check with their consulate or diplomatic mission in their home country or with their travel agency for visa requirements. It is the responsibility of the participant to obtain a visa if required.

Letter of Invitation

Upon request, the Secretariat of the PGD Workshop will send a personal invitation to participants. This invitation is meant only to help visitors to raise travel funds or to obtain a visa, and is not a commitment on the part of the organizers to provide any financial support.

CME Credits

The Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis 2013 Workshop has requested accreditation by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME) to provide the following CME activity for medical specialists. The EACCME is an institution of the European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS).

www.uems.net

Accommodation

Mediterranean Palace, 5 star hotel
3, Salaminos str. 54626, Thessaloniki, Greece
Tel: +30 2310 552.554
www.mediterranean-palace.gr

HANDS-ON

WORKSHOP

Registration and fees

Due to the hands-on character of the Workshop, participation is limited to 32 participants. Participation is assured on a 'first come first serve' basis, based on the receipt of the registration fee.

Participation to the theoretical sessions only is limited to 50 participants in total.

Registration fee: Early bird before 1st of July: 1000 Euro
Normal registration fee: 1100 Euro

Registration fee is an 'All -in' fee and includes Workshop registration and accommodation and social program

- Theoretical morning sessions
- Hands-on workshop – afternoon sessions
- Workshop Manual
- Certificate of attendance
- Refreshments
- Lunches
- Workshop diner
- Fare well diner
- Transport from Airport to Hotel
- Transport from and to Hotel and Embryolab Academy
- Transport from and to Hotel to Diner Venue
- 3 night accommodation including breakfasts in a 5 star hotel

Accompanying person fee for the complete social program:
100 Euro (sharing double room, two diners).

Workshop theoretical sessions only: 200 Euro per day (Lunch included).

Extra accommodation can be arranged. Please contact Embryolab Academy to benefit for special Workshop rate at Mediterranean Palace Hotel.

Cancellation fees

All cancellations must be faxed or e-mailed. Refund of registration fees will be as follows:

- Until August 15th : 100% refund (minus 50 Euro administration cost)
- After August 15th: no refund on cancellations

Please visit our website for on-line registration
www.embryolab-academy.org



EMBRYOLAB ACADEMY

Workshop Secretariat

Embryolab Academy
173-175 Ethnikis Antistaseos
551 34 Kalamaria, Thessaloniki, Greece
info@embryolab-academy.org

www.embryolab-academy.org

Workshop Venue

Embryolab Academy
Embryolab
173-175 Ethnikis Antistaseos
551 34 Kalamaria, Thessaloniki, Greece

www.embryolab.gr

Our Sponsors



Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis 2013
Hands-on workshop organised by Embryolab Academy