



UNIVERSITY  
OF CRETE



HELLENIC SOCIETY  
OF GENE THERAPY AND  
REGENERATIVE MEDICINE

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The HELLENIC SOCIETY OF GENE THERAPY AND REGENERATIVE  
MEDICINE & the UNIVERSITY OF CRETE

Organize the

# 1<sup>st</sup> SUMMER SCHOOL in REGENERATIVE MEDICINE



01-03  
July 2026

University of Crete  
School of Medicine  
Heraklion, Crete, Greece



The Summer School is addressed to  
postgraduate/doctoral students and  
resident doctors.

The HELLENIC SOCIETY OF GENE THERAPY AND REGENERATIVE MEDICINE &  
the UNIVERSITY OF CRETE  
organize

## **The 1st SUMMER SCHOOL In REGENERATIVE MEDICINE**

### **Aim**

This Summer School aims to provide participants with a comprehensive overview of key stem cell technologies and their applications in Regenerative Medicine. The program combines lectures, demonstrations, and hands-on laboratory training focused on stem cells and biomaterials.

### **Description**

Regenerative Medicine (RM) is the interdisciplinary field that focuses on repairing or replacing damaged tissues and organs. RM relies on the integration of diverse components including stem cells, biomaterials and soluble factors to regulate wound healing and favor the synthesis of new tissue.

Participants will gain an in-depth understanding of stem cells and biomaterials, two major components of emerging RM treatments. Training on stem cells will cover various stem cell types, including adult and induced pluripotent stem cells, with a focus on their biological properties and mechanisms of differentiation. Training on biomaterials will include their fabrication, mechanics, cell-biomaterial interactions and biomaterial effects in wound healing. Participants will gain essential knowledge on the translation of RM technologies from bench to bedside, including ethical and regulatory frameworks governing their clinical use. Emphasis is placed on hands-on laboratory experience, including stem cell culture and differentiation, stem cell-biomaterial interactions, biofabrication, bioinformatics, biobanking and Good Manufacturing Practice practices. Finally, the program provides opportunities to participants to present their work and interact with experts in the field.

**Day 1**  
Wednesday  
01 July 2026

**Fundamentals**

# Summer School in Regenerative Medicine

## 1-3 July 2026

Heraklion, Crete, Greece

*Organized by*

**The Hellenic Society of Gene Therapy and  
Regenerative Medicine & The University of Crete**

### Morning Session

**08.30 – 09.00 Arrival - Registrations**

**09.00 – 10.00 General aspects of stem cells - embryonic stem cells and induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs)**  
F. Papastefanaki, K. Chanoumidou

**10.00 – 11.00 Isolation, characterizations and properties of Hemopoietic stem cells (HSCs) and Mesenchymal stem cells (MSCs)**  
M. Roubelakis, C. Pontikoglou

**11.00 – 11.30 Coffee Break**

**11.30 -12.30 Isolation, Cultivation, and Genetic Manipulation of Neural Stem Cells (NSCs)**  
P. Politis

**12.30 Lunch**

### Afternoon Session – Hands on training 14.00 – 18.00

**Stem cell Culture (stem cells/iPSCs/organoids), Human iPSC models for drug testing**  
H. Papadaki Lab, I. Charalampopoulos Lab

**“Omics” and Bioinformatics/A.I. tools for data analysis**  
G. Tsaknakis, L. Latsoudis, P. Pavlidis

**GMP facility visit – Biobank**  
I.Mavroudi, I.Gontika, I.Fragiadaki Public Cord Blood Bank of Crete

**Biomaterials**  
M. Chatzinikolaidou

**19.00 Networking Dinner**

**Day 2**  
Thursday  
02 July 2026

**Cutting-edge  
innovations and  
Regulatory aspects**

### Morning Session

**09.00 – 10.00 Biomaterials for stem cell application**  
M. Chatzinikolaïdou, D. Tzeranis

**10.00 – 11.00 Biobanking, Bioethics, Regulations**  
N. Sousos, S. Tsinorema

**11.00 – 11.30 Coffee Break**

**11.30 – 12.30 Clinical Trial Design in Advanced Therapies**  
E. Yannaki

**12.30 Lunch**

### Afternoon Session – Hands on training 14.00 – 18.00

**Stem cell Culture (stem cells/iPSCs/organoids), Human iPSC models for drug testing**  
H. Papadaki Lab, I. Charalampopoulos Lab

**“Omics” and Bioinformatics/AI tools for data analysis**  
G. Tsaknakis, L. Latsoudis, P. Pavlidis

**GMP facility visit – Biobank**  
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**Biomaterials. Fabrication and microfabrication of porous scaffolds.**  
D. Tzeranis

### Morning Session 09.00 – 14.00

**Human iPSC-based drug development and clinical applications**  
I. Charalampopoulos, E. Taoufik, H. Papadaki

**Announcement of Travel Awards**

**Oral and Poster presentation session**

**Lunch**

### Afternoon

**16.30 – 20.00** Guided tour at the Archaeological Museum and the historical center of Heraklion

**Day 3**  
Friday  
03 July 2026

**Translating human  
stem cell potential for  
drug development  
and clinical  
applications**

## Organizing Committee Members

**Papadaki Helen**, Professor of Haematology, Dean of the School of Medicine, University of Crete, Director of the Department of Haematology, the Haemopoiesis Research Laboratory, School of Medicine, University of Crete & the Public Cord Blood Bank of Crete, University Hospital of Heraklion

**Pontikoglou Charalampos**, Associate Professor of Haematology, School of Medicine, University of Crete and scientist in charge of the Cellular Therapies Unit, School of Medicine, University of Crete

**Charalampopoulos Ioannis**, Professor of Pharmacology, School of Medicine, University of Crete & Researcher Institute of Molecular Biology & Biotechnology, Foundation for Research and Technology – Hellas (FORTH)

**Tzeranis Dimitris**, Assistant Professor, Department of Materials Science and Engineering, University of Crete

**Chanoumidou Konstantina**, Assistant Professor of Pharmacology, School of Medicine, University of Crete

**Chatzinikolaidou Maria**, Professor of Biomaterials in Bioengineering and Head of the Laboratory for Biomaterials in Tissue Engineering, Department of Materials Science and Engineering, University of Crete

## Scientific Committee Members

**Yannaki Evangelia**, Haematologist, Director, Haematology Clinic – Haematopoietic Cell Transplantation Unit (HCTU) – Gene and Cell Therapy Center, "Georgios Papanikolaou" Hospital, Thessaloniki

**Michalakis Stylianos**, Professor of Ophthalmic Gene Therapy, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, Germany

**Papadaki Helen**, Professor of Haematology, Dean of the School of Medicine, University of Crete, Director of the Department of Haematology, the Haemopoiesis Research Laboratory, School of Medicine, University of Crete & the Public Cord Blood Bank of Crete, University Hospital of Heraklion

**Papadopoulou Anastasia**, Assistant Professor of Immunobiology, Department of Biology, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki; Head of Cell Production, Gene and Cell Therapy Unit, Hematology Department, General Hospital of Thessaloniki "Georgios Papanikolaou"

**Politis Panagiotis**, Group leader, Center of Basic Research, Biomedical Research Foundation of the Academy of Athens (BRFAA) & Adjunct Professor of Medical Biochemistry, School of Medicine, Frankfurt Branch, European University Cyprus

**Roubelakis Maria (Maya)**, DPhil, Professor of Biology and Regenerative Medicine Laboratory of Biology, Medical School, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens Affiliated Investigator, Cell and Gene Therapy Laboratory, Biomedical Research Foundation of the Academy of Athens, President of Hellenic Society of Gene Therapy and Regenerative Medicine

**Taoufik Era**, Principal Investigator at the Hellenic Pasteur Institute

**Charalampopoulos Ioannis**, Professor of Pharmacology, School of Medicine, University of Crete & Researcher Institute of Molecular Biology & Biotechnology, Foundation for Research and Technology – Hellas (FORTH)

## List of Tutors (In alphabetical order)

- **Chanoumidou Konstantina**, Assistant Professor of Pharmacology, School of Medicine, University of Crete
- **Charalampopoulos Ioannis**, Professor of Pharmacology, School of Medicine, University of Crete & Researcher Institute of Molecular Biology & Biotechnology, Foundation for Research and Technology – Hellas (FORTH)
- **Chatzinikolaidou Maria**, Professor of Biomaterials in Bioengineering and Head of the Laboratory for Biomaterials in Tissue Engineering, Department of Materials Science and Engineering, University of Crete
- **Fragiadaki Irene**, Postdoctoral Researcher, Haemopoiesis Research Laboratory, School of Medicine, University of Crete & the Public Cord Blood Bank of Crete, University Hospital of Heraklion, Crete
- **Gontika Ioanna**, Postdoctoral Researcher, Haemopoiesis Research Laboratory, School of Medicine, University of Crete & the Public Cord Blood Bank of Crete, University Hospital of Heraklion, Crete
- **Latsoudis Helen** Postdoctoral Researcher, Haemopoiesis Research Laboratory, School of Medicine, University of Crete & Information System Laboratory, Institute of Computer Sciences, Foundation for Research and Technology – Hellas (FORTH), Crete
- **Mavroudi Irene**, Postdoctoral Researcher, Haemopoiesis Research Laboratory, School of Medicine, University of Crete & the Public Cord Blood Bank of Crete, University Hospital of Heraklion, Crete
- **Papadaki Helen**, Professor of Haematology, Dean of the School of Medicine, University of Crete, Director of the Department of Haematology, the Haemopoiesis Research Laboratory, School of Medicine, University of Crete & the Public Cord Blood Bank of Crete, University Hospital of Heraklion
- **Papastefanaki Florentia**, Research Staff Scientist, Head of the Human Stem Cell and Reprogramming Unit, Hellenic Pasteur Institute
- **Pavlidis Pavlos**, Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, University of Crete, researcher, Institute of Informatics Foundation for Research and Technology – Hellas (FORTH)
- **Politis Panagiotis**, Group leader, Center of Basic Research, Biomedical Research Foundation of the Academy of Athens (BRFAA) & Adjunct Professor of Medical Biochemistry, School of Medicine, Frankfurt Branch, European University Cyprus
- **Pontikoglou Charalampos**, Associate Professor of Haematology, School of Medicine, University of Crete and scientist in charge of the Cellular Therapies Unit, School of Medicine, University of Crete
- **Roubelakis Maria (Maya)**, DPhil, Professor of Biology and Regenerative Medicine Laboratory of Biology, Medical School, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens Affiliated Investigator, Cell and Gene Therapy Laboratory, Biomedical Research Foundation of the Academy of Athens, President of Hellenic Society of Gene Therapy and Regenerative Medicine
- **Sousos Nikolaos**, Assistant Professor of Haematology-Clinical Haematology, School of Medicine, University of Crete
- **Taoufik Era**, Principal Investigator at the Hellenic Pasteur Institute
- **Tsaknakis Grigorios**, Postdoctoral Researcher, Haemopoiesis Research Laboratory, School of Medicine, University of Crete
- **Tsinorema Stavroula**, Professor of Philosophy and Bioethics, University of Crete, National Representative in the ERA Action on Research Ethics and Integrity
- **Tzeranis Dimitrios**, Assistant Professor, Department of Materials Science and Engineering, University of Crete
- **Yannaki Evangelia**, Haematologist, Director, Haematology Clinic - Haematopoietic Cell Transplantation Unit (HCTU) - Gene and Cell Therapy Center, "Georgios Papanikolaou" Hospital, Thessaloniki

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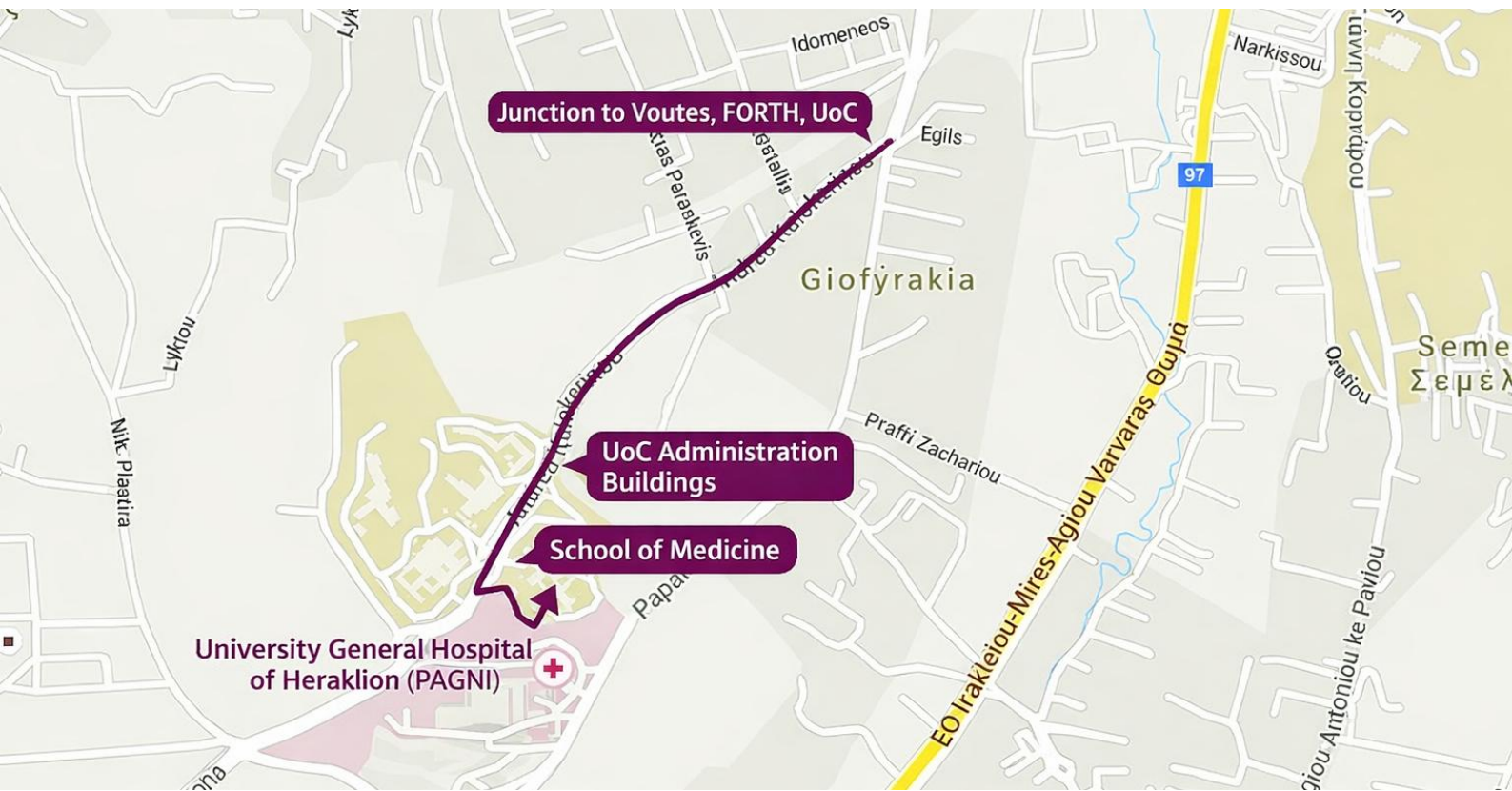


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