

Dimitrios T. Boumpas, Professor of Internal Medicine, University of Athens



Dimitrios T. Boumpas graduated from the Medical School of the University of Ioannina in 1983. Following a fellowship in Molecular Immunology at National Institutes of Health (NIH), Bethesda MD, he trained in Internal Medicine at Georgetown University, Washington DC and in Rheumatology-Clinical Immunology at ARB, NIAMS, NIH. Upon the completion of his training, he was appointed an Investigator at ARB, NIAMS, NIH and he served as Deputy and Acting Clinical Director at NIAMS, before he repatriated to the University of Crete to lead the Departments of Rheumatology, Clinical immunology and Allergy, and Internal Medicine. In Crete, Professor Boumpas has served as Associate Dean for the Undergraduate Studies and Directs the Graduate Program on the Molecular Basis of Human Diseases at the Medical School. He is also a member of the Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, FORTH Greece and the Institute for Biomedical Research of the Academy of Athens. In 2009 was elected professor of Medicine at the Medical School, University of Athens. He currently serves at the Third Department of Medicine at the "Sotiria" Hospital of Thoracic Diseases and is responsible for the Rheumatology-Clinical Immunology Unit.

His primary clinical and research interests are in the areas of human autoimmunity with emphasis on systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) and inflammatory arthritis. His work on the treatment of lupus nephritis has shaped immunosuppressive therapy for autoimmune rheumatic diseases internationally. Dr Boumpas work on the pathogenesis of SLE has elucidated the role of peripheral tolerance and innate immunity in the disease and the contribution of polymorphisms of genes associated with disease susceptibility through functional genetics and construction of gene networks for the disease by the use of high-throughput technology and validation in animal models and humans with SLE. He has published over 240 peer-reviewed scientific papers and books chapters, and has edited a monograph on SLE with over 7,231 citations (h-index = 45) . His research was funded by both National (ΕΠΕΑΕΚ II, Πυθαγόρας I, II, Ηράκλειτος, Θαλής, Αριστεία) και European Union research funds(AUTOCURE FP-6; BTCURE, IMI).

Dr. Boumpas is the Chair of the Training and Education Committee for the European League against Rheumatism and Chair of European Task force on SLE that develops guidelines for the management and coordinates clinical trials and research on SLE. He is Associate Editor of Annals of Rheumatic Diseases and serves on the Editorial Board of Arthritis and Rheumatism, J Autoimmunity, Kidney International and Clinical Experimental Rheumatology. He is Chair of the European Research Council Panel for Advanced Grants on Diagnostics Tools), Therapies and Public Health (LS-7) and has served on the EU ESRF Committee for Translational Research Infrastructures.