DIMITRIOS PAPAGIANNIS
Professor of Public Health

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Academic Profile

Professor of Public Health at the University of Thessaly with a sustained academic and research portfolio in adult immunization, vaccine coverage and hesitancy, infectious-disease epidemiology, seroepidemiology, respiratory infections, occupational/public health, and prevention. Director of the Public Health and Adults Immunization Laboratory and President of the General Department of Larissa.

Current Academic & Leadership Positions

- Professor of Public Health, Department of Nursing, School of Health Sciences, University of Thessaly.
- President, General Department of Larissa, University of Thessaly.
- Director, Public Health and Adults Immunization Laboratory, University of Thessaly.
- Adjunct Professor, Hellenic Open University.
- Visiting Researcher/Lecturer, Department of Neurology, School of Medicine, University of Cyprus (from March 2024).

Core Areas of Expertise

- Adult immunization and vaccination policy
- Vaccine coverage, acceptance and hesitancy
- Seroepidemiology and population immunity
- Respiratory and emerging infectious diseases
- Public-health surveillance and rapid diagnostics
- Occupational and community health
- One Health, climate-related health threats and post-disaster infections
- Epidemiological research and health-professional education
- Education, Professional Experience & International Training

Education and Qualifications

- PhD, University of Thessaly, Medical Faculty, Laboratory of Hygiene and Epidemiology.
- MSc, Public Health and Environmental Hygiene, Medical Faculty, University of Thessaly.
- MBA, Business Administration.
- Graduate degree in Biomedical Sciences, Technological Education Institute of Thessaly.

Professional Experience

- 1999–2016 — Vaccines Department, Sanofi Pasteur MSD.
- 2019–2026 — Teaching, Department of Nursing, University of Thessaly.
- 2014–2022 — Teaching, Faculty of Medicine, University of Thessaly.
- 2001–2018 — Teaching, Technological Education Institute of Thessaly.

International Research Fellowship

1 October 2024 – 28 February 2025 — International research fellowship at the Department of Neurology, School of Medicine, University of Cyprus, with a Public Health focus at the Shiakoleio Educational Center for Clinical Medicine.

Teaching Portfolio

University of Thessaly – Department of Nursing

- Microbiology
- Clinical Pharmacology
- Community Nursing
- Epidemiology
- Hygiene and Work Safety
- Communication and Consultation Skills in Health Sciences

University of Thessaly – Faculty of Medicine

- Social and Preventive Medicine
- Occupational Medicine
- Epidemiology

Postgraduate Teaching

- Public Health and Environmental Hygiene — University of Thessaly.
- Primary Health Care — University of Thessaly.
- Exercise, Ergospirometry and Rehabilitation — University of Thessaly.
- Heart Failure – Cardio-oncology – Cardiovascular Rehabilitation — University of Thessaly.
- Primary Health Care: Social Medicine and Pharmaceutical Care — Democritus University of Thrace.
- Interdisciplinary postgraduate programme in Aging and Chronic Disease Management — Hellenic Open University.

Earlier Undergraduate Teaching

Technological Education Institute of Thessaly (2001–2018): Hygiene, Blood Donation, Immunology, Anatomy and Microbiology.

Research Profile & Scientific Contributions

The publication portfolio demonstrates a progressive focus from occupational infectious-disease epidemiology and vaccination coverage to adult immunization, vaccine hesitancy, nationwide seroprevalence studies, COVID-19, respiratory-virus surveillance, Q fever, climate/disaster-related infectious threats and vaccination in cardiovascular disease.

Selected Research Themes

- Nationwide adult vaccination coverage and seroprevalence studies in Greece, including influenza, pertussis, diphtheria and tetanus.
- COVID-19 knowledge, attitudes, vaccine acceptability, vaccination coverage, antibody responses, epidemiological outcomes and workplace surveillance.
- Vaccination in special populations, including healthcare workers, older adults, professional football players, young athletes and patients with heart failure.
- Respiratory-virus surveillance using rapid testing for SARS-CoV-2, influenza, RSV and adenovirus.
- Q fever/Coxiella burnetii seroepidemiology, including post-flood rural exposure in Thessaly.
- HPV vaccination knowledge, coverage and parental attitudes.
- Public-health implications of climate crisis, flooding, leptospirosis and emerging infectious threats.
- Occupational health, burnout, sharps injuries, waste-worker infection risks and public-health system response.

Selected High-Relevance Publications — Vaccination & Public Health

- Papagiannis D, et al. Vaccination Coverage of the Elderly in Greece: A Cross-Sectional Nationwide Study. Can J Infect Dis Med Microbiol. 2020;2020:5459793.
- Papagiannis D, et al. Acceptability of COVID-19 Vaccination among Greek Health Professionals. Vaccines. 2021;9:200.
- Rachiotis G, Papagiannis D, et al. Determinants of Influenza vaccination coverage among Greek health care workers amid COVID-19 pandemic. Infect Dis Rep. 2021;13:757–762.
- Papagiannis D, Malli F, Gourgoulianis KI. Registry systems for COVID-19 vaccines and rate of acceptability before and after vaccine availability in twelve countries. Infect Dis Rep. 2022;14:121–133.
- Papagiannis D, et al. COVID-19 infection among elite football players: A nationwide prospective cohort study. Vaccines. 2022;10:634.
- Papagiannis D, et al. Pertussis Prevalence in Adult Population in Greece: A Seroprevalence Nationwide Study. Vaccines. 2022;10:1511.
- Papagiannis D, et al. Diphtheria and Tetanus Immunity Status among Greek Adults: Results from a Nationwide Seroprevalence Study. Vaccines. 2024;12:378.
- Papagiannis D, et al. Assessment of Knowledge, Attitudes, and Vaccination Practices Regarding the New RSV Vaccine Among Health Professionals in Greece. Healthcare. 2024;12:1536.

Selected Publications

Vaccination, Respiratory Infection & Seroepidemiology

- Papagiannis D, Rachiotis G, et al. Hepatitis B Virus Vaccination Coverage in Medical, Nursing, and Paramedical Students: A Cross-Sectional, Multi-Centered Study in Greece. Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2016;13.
- Papagiannis D, et al. Vaccination practices and influenza in professional football players in Greece. Occup Med (Lond). 2020.
- Papagiannis D, et al. Assessment of Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices towards SARS-CoV-2 of Health Care Professionals in Greece before the Outbreak Period. Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2020; 17:4925.
- Kotsiou OS, et al. Repeated antigen-based rapid diagnostic testing for estimating COVID-19 prevalence before and during lockdown. Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2021; 18:1638.
- Malli F, et al. Association of SARS-CoV-2 vaccinations with infections, ICU admissions and deaths in Greece. Vaccines. 2022.
- Papagiannis D, et al. Assessment of Vaccination Status in Professional Football Players in Low Categories in Greece. J Funct Morphol Kinesiol. 2022; 7:73.
- Malli F, et al. Analysis of SARS-CoV-2 Cases, COVID-19 Outcomes and Vaccinations during Different SARS-CoV-2 Variants in Greece. Vaccines. 2023; 11:126.
- Papagiannis D, et al. Proportion of RSV, SARS-CoV-2, Influenza A/B, and Adenovirus Cases via Rapid Tests in the Community during Winter 2023. Diseases. 2023; 11:122.
- Rousogianni E, et al. Proportions and Seasonal Patterns of Respiratory Viruses via Rapid Tests in Adults at a Greek Hospital. J Pers Med. 2024; 14:824.
- Papagiannis D, et al. Rapid Tests for Viral Upper Airway Respiratory Infections in the Workplace: A Pilot Study on a Professional Football Team. Medicina. 2025; 61:1072.
- Rousogianni E, et al. Clinical features and outcomes of viral respiratory infections in adults during the 2023–2024 winter season. Sci Rep. 2025; 15:35800.

One Health, Q Fever, Climate & Other Public-Health Research

- Christodoulou M, et al. A Narrative Review of Q Fever in Europe. Cureus. 2023;15:e38031.
- Poulakida I, et al. Leptospirosis Incidence Post-Flooding Following Storm Daniel: The First Case Series in Greece. Infect Dis Rep. 2024; 16:880–887.
- Christodoulou M, et al. Q Fever in Greece and Factors of Exposure: A Multiregional Seroprevalence Study. Cureus. 2024;16:e69501.
- Christodoulou M, Papagiannis D. Q Fever Vaccines: Unveiling the Historical Journey and Contemporary Innovations in Vaccine Development. Vaccines. 2025; 13:151.
- Christodoulou M, et al. Assessment of the Immune Response to Coxiella burnetii in Rural Areas of Thessaly Following the Daniel Floods. Hygiene. 2025; 5:30.

Full publication list: 126 entries in the source CV (through 2026).

Selected Publications — Cardiovascular, HPV & Broader Health Research

- Papagiannis D, et al. Vaccination against human papillomavirus among 865 female students from the health professions in central Greece. J Multidiscip Healthc. 2013; 6:435–439.
- Konstantinou C, et al. Vaccination Coverage Against Human Papillomavirus in Female Students in Cyprus. Cureus. 2022;14:e28936.
- Toska A, et al. Knowledge and beliefs of Greek parents towards HPV infection and vaccination — are they willing to vaccinate their sons? Int J Adolesc Med Health. 2024.
- Christodoulou M, et al. Are Fathers Being Left Behind? Gender Differences in Parental HPV Vaccination Knowledge and Attitudes Toward Sons' Vaccination in Greece. Vaccines. 2026; 14:455.
- Papagiannis D, et al. Pneumococcal and Influenza Vaccination Coverage in Patients with Heart Failure: A Systematic Review. J Clin Med. 2024; 13:3029.
- Dimitriadou I, et al. Frailty as a Prognostic Indicator for In-Hospital Mortality and Clinical Outcomes in Acute Coronary Syndrome: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. Heart Lung Circ. 2025.
- Zilidis C, Papagiannis D, Rachiotis G. Regional variation and socioeconomic determinants of suicide mortality in Greece before and during economic crisis. Applied Sciences. 2020; 10:6117.
- Papathanasiou IV, et al. Frailty and Quality of Life Among Community-Dwelling Older Adults. Cureus. 2021;13:e13049.
- Symvoulakis EK, et al. Blood, organ and bone marrow donation: attitudes and socio-emotional determinants among nursing students in Greece. Transfus Apher Sci. 2022.
- Antoniou M, et al. Assessing mental resilience with individual and lifestyle determinants among nursing students. AIMS Public Health. 2024; 11:946–961.
- Akrivouli G, et al. When Risk Persists: Two-Time Longitudinal Assessment of Healthcare Workers' Exposure Risk in the Context of COVID-19. Healthcare. 2026; 14:384.
- Tichala D, Papagiannis D, Kotsiou OS. Who Still Pays the Price of SARS-CoV-2 in the Vaccination Era? Evidence from Primary Healthcare in Greece. COVID. 2026; 6:76.

Publication Record — Executive Presentation

The full CV contains 126 numbered publications through 2026. The publication list is intentionally selective and prioritizes work most closely aligned with Public Health, Adult Immunization, infectious-disease epidemiology, seroepidemiology, respiratory infections, One Health and cardiovascular vaccination.

Selected Corresponding-Author Contributions Identified in the Source CV

- Herpes zoster after vaccination with one dose varicella vaccine to a 4-year-old child. Infez Med. 2019.
- Prevention of infectious diseases in professional footballers. Archives of Hellenic Medicine. 2019.
- Regional variation and socioeconomic determinants of suicide mortality in Greece before and during economic crisis. Applied Sciences. 2020.
- Acceptability of COVID-19 Vaccination among Greek Health Professionals. Vaccines. 2021.
- Registry systems for COVID-19 Vaccines and rate of acceptability in twelve countries. Infectious Disease Reports. 2022.

Editorial Leadership, Peer Review & Scholarly Authorship

Guest Editor

- Vaccines — Special Issue: “Vaccines and Vaccinations During and After the Pandemic Period”.
- Vaccines — Special Issue: “Vaccines and Vaccinations in Pandemic Period”.
- Frontiers in Public Health — Research Topic: “Psychosocial Work Environment During the COVID-19 Pandemic”.

Editorial Board Membership

- Emergency Care Company.
- Open Journal of Public Health.
- Academia Global and Public Health.

Reviewer

- Vaccines
- Viruses
- Occupational and Environmental Medicine
- BMC Public Health
- Childhood Obesity
- Rural and Remote Health
- Open Journal of Public Health
- Clinical Epidemiology
- Occupational Medicine & Health Affairs
- AIMS Public Health
- Annals of Virology and Research
- Journal of Chronic Diseases and Management

Books, Chapters & Technical/Academic Authorship — Selected

- Chapter “Vaccines” in Cardiology Topics, 1st ed., 2022. ISBN 978-618-5515-22-5.
- Contribution to the Oxford Handbook of Geriatrics (as listed in the source CV).
- Multiple ENhANCE / EU Erasmus+ technical reports and curriculum deliverables on the Family and Community Nurse professional profile and European curriculum.
- Chapter: “The Medical Heritage of Thessaly: From Myth to Modern Science – 3500 Years of Uninterrupted History” in the collective volume From Hippocrates to the Present – How I Imagine Medicine.
- Member of the editorial team for the Ethics and Research Conduct Committee Regulations, Department of Nursing (2020).
- Member of the editorial team for the PhD Thesis Regulations, Department of Nursing (2020–2024).
- Chair, Ethics and Bioethics Committee, TEI of Thessaly (2018); editor of Internal Regulations.
- Antoniou M, Fradelos EC, Malli F, Papagiannis D. Psychological Resilience: Protective and Risk Factors. 2025; pp.17–39. ISBN 979-8-89530-427-3.

Doctoral Supervision & Research Mentoring

Principal Supervisor

- Magdalini Christodoulou — Seroepidemiological Study of Coxiella burnetii Exposure in Thessaly and Central Macedonia and implications for regional Public Health policies. University of Thessaly. Completed.
- Maria Antoniou — Mental Resilience, Sense of Trust, Anxiety Symptoms and Learning Difficulties among Nursing Students. University of Thessaly. Ongoing.
- Zoe Papanikolaou — Epidemiological Surveillance of Emerging Upper Respiratory Tract Infections through an innovative rapid streptococcal detection test, combined with evaluation of childhood/adolescent vaccination status. University of Thessaly. Ongoing.
- Maria Bakali — Primary Health Care and Oral Health: sense of coherence, oral-health literacy, orofacial aesthetic satisfaction and oral-health-related quality of life. University of Thessaly. Ongoing.

Doctoral Supervisory Committee Membership

- Athena Blougoura — Risk Assessment in Swimming Pools of the Attica Region, University of West Attica. Ongoing.
- Garifallia Akrivouli — Occupational Risk Assessment of Healthcare Workers Exposed to SARS-CoV-2, University of Thessaly. Completed.
- Anastasios Christakis — Impact of Screen Exposure on Behaviour, Development and Sleep Habits among Preschool Children, University of Thessaly. Ongoing.
- Eleni Rousogianni — RSV, SARS-CoV-2, Influenza A/B and Adenovirus among symptomatic adults and clinical impact, School of Medicine, University of Thessaly. Ongoing.
- Vasileia Berberian — Adenovirus and RSV surveillance in adults and association with morbidity, School of Medicine, University of Thessaly. Ongoing.
- Maria Diamantopoulou — Physicians' and Nurses' perceptions of environmental crisis-related issues, University of Peloponnese. Ongoing.
- Eleftheria Takou — Eco-anxiety among primary school students and teachers and the impact of climate change on children's mental health, University of Thessaly. Ongoing.
- Elisavet Georgiou — Effects of extreme flood events on adolescent mental health, University of Thessaly. Ongoing.

Mentoring Profile

Supervision spans infectious-disease epidemiology, seroepidemiology, vaccination, respiratory-virus surveillance, occupational health, oral health, environmental/climate health, mental health and child development.

Selected Invited Lectures, Scientific Meetings & Leadership

- 2024 — 1st Northern Greece Conference of Biomedical Laboratory Sciences: “Leptospirosis as a Public Health Threat After Major Disasters”.
- 2024 — Academy of General Medicine webinar: “Evaluating the Need for Booster Vaccination Against Pertussis and Herpes Zoster”.
- 2024 — 26th Panhellenic Pulmonology Days: “Recent Developments in Adult Vaccinations” and “The Importance of Rapid Diagnostic Tests”; Chair, “Vaccinations in the Post-Pandemic Era”.
- 2024 — 1st Congress of the Academy of General Medicine: “Public Health Priorities in Primary Care: Focus on Vaccinations and Infectious Diseases”.
- 2024 — University of Thessaly Open Lectures: “Climate Crisis and Public Health After the Pandemic”.
- 2023 — Adult Vaccination Against Pertussis event, Athens: national seroepidemiological study on pertussis in adults.
- 2023 — 25th Panhellenic Pulmonology Days: “Latest Data on Adult Vaccines”.
- 2023 — 15th Hepato-Gastroenterology Event, University of Ioannina: “Contemporary Challenges in Public Health”.
- 2023 — 49th Panhellenic Medical Conference: “Home Care and Nursing in Primary Health Care – Findings from the 2022 National Study”.
- 2022 — Panhellenic Congress of Sports Management & Recreation: “Public Health Systems During the COVID-19 Pandemic – The Super League 1 Model”.
- 2022 — 28th Medical Conference of the Armed Forces: “Epidemiological Surveillance of COVID-19 in the Workplace – The Super League Hellas Model”.
- 2022 — Presentation of national seroepidemiological study data on pertussis in adults, Athens.
- 2021 — 24th Cardiology Conference of Central Greece: “COVID-19 Vaccines – Myths and Reality”.
- 2021 — Advisory Board on Adult Booster Vaccination: “Low Vaccination Coverage Against Tetanus–Diphtheria–Pertussis Among Adults”.
- 2020 — 21st Panhellenic Pulmonology Conference: “SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine: Where Do We Stand?”.
- 2019 — Pharmaceutical Association of Larissa: “The Timeless Contribution of Vaccines Against the Anti-Vaccination Movement”.
- 2019 — Scientific Symposium of Biomedical Laboratory Sciences: implementation of national vaccination programmes and global infectious-disease reduction.
- 2018 — 8th Public Health Forum: Vice President, Organizing Committee; presentation on vaccination strategies and anti-vaccination groups.
- 2014 — University Hospital of Larissa workshop: vaccination coverage recording methods and creation of digital registry systems.
- 2013 — Hpro Immune Partners Meeting: development of vaccination tools for health professionals in the EU.

The full CV lists 42 invited participations as speaker or chairperson.

Awards, Scientific Societies & Public Engagement

Awards and Honors

- 2023 — Proof-of-Concept Research Award, University of Thessaly Technology Transfer Office / Research Committee (MIS 5133275; ERDF co-financing). Funded proposal: epidemiological surveillance of SARS-CoV-2, RSV, influenza and adenovirus through development of a rapid multiplex antigen detection method. Award amount: €4,500.
- 2025 — Best Scientific Paper Award, 1st International Interdisciplinary Conference of Public Sector Doctoral Researchers, for work on SARS-CoV-2, Public Health, epidemiological developments and administrative response.
- 2026 — 1st Award for Oral Presentation, 1st Panhellenic Congress of the Academy of General Practitioners and Primary Health Care, Kalamata: "Assessment of Herpes Zoster seroprevalence on Health Professionals".

Scientific Societies & Professional/Public Engagement

- Member, EU SHIPSAN Association.
- Member, Hellenic Academy of General/Family Medicine and Primary Health Care.
- Member, Forum of Public Health and Social Preventive Medicine (2017–2025).
- Founding Board Member, Social Clinic & Pharmacy of Larissa, Medical School, University of Thessaly.
- Founding Member and President, Voluntary Blood Donation Bank of the Cultural and Educational Association of Geraniotes.
- President, Cultural and Educational Association of Geraniotes (2008–2011).
- Alternate Member, Board of Directors, Larissa Municipal Regional Theatre (2004–2006; 2008–2009).
- Elected Alternate Member, Board of Directors, Auxiliary Pension Fund T.E.A.Y.F.E. (2015).

Public-Health Orientation

Academic and public engagement is consistently centered on prevention, vaccination, health education, surveillance, professional training and translation of epidemiological evidence into community and health-system practice.

Selected Institutional Contributions

- Leadership of the Public Health and Adults Immunization Laboratory, University of Thessaly.
- Participation in academic regulations concerning research ethics and doctoral studies.
- Educational material development in Hygiene, Laboratory Safety, Immunology, First Aid and Blood Donation.
- Long-standing participation in scientific meetings as speaker, chairperson, organizer and workshop contributor.

Executive Academic Summary

Academic Leadership

- Professor of Public Health, University of Thessaly.
- President, General Department of Larissa.
- Director, Public Health and Adults Immunization Laboratory.
- Adjunct Professor, Hellenic Open University.
- Visiting Researcher/Lecturer, University of Cyprus.

Research & Scholarship

- 126 publications listed in the source CV through 2026.
- Research emphasis on adult vaccination, seroepidemiology, vaccine hesitancy, respiratory infections, COVID-19, Q fever, One Health and cardiovascular vaccination.
- National and multiregional population studies, workplace surveillance and applied rapid-diagnostic research.
- Guest-editor, editorial-board and reviewer experience across Public Health, vaccination, infectious-disease and occupational-health journals.

Education & Mentoring

- Teaching across Nursing, Medicine and postgraduate programmes.
- 12 doctoral supervision/committee roles listed in the source CV, including completed and ongoing dissertations.
- Curriculum and technical-report contributions within the EU Erasmus+ ENhANCE programme.
- Academic-regulation and ethics/bioethics contributions.

Recognition & Scientific Visibility

- University of Thessaly Proof-of-Concept research funding award.
- Best Scientific Paper Award (2025).
- First prize for oral presentation at the Panhellenic Congress of the Academy of General Practitioners and Primary Health Care (2026).
- 42 invited scientific meeting participations listed as speaker or chairperson.

Selected Keywords

Public Health | Adult Immunization | Vaccination | Vaccine Hesitancy | Seroepidemiology | Infectious Diseases | Respiratory Viruses | COVID-19 | Pertussis | Diphtheria | Tetanus | HPV | RSV | Q Fever | One Health | Occupational Health | Epidemiological Surveillance | Rapid Diagnostics | Cardiovascular Prevention |.