

Hands-on workshops in specialised ART laboratory techniques

Thessaloniki, Greece

August 31 – September 5, 2014

Dear Embryologist, dear Scientist, dear Dr,

Dear Colleague,

Embryolab Academy is pleased to announce five exciting Hands-on Workshops with focus on Hands-on training in Thessaloniki, Greece.

Specialised techniques presented in the different workshops are

Workshop 1	FISH on human sperm	31.08 2014
Workshop 2	Quality management in IVF	1.09.2014
Workshop 3	Vitrification of oocytes, embryos and blastocysts	2.09. 2014
Workshop 4	Biopsy of cellular material from oocytes, embryos and blastocysts Preparation of cell for genetic analysis-tubing	3-4.09.2014
Workshop 5	ICSI	5.09.2014

Theoretical morning lectures will give an overview of recent advances for each technique. Afternoon sessions are entirely devoted to Hands-on training under guidance of expert teachers. Due to the Hands-on character of the Workshop, the number of participants in each Workshop is limited. Participation is guaranteed on a 'first come first serve' basis, based on the receipt of the registration fee.

Please visit our website for more details or for registration: www.embryolab-academy.org

We are looking forward to meeting you in Thessaloniki!!

Workshop Organisers

Martine Nijs | Alexia Chatziparasidou | Nikos Christoforidis

Embryolab Academy

Hands-on workshops in specialized ART laboratory techniques

August 31st - September 5-9-2014

Workshop number	Hands-on Workshop	Date	Number of days	Venue	Maximum number of participants	Price Euro
1	Fluorescent in Situ Hybridization - FISH - on Human Sperm	31.08.2014	1	Embryolab Academy Thessaloniki, Greece	5	500
2	Quality and Risk Management in IVF Laboratories	01.09.2014	1	Embryolab Academy Thessaloniki, Greece	10	400
3	Vitrification of oocytes, cleavage stage embryos and blastocysts	02.09.2014	1	Embryolab Academy Thessaloniki, Greece	10	550
4	Biopsy of polar bodies, blastomeres, trophoctoderm cells - Preparation of material for genetic analysis - Tubing of cells*	03-04.09 2014	2	Embryolab Academy Thessaloniki, Greece	8	950
5	Intra cytoplasmic sperm injection - ICSI	05.09.2014	1	Embryolab Academy Thessaloniki, Greece	8	550

* Advanced course, admission accepted after submission of short CV with track record in micromanipulation

Hands-on Workshop 1

Fluorescent in Situ Hybridisation - FISH - on Human Sperm

Date: 31.08..2014

Venue: Embryolab Academy

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

Maximum number of participants: 5

Aim and goals of the course: Understand importance of diagnosis of aneuploidy in male patients. Explore current sperm aneuploidy assessment techniques. Quality control and efficient reporting of outcomes. Have Hands-on training in FISH on sperm.

Certificate of attendance awarded to participants completing the workshop

Expert teachers:

Glykeria Samolada, MSc, BacSc, Molecular Cytogenetic, Associate Geneticist Embryolab, Thessaloniki, Greece

Alexia Chatziparasidou, MClin Embryology, MSc, BacSc, Sr Clinical Embryologist, Laboratory Director, Embryolab, Thessaloniki, Greece

Program	
8:30 – 8:45	<i>Pick- up from hotel – transportation to Embryolab Academy</i>
9:00 – 9:15	Welcome by the Director of Embryolab Academy, Martine Nijs
9:15 – 10:00	Aneuploidy in male infertile patients: indications and results.
10:00 – 10:45	FISH on human sperm: technical aspects.
10:45 –11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:00 – 12:30	FISH technique : Standard Operating procedure, materials and methods, reporting, quality control for FISH
12:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:15 – 17:30	Hands-on including <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fixation, hybridization and microscopic analysis of FISH on human sperm• Troubleshooting in FISH on sperm
17:30 – 17:45	Summary of workshop
17:45 – 18:00	Awarding of certificates - Farewell
18:00	<i>Return to hotel</i>

Hands-on Workshop 2

Quality and Risk Management in IVF Laboratories

Date: 01.09.2014

Venue: Embryolab Academy

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

Maximum number of participants: 8

Aim and goals of the course: Improve knowledge and understanding of ISO 9001, ISO 15189 and all the recent advances in Quality and Risk Management for assisted reproduction technologies (ART) laboratories. Understand different methodologies/techniques to standardize, measure, validate, and control different parameters like temperature, pH, air quality etc. in ART laboratories. Perform Internal and external quality control in IVF, Andrology, PGD and Cryobiology laboratories. Be able to develop a Standard Operating Procedure, to design a process flow, to set up a validation process, to perform a risk analysis, to perform a root cause analysis.

Certificate of attendance awarded to participants completing the workshop

Expert teachers:

Alexia Chatziparasidou, MClin Embryology, MSc, BacSc, Sr Clinical Embryologist, Laboratory Director, Embryolab, Thessaloniki, Greece

Martine Nijs, PhD, MSc, BacSc, Sr Clinical Embryologist, Research and Development Consultant, Embryolab, Thessaloniki, Greece.

Program	
8:30 – 8:45	<i>Pick- up from hotel – transportation to Embryolab Academy</i>
9:00 – 9:15	Welcome by the Director of Embryolab Academy, Martine Nijs
9:15 – 10:00	What is quality and why does it matter? What is quality management? What is total quality management?
10:00 – 10:30	Understanding ISO 9001 and ISO 15189 in IVF
10:30 – 11:00	How to define your success rates in QM in IVF.
11:00 – 11:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:15 – 11:45	Internal and external quality control for IVF, Andrology, PGD and Cryobiology laboratories.
11:45 – 12:15	Quality Management and the importance of traecability in QM
12:15 – 12:45	Measuring and validating parameters like temperatures, O2 and pH in specific equipment in my laboratories
12:45 – 13:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:30 – 17:30	<p>‘Hands-on’ including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performing Internal and external quality control for IVF, Andrology, PGD or Cryobiology • Developing a Standard Operating Procedure • Designing a process flow • Setting up a validation process • Performing a risk analysis • Performing a route cause analysis.
17:30 – 17:45	Summary of workshop
17:45 – 18:00	Awarding of certificates - Farewell
18:00	<i>Return to hotel</i>

Hands-on Workshop 3

Vitrification of oocytes, cleavage stage embryos and blastocysts

Date: 02.09.2014

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

Maximum number of participants: 8

Aim and goals of the course: Understanding fundamentals of cryobiology of gametes and embryos. Have an overview of current experiences and outcomes of vitrification of ART. Being able to set up a cryobiology program. Understand Quality management. Have Hands-on training in vitrification of oocytes, cleavage stage embryos and blastocysts.

Certificate of attendance awarded to participants completing the workshop

Expert teachers:

Alexia Chatziparasidou, MClin Embryology, M Sc, Bac Sc, Sr Clinical Embryologist, Laboratory Director, Embryolab, Thessaloniki, Greece

Martine Nijs, PhD, MSc, BacSc, Sr Clinical Embryologist, Research and Development Consultant, Embryolab, Thessaloniki, Greece.

Program	
8:30 - 8:45	Pick- up from hotel - transportation to Embryolab Academy
9:00 - 9:15	Welcome by the Director of Embryolab Academy, Martine Nijs
9:15 - 9:45	Basics of cryobiology in IVF
9:45 - 10:15	Cryopreservation of gametes, embryos and blastocysts anno 2014
10:15 - 11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:00 - 11:30	Oocyte, embryo and blastocyst vitrification and warming : the techniques
11:30 - 12:00	Setting up and managing a cryobiology unit, choice of materials.
12:00 - 12:30	Quality management of a cryobiology program/Troubleshooting in a cryobiology program
12:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:15 - 17:30	Hands-on training in vitrification and warming of: Oocytes, cleavage stage embryos and blastocysts
17:30 - 17:45	Summary of workshop
17:45 - 18:00	Awarding of certificates - Farewell
18:00	Return to hotel

Hands-on Workshop 4 **Advanced course**

Biopsy of polar bodies, blastomeres and trophectoderm cells Preparation of material for genetic analysis - Tubing of cells

Date: 03-04.09.2014

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

Maximum number of participants: 8 (with proven track record in micromanipulation)

Aim and goals of the course

Understand principles of fundamentals of genetic diagnosis on gametes, cleavage stage embryos and blastocysts. Have an overview of current experiences and outcomes of PGD and PGS. Understand Quality management in a PGD-PGS program. Have Hands-on training in biopsy of oocytes, cleavage stage embryos and blastocysts. Have Hands-on training in tubing of cellular material for genetic analysis.

Certificate of attendance awarded to participants completing the workshop

Expert teachers:

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

Martine Nijs, PhD, MSc, BacSc, Sr Clinical Embryologist, Research and Development Consultant, Embryolab, Thessaloniki, Greece

Track record in micromanipulation:

This workshop is an advanced Hands-on workshop. A short CV is required for the submission for this workshop. A Short CV should include current profession, education, number of ICSI cases as well as number of biopsy cases performed in the last five years.

Program Day 1	
8:30 - 8:45	<i>Pick- up from hotel – transportation to Embryolab Academy</i>
9:00 - 9:15	Welcome by the Director of Embryolab Academy, Martine Nijs
9:15 - 10:00	Pre implantation genetic diagnosis and analysis: anno 2014.
10:00 - 10:30	Polar body biopsies
10:30 - 10:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:45 - 11:15	Cleavage stage biopsy of blastomeres
11:15 - 11:45	Trophectoderm biopsy of blastocysts and tubing of cells
11:45 - 12:30	Biopsy and tubing of cells: Standard Operating procedure, materials and methods,
12:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:15 - 17:30	Hands-on including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of biopsy dishes • Handling of laser on microscope • Setting up the microscope • Biopsy of blastomeres/polar bodies/blastocysts • Preparation of material for genetic analysis: Tubing of cells
18:00	<i>Return to hotel</i>

Program Day 2	
8:30 - 8:45	<i>Pick- up from hotel – transportation to Embryolab Academy</i>
9:00 - 9:45	Genetic tests on human oocytes, embryos and blastocysts.
9:45 - 10:00	Cryopreservation, a useful tool in a PGD program.
10:00 - 10:45	Quality management in a PGD program: validation, reporting, internal and external control...
10:45 - 11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:00 - 12:00	Reporting and Trouble shooting in PGD
12:00	<i>Lunch</i>
12:45 - 17:30	Hands-on including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of biopsy dishes • Handling of laser on microscope • Setting up the microscope • Biopsy of blastomeres/polar bodies/blastocysts • Preparation of material for genetic analysis : Tubing of cells
17:30 - 17:45	Summary of workshop
17:45 - 18:00	Awarding of certificates - Farewell
18:00	<i>Return to hotel</i>

Hands-on Workshop 5

Intra cytoplasmic sperm injection **ICSI**

Date: 05.09.2014

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

Maximum number of participants: 8

Aim and goals of the course: Have an overview of current indications and outcomes with ICSI
Understand Quality management in an ICSI program. Have Hands-on training in all micromanipulation aspects of ICSI.

Certificate of attendance awarded to participants completing the workshop

Expert teachers

Alexia Chatziparasidou, MClin Embryology, M Sc, Bac Sc, Sr Clinical Embryologist, Laboratory Director, Embryolab, Thessaloniki, Greece

Martine Nijs, PhD, MSc, BacSc, Sr Clinical Embryologist, Research and Development Consultant, Embryolab, Thessaloniki, Greece.

Program	
8:30 - 8:45	<i>Pick- up from hotel - transportation to Embryolab Academy</i>
9:00 - 9:15	Welcome by the Director of Embryolab Academy, Martine Nijs
9:15 - 10:00	ICSI anno 2014: indications and results
10:00 - 10:45	Sperm preparation for ICSI: ejaculate, frozen sperm, testicular sperm
10:45 - 11:00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:00 - 11:45	Selection of spermatozoa for ICSI
11:45 - 12:30	Quality management in an ICSI program Troubleshooting in an ICSI program
12:30	<i>Lunch</i>
13:15 - 17:30	Hands-on training <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preparation of sperm• Preparation of oocytes• Preparation of ICSI dishes• Setting up the microscope with pipettes• Selection of spermatozoa• Immobilization of spermatozoa• Injection of sperm• Culture post ICSI
17:30 - 17:45	Summary of workshop
17:45 - 18:00	Awarding of certificates - Farewell
18:00	<i>Return to hotel</i>

General information

Target Audience

Embryolab Academy Hands-on Workshops are designed for reproductive scientists, embryologists, lab technicians, geneticists and clinicians who desire to improve their knowledge and practical skills in specialized laboratory techniques used in a human ART setting.

Prominent teachers

Embryolab Academy strives to provide evidence based scientific knowledge presented by an international panel of prominent experts. Our teachers have been carefully selected on the basis of the importance and weight of their scientific work in the specific domains of interest as well as their excellent educational skills and their day to day hands-on experience in different laboratory techniques in IVF.

Workshop structure

Embryolab Academy provides complete lab stations set up for specialized training. A Rota system will insure all participants will have intensive training in each technique under supervision of the expert teacher. Training will be performed with colored beads, hamster and mouse oocytes, mouse embryos and mouse blastocysts.

Venue

The Hands-on Workshops will be held at Embryolab Academy, 173-175 Ethnikis Antistaseos, 551 34 Kalamaria, Thessaloniki, Greece.

Transport to Embryolab Academy during your Workshop

Transport from the City hotel to and from the Workshop Venue is included in the registration fee. Embryolab Academy will confirm morning time of departure at your hotel.

Registration fee

Registration can be done through the Embryolab Academy Website: www.embryolab-academy.org. Fees are to be paid by bank transfer. Bank transfer costs endured during payment are to be covered by the delegate. Fees includes registration to the Hands-on workshop, transport to and from hotel to Embryolab Academy, Lunch, Workshop book, Certificate of attendance.

Accommodation

Registration fee does **not** include accommodation. Because September is still a busy season for Thessaloniki, we have pre-reserved several rooms at the **City hotel**, a 4 star hotel well located in the city center, near the sea side promenade. (Komnion 11, Thessaloniki 546 24).

Rates (between 30/08-04/09/14): Rooms for single use – city view - 75 € / room/ night

RATES (between 05-06/09/14): Rooms for single use – city view -90 € / room/ night

The above mentioned Rates include all taxes and the following services: American Breakfast Buffet in our renovated Restaurant, free WIFI Internet access, free Coffee station, free 2 bottles of mineral water in mini bar, free Steam bath & Gym use in Central Spa, 15% discount to all face & body treatments in Central Spa, and Apivot products. Clients have special discounted rates in nearby department stores and in private Parking near the hotel.

Booking your accommodation

Participants have to download the Reservation Form and use the code “Embryolab Academy Workshop” for their direct reservations with City Hotel****. They can make their bookings by sending the Form to the Reservations Department’s Communication to Irene Koukesis/ Eva Mavridou

Tel : +30 2310 021000
Fax : +30 2310 240715
Email : reservations@cityhotel.gr

Cancellation fees

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

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

Thessaloniki

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 center 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 5°C to 18°C, overall days are sunny and dry .

Workshop language

The official language of the Workshop is English.

Liability

The Workshop secretariat and organizer 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. Embryolab Academy cannot be held accountable for cancellation of participation because of air strikes or serious adverse events.

Time zone

The time zone in Greece is Eastern Europe Time Zone : UTC/GMT +2 hours.

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 Workshop will send a personal invitation to participants. Please send us your arrival and departure dates as well as confirmation of your hotel reservation. 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.

Travel to Thessaloniki

Direct flights are available to the **Makedonia airport** of Thessaloniki in Greece from Vienna, Rome, Frankfurt, Düsseldorf, Munich, Stuttgart, Belgrade, Bucharest, London and Moscow. Distance to the city center is 13 km. Taxis can be easily found outside the airport arrival hall. It will take about 20 minutes to arrive from the airport to the Makedonia Palace hotel. The price for a single taxi journey is around 20 Euro. Embryolab Academy can pre book a taxi for you that will bring you to your hotel.

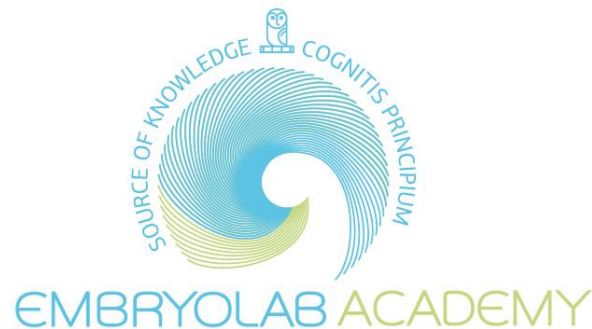
Workshop Secretariat

Embryolab Academy

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

info@embryolab-academy.org

www.embryolab-academy.org



About Embryolab Academy

Embryolab Academy is a non-profit foundation, focused on education, training and research in assisted reproduction. Embryolab Academy promotes close collaboration between embryologists, andrologists, fertility specialists, scientists and human geneticists to improve quality, safety and accuracy in assisted reproduction techniques, and reproductive medicine.

The objectives of the Embryolab Academy are to:

- Organise and host International Workshops, focused on state of the art assisted reproduction techniques, and reproductive medicine.
- Provide individual, hands-on courses and training in assisted reproduction techniques, and reproductive medicine.
- Promote and coordinate research in the field of assisted reproduction techniques, and reproductive medicine.
- Promote communication, collaboration and exchange of expertise between different specialist, working in assisted reproduction techniques, and reproductive medicine.

Embryolab Academy MKO

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

info@embryolab-academy.org

www.embryolab-academy.org