

CURRICULUM VITAE

Name: Joanne Rachel Traeger-Synodinos

Date & place of birth: 9th February 1957, London, UK.

Nationality: British (and Greek through marriage).

Marital & family status: Married, 3 children (Born 1980, 1983, 1986)

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CURRENT POSITION HELD:

Oct 2012- present: Associate Professor of Genetics, Laboratory of Medical Genetics, School of Medicine, National & Kapodistrian University of Athens (Permanent tenure).

PROFESSIONAL HISTORY

2006-Oct2012: Assistant Professor of Genetics, Laboratory of Medical Genetics, School of Medicine, National & Kapodistrian University of Athens (Permanent tenure).

1999-2005: Clinical Scientist, Greek National Health System, Laboratory of Medical Genetics, Athens University, Choremio Research Laboratory, St. Sophia's Children's Hospital.

1986-1999: Clinical Scientist, Greek National Health System, First Department of Paediatrics, Athens University, Choremio Research Laboratory, St. Sophia's Children's Hospital.

1983-1985: Research Associate, First Department of Paediatrics, Athens University, Choremio Research Laboratory, St. Sophia's Children's Hospital. (Scholarship from the Greek National Research Institute).

QUALIFICATIONS AND ACADEMIC BACKGROUND

1978-1982 **Doctor of Philosophy**, (D.Phil. Oxon), University of Oxford, UK.

Title: "The synthesis of Haemoglobin E", in the Nuffield Department of Medicine, under supervision of Professor Sir David Weatherall and Dr. Bill Wood.

The thesis focused on the mechanisms underlying the reduced biosynthesis of this abnormal haemoglobin, common in SE Asia, through protein, messenger RNA and DNA studies. The findings resulted in publications in Nature and the Journal of Clinical Investigation.

1975- 1978 **B.Sc. Hons** in Physiology and Biochemistry, University of Reading, UK.

1967-1975 **High school education:** Ealing Grammar School for Girls.

GCE A-levels: Zoology, Chemistry, Physics. GCE O-levels: Biology, Chemistry and Physics, English Language, English Literature, History, Mathematics, French, Geography.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Throughout my D.Phil and in all positions I have held during the last almost 30 years (which were all essentially associated with the same core departments) I have been involved in the field of molecular biology and its application to human genetics. My main research interests have focused on:

1983-present: Genetic and genomic analysis of common and rare monogenic diseases, including haemoglobinopathies (**a recognized international expert**), cystic fibrosis, phenylketonuria, familial hypercholesterolaemia, RETT syndrome, paediatric podocytopathies.

1988-present: Genotype-phenotype correlations in haemoglobinopathies, cystic fibrosis and RETT syndrome, with the aim of identifying pathophysiological mechanisms, as well as disease prognosis.

1992-present: Developing laboratory protocols for detecting genetic variation, applied also to genetic diagnostic procedures and prenatal diagnosis.

1997-present: Developing laboratory protocols for preimplantation genetic diagnosis of monogenic diseases (PGD) (**a recognized international expert**).

2005-present: Developing laboratory protocols for noninvasive prenatal diagnosis (NIPD).

2011-present: MicroRNA studies in human erythroid progenitors and terminally differentiated erythrocytes in ex-vivo cell cultures. Initial aims are to investigate whether miRNAs play a role in the pathophysiology of haemoglobinopathies. The latter may potentially support novel approaches for therapeutic interventions in patients with thalassaemia and sickle cell anaemia, a long-standing goal in the haemoglobinopathies' field. Subsequent aims include 1). The identification of normal erythroid-cell mRNA transcripts (and genes) targeted by miRNAs and the core binding sites recognized by the miRNAs; 2) The investigation of sequence variations in erythroid-specific miRNAs and the core binding sites of their associated mRNAs, the frequency of these variations in the general population and their possible influence on erythroid phenotypes in normal and disease states; 3) The investigation of likely selective pressures or constraints influencing nucleotide sequence variations in miRNAs and mRNA core binding-sites in the erythroid system, with potential extrapolation to general principles of miRNA sequence structure and function..

TEACHING

I have over 20 years of teaching experience, initially as an affiliated non-academic member of the Athens University clinics, and subsequently in a more official capacity as an Assistant Professor of Genetics. My more recent experience is summarized below:

Undergraduate lectures

2004-present: Elective for medical students in Human Genetics (2 hours /semester)

2006-present: Elective for medical students in Prenatal Diagnosis and High-Risk Pregnancies (2 hours /semester)

Postgraduate lectures

Lectures in several different Master's courses run by departments in the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens Medical School and the Departments of Biology and Chemistry.

2007-present: Masters in clinical paediatrics for nurses (Molecular Genetics and Polygenic Diseases, 2 hours /semester).

2007-present: Masters in Molecular Medicine for clinicians and biological scientists (Molecular Genetics, 2 hours /semester).

2007-present: Masters in female reproduction for clinicians and biological scientists (Molecular Genetics, 2 hours /semester).

2000-present: Masters in Clinical Chemistry for chemists and biological scientists (Molecular Methods, 2 hours /semester).

2008-present: Masters in Clinical Biochemistry and Molecular Diagnosis for chemists and biological scientists (Molecular Genetics of Monogenic Diseases, 2 hours /semester).

Dissertations and Thesis

2008 and 2011: Supervisor of 2 undergraduate dissertations (completed)

2006-present: Co-supervisor of 14 Master's dissertations (13 completed, 1 on-going)

2010-present: Co-supervisor of 4 PhD thesis projects (on-going)

Laboratory training

In the last almost 30 years, I have trained scientists and clinicians (Greek and International) in molecular biology methods, as well as "best practice" for laboratory protocols and sample processing.

Examiner

2005- present: as an Assistant (and now Associate) Professor I am involved in writing exam questions, marking examination papers for all the courses I teach in. In addition I regularly evaluate the written and oral presentations of undergraduate dissertations, and masters' and doctorate theses from various departments in the **University of Athens** (Medical School, Departments of Basic and Life Sciences) and other Universities throughout **Greece**. In addition I am currently evaluating 3 Doctorate Thesis submitted at Universities in the **UK** (UCL, London), the **Netherlands** (University of Leiden) and **Australia** (University of Western Australia); I will attend the viva examinations of the PhD candidates in UCL and Leiden Universities.

International Teaching

I am often invited to teach in international workshops, seminars etc, including

- 2011 ESH-ENERCA Training Course on Haemoglobin Disorders: Laboratory diagnosis and clinical management, Brussels, Belgium
Title: Prevention of Thalassaemia and Sickle Cell Disease: Antenatal diagnosis and pre-implantation diagnosis»
- 2010 ESHRE Campus, London, UK, March, 2010.
Title: Approaching accreditation of a PGD centre: Where to start - writing SOPs and risk assessments.
- 2008 European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology, Basic Genetics for ART practitioners, Athens
Title: Basics of monogenic inheritance”.
- 2008 ESHRE Campus, Brno, Czeck Republic.
Title: «Examination Process, Quality Management System and Accreditation in PGD Clinics and Laboratories.
- 2007 European School of Haematology (ESH), Disorders of Iron Homeostasis, Erythrocytes and Erythropoiesis, Athens
Title: Preimplantation diagnosis of thalassaemia.
- 2006 European School of Genetic Medicine, 4th Course in Thalassaemia and Related Disorders in the Mediterranean, University of Bologna Residential Centre, Bertinoro, Italy.
Title: Molecular Diagnosis of thalassaemia.
- 2005 European School of Genetic Medicine, 3rd Course in Thalassaemia and Related Disorders in the Mediterranean, University of Bologna Residential Centre, Bertinoro, Italy.
Title: Alpha-thalassaemia.
- 2004 European School of Genetic Medicine, 2nd Course in Thalassaemia and Related Disorders in the Mediterranean, University of Bologna Residential Centre, Bertinoro, Italy
Title: Epidemiology, molecular genetics and implications for prevention of alpha-thalassaemia in the Mediterranean».

ORGANIZATIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

- 1983-1986: I played a key role assisting in the establishment of one of the first molecular biology/ molecular genetics laboratories in Greece.
- 1986-2009: I was a member of committees for evaluating tenders for the procurement of laboratory equipment and consumables, mainly for laboratories in the St. Sophia’s Children’s Hospital, the Laboratory of Medical Genetics and other research centres in Greece.
- 1986-present: I supervise of a small team for routine molecular diagnostics (including prenatal diagnosis) for haemoglobin disorders and thalassaemia, handling approximately 600 carrier, patient and prenatal samples annually.
- 1997-present: I supervise of a small team offering preimplantation genetic diagnosis (PGD) mainly for monogenic diseases (common and rare diseases), and also microarrays for molecular karyotyping (Preimplantation Genetic Screening, PGS). We are the most experienced group

in Greece and one of the most active groups in the PGD Consortium, an international special interest group under the auspices of the European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology (ESHRE).

Co-organiser of international meetings and workshops:

- 2012 A Best Practice Meeting for Molecular Diagnosis of Haemoglobinopathies, under the auspices of the EU funded European Molecular Genetics Quality Network (EMQN), Leiden, September 2012.
- 2011 An ESHRE Campus symposium, in collaboration with Eurogentest, entitled "Accreditation of a Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis Laboratory", Athens.
- 2010 An international symposium entitled "Preimplantation genetic Diagnosis: 20 years", Athens.
- 2008 A European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology (ESHRE) Campus, entitled "Basic genetics for ART practitioners", Athens.
- 2008 An ESHRE Campus, entitled "Quality system management and accreditation process for PGD clinics and laboratories" Brno, Czech Republic.
- 2002 A Best Practice Meeting for Molecular Diagnosis of Haemoglobinopathies, under the auspices of the EU funded European Molecular Genetics Quality Network (EMQN), Manchester, UK.

SOCIETIES AND NON-STIPENDIARY APPOINTMENTS

- 2012(-2014): Chair of the Steering Committee of the ESHRE PGD Consortium.
- 2011-present: Member of the International Advisory Committee for the ITHANET Portal (www.ithanet.eu)
- 2010-2012: Deputy Chair of the ESHRE PGD Consortium Steering Committee.
- 2008-present: Scientific advisor and board member of the Greek Alliance for Rare Diseases (affiliated to EURORDIS)
- 2004 to 2010: Steering Committee Member of the ESHRE PGD Consortium
- 2004-2007: Board member of the Hellenic Association of Medical Geneticists.
- 2004-present: Member of the European Society for Human Reproduction and Embryology (ESHRE)
- 1998-present: Editorial Board of HEMOGLOBIN, and from 2003 Associate Editor.
- 1990-present: Member of the European Society of Human Genetics (ESHG).

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

To date, my research activities have lead to **> 115 peer reviewed** publications in ISI journals (impact factor >490, average IF 4.5, >1800 citations), as well as contributions to 6 books and invitations to lecture nationally and internationally.

1. **Traeger J**, Wood WG, Clegg JB, Weatherall DJ, Wasi P. Defective synthesis of HbE is due to reduced levels of β E mRNA. Nature 288: 497- 499, 1980.
2. **Traeger J**, Winichagoon P, Wood WG. Instability of β E mRNA during erythroid cell maturation in HbE homozygotes. Journal Clinical Investigation 69: 1050- 1053, 1982.

3. Kattamis C, Tzotzos S, Kanavakis E, **Synodinos J**, Metaxotou-Mavromati A. Correlation of clinical phenotype to genotype in HbH disease. *The Lancet* 1: 442-444, 1988.
4. **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Tzetis M, Kanavakis E, Metaxotou-Mavromati A, Kattamis C. The Corfu $\delta\beta$ -thalassemia mutation in Greece: Hematological phenotype and prevalence. *British Journal of Haematology* 79: 302- , 1991.
5. **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Kanavakis E, Tzetis M, Kattamis A, Kattamis C. Characterization of non-deletion α -thalassemia mutations in the Greek population. *American Journal of Hematology* 44: 162-167, 1993.
6. Hall GW, Thein SL, Newland AC, Chisholm M, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Kanavakis E, Kattamis C, Higgs DR. A base substitution (T->C) in codon 29 of the $\alpha 2$ -globin gene causes α -thalassaemia. *British Journal of Haematology* 85: 546-552, 1993.
7. Tzetis M, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Kanavakis E, Metaxotou-Mavromati A, Kattamis C. The molecular basis of normal HbA₂ (type 2) β -thalassemia in Greece. *Hematologic Pathology* 8: 25-34, 1994.
8. Stefanis L. Kanavakis E, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Tzetis M, Metaxotou-Mavromati A, Kattamis C. Hematological phenotype of the mutations IVS1-n6 (T>C), IVS1-n110 (G>A), CD39 (C>T) in carriers of beta thalassaemia in Greece. *Pediatric Hematology and Oncology* 11: 509-517, 1994.
9. **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Kanavakis E, Kalogerakou M, Soulpi K, Missiou-Tsangaraki S, Kattamis C. Preliminary mutation analysis in the phenylalanine hydroxylase gene in Greek PKU and HPA patients. *Human Genetics* 94: 573-575, 1994.
10. Kanavakis E, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Tzetis M, Metaxotou-Mavromati A, Ladis B, Kattamis C. Molecular characterization of homozygous (high HbA₂) β -thalassaemia intermedia in Greece. *Pediatric Hematology and Oncology* 12: 37-45, 1995.
11. Kanavakis E, Tzetis M, Antoniadis Th, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Doudounakis S, Adam G, Matsaniotis N, Kattamis C. Mutation analysis of 10 exons of the CFTR gene in Greek Cystic Fibrosis patients: characterization of 74.5% of CF alleles including 1 novel mutation. *Human Genetics* 96: 364-366, 1995.
12. Kanavakis E, Tzetis M, Antoniadis Th, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Doudounakis S, Adam, Kattamis C. Mild cystic fibrosis phenotype in patients with the 3272-26A>G mutation. *Journal of Medical Genetics* 32: 406-407, 1995.
13. Tzetis M, Kanavakis E, Antoniadis Th, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Doudounakis S, Adam G, Kattamis C. Identification of two novel mutations (296+1G>C and A46D) in exon 2 of the CFTR gene in Greek cystic fibrosis patients. *Molecular and Cellular Probes*, 9: 283-285, 1995.
14. Kanavakis E, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Vrettou C, Metaxotou-Mavromati A, Lagona E, Kattamis C. The interaction of $\alpha 0$ thalassaemia with Hb Icaria: 3 unusual cases of haemoglobinopathy H. *British Journal of Haematology* 92: 332-335, 1996.
15. **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Kanavakis E, Vrettou C, Maragoudaki E, Michael Th, Metaxotou-Mavromati A, Kattamis C. The triplicated alpha globin gene locus in β -thalassaemia heterozygotes: clinical, haematological, biosynthetic and molecular studies. *British Journal of Haematology* 95: 467-471, 1996.

16. Mavroidis N, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Kanavakis E, Drogari E, Kattamis C, Matsaniotis N, Day I, Humphries S. Preliminary mutation analysis in Greek Familial Hypercholesterolemia (FH) patients. including the identification of one novel mutation in the Low Density Lipoprotein-Receptor (LDL-R) gene. *Human Mutation* 9: 274-276, 1997.
17. Kanavakis E, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Vrettou C, Maragoudaki E, Tzetzis M, Kattamis C. Prenatal diagnosis of the thalassemia syndromes by rapid DNA analytical methods. *Molecular Human Reproduction* 3: 523-528, 1997.
18. **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Maragoudaki E, Vrettou C, Kanavakis E, Kattamis C. Rare β -thalassemia mutations in the Greek and Greek Cypriot populations. *Hemoglobin* 22: 89-94, 1998.
19. **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Mavroidis N, Kanavakis E, Drogari E, Matsaniotis N, Humphries S, Day INM, Kattamis, C. Analysis of low density lipoprotein receptor gene mutations and microsatellite haplotypes in Greek FH heterozygous children: six independent ancestors account for 60% of probands. *Human Genetics* 102: 343-347, 1998.
20. **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Metaxotou-Mavromati A, Kanavakis E, Vrettou C, Papasotiriou I, Michael T, Kattamis C. Alpha thalassaemic hemoglobinopathy: homozygosity for the hemoglobin Agrinio alpha-globin chain variant. *Hemoglobin* 22, 209-215, 1998.
21. Papassotiriou I, Kister J, Griffon N, Abraham DJ, Kanavakis E, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Stamoulakatou A, Marden MC, Poyart C. Synthesized allosteric effectors of the hemoglobin molecule: a possible mechanism for improved erythrocyte oxygen release capability in hemoglobinopathy H disease. *Experimental Hematology* 26: 922-926, 1998.
22. Maragoudaki E, Vrettou C, Kanavakis E, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Metaxotou-Mavromati A, Kanavakis E. The rare silent β gene C->G mutation at 6bp 3' to the termination codon; Molecular, haematological and clinical studies in 12 Greek families. *British Journal of Haematology* 103: 45-51, 1998.
23. Papassotiriou I, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Kanavakis E, Karagiorga M, Stamoulakatou A, Kattamis C. Erythroid marrow activity and hemoglobin H levels in HbH disease. *Journal of Pediatric Hematology-Oncology* 20: 539-544, 1998.
24. Papassotiriou I, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Prome D, Kister J, Stamou E, Liakopoulou T, Stamoulakatou A, Kanavakis E, Wajcman H. Association of unstable hemoglobin variants and heterozygous β -thalassaemia: example of a new variant HbAcharnes or [β 53 (D4) Ala>Thr]. *American Journal of Hematology* 62: 186-192, 1999.
25. Papassotiriou I, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Vlachou C, Karagiorga M, Metaxotou A, Kanavakis E, Stamoulakatou A. Rapid and accurate quantitation of hemoglobins Barts and H using weak cation-exchange high pressure liquid chromatography: correlation with the α -thalassaemia genotype. *Hemoglobin* 23: 203-211, 1999.
26. **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Metaxotou-Mavromati A, Karagiorga M, Papasotiriou I, Vrettou C, Stamoulakatou A, Kanavakis E. Interaction of an α^+ thalassaemia deletion with either a highly unstable α -globin variant (α 2, codon 59 GGC>GAC) or a nondeletion alpha-thalassaemia mutation (AATAAA>AATAAG): comparison of phenotypes illustrating "dominant" alpha-thalassaemia. *Hemoglobin* 23: 325-337, 1999.

27. **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Hartevelde K, Kanavakis E, Giordano PC, Kattamis C, Bernini LF. Hb-Aghia Sophia [α 62 (E11) Val>o (α 1)], an "in-frame" deletion causing alpha thalassemia. *Hemoglobin* 23: 317-324, 1999.
28. Maragoudaki E, Kanavakis E, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Vrettou C, Tzetis M, Metaxotou-Mavrommati A, Kattamis C. Molecular, haematological and clinical studies of the -101C>T substitution in the β -globin gene promoter in 25 β -thalassemia intermedia patients and 45 heterozygotes. *British Journal of Haematology* 107: 699-706, 1999.
29. Vrettou C, Palmer G, Kanavakis E, Tzetis M, Antoniadis T, Mastrominas M, **Traeger-Synodinos J**. A widely applicable strategy for single cell genotyping of β -thalassemia mutations using DGGE analysis: application to preimplantation genetic diagnosis. *Prenatal Diagnosis* 19: 1209-1216, 1999.
30. Kanavakis E, Vrettou C, Palmer G, Tzetis M, Mastrominas M, **Traeger-Synodinos J**. Preimplantation genetic diagnosis in 10 couples at risk for transmitting β -thalassemia major: clinical experience including the initiation of six singleton pregnancies. *Prenatal Diagnosis* 19: 1217-1222, 1999.
31. Vrettou C, Kanavakis E, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Metaxotou-Mavrommati A, Basiakos I, Maragoudaki E, Stamoulakatou A, Papassotiriou I, Kattamis C. Molecular studies in β -thalassemia heterozygotes with raised HbF levels. *Hemoglobin* 24: 203-220, 2000.
32. **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Papassotiriou I, Metaxotou-Mavrommati A, Vrettou C, Stamoulakatou A, Kanavakis E. Distinct phenotypic expression associated with a new hyperunstable alpha globin variant (Hb Heraklion, α 1cd37(C2)Pro>0): comparison to other α -thalassemic hemoglobinopathies. *Blood Cells, Molecules and Diseases* 26: 276-284, 2000
33. Kanavakis E, Papassotiriou I, Karagiorga M, Vrettou C, Metaxotou-Mavrommati A, Stamoulakatou A, Kattamis C, **Traeger-Synodinos J**. Phenotypic and molecular diversity of haemoglobin H disease: a Greek experience. *British Journal of Haematology* 111: 915-923, 2000.
34. Hartevelde CL, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Ragusa A, Fichera M, Kanavakis E, Kattamis C, Giordano P, Schilirio G, Bernini LF. Multicentric origin of Hb Constant Spring [α 2 codon142 TAA>CAA]. *Haematologica* 86: 36-40, 2001.
35. Papassotiriou I, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Prome D, Kister J, Vrettou C, Xaidara A, Marden M, Stamoulakatou A, Wajcman H, Kanavakis E. Hemoglobin Sitia [b128(H6) Ala>Val]: An unstable variant with a substitution in the α 1 β 1 interface. *Hemoglobin* 25: 45-56, 2001.
36. Wajcman H., Lahary A, Promé D, Kister J, Riou J, Godart C, Préhu C, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Papassotiriou I, Galactéros F. Hb Mont Saint Aignan [b128 (H6) Ala>Pro] a new unstable variant leading to chronic microcytic anemia. *Hemoglobin* 25: 57-65, 2001.
37. **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Papassotiriou I, Vrettou C, Skarmoutsou C, Stamoulakatou A, Kanavakis E. Erythroid marrow activity and functional anemia in patients with the rare interaction of a single functional α -globin and β -globin gene. *Haematologica* 86: 363-376, 2001.
38. Palmer G, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Davies S, Tzetis M, Vrettou C, Mastrominas M, Kanavakis E. Pregnancies following blastocyst transfer in PGD cycles at risk for β -thalassaemic haemoglobinopathies. *Human Reproduction* 17: 25-31, 2002.

39. Kanavakis E, **Traeger-Synodinos J**. Preimplantation genetic diagnosis in clinical practice. *Journal of Medical Genetics* 39: 6-11, 2002. (Invited review)
40. Geraedts JP, Harper J, Braude P, Sermon K, Veiga A, Gianaroli L, Agan N, Munne S, Gitlin S, Blenow E, de Boer K, Hussey N, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Lee S-H, Viville S, Krey Ray P, Emiliani S, Liu YH, Vermeulen S. Preimplantation genetic diagnosis (PGD), a collaborative activity of clinical genetic departments and IVF centres. *Prenatal Diagnosis* 22: 451-454, 2002.
41. Vrettou C, Tzetzis M, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Palmer G, Kanavakis E. Multiplex sequence variation detection throughout the CFTR gene appropriate for preimplantation genetic diagnosis in populations with heterogeneity of cystic fibrosis mutations. *Molecular Human Reproduction* 8: 880-886, 2002.
42. **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Papassotiriou I, Karagiorga M, Premetis E, Kanavakis E, Stamoulakatou A. Unusual phenotypic observations associated with a rare HbH disease genotype ($--^{Med}/\alpha^{TSaudi}\alpha$): implications for clinical management. *British Journal of Haematology* 119: 265-267, 2002.
43. Kanavakis E, Efthymiadou A, Strofalis S, Doudounakis S, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Tzetzis M. Cystic fibrosis in Greece: molecular diagnosis, haplotype frameworks, prenatal diagnosis and carrier identification amongst high-risk individuals. *Clinical Genetics* 63: 400-409, 2003.
44. Vrettou C, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Tzetzis M, Malamis G, Kanavakis E. Rapid screening of multiple β -globin gene mutations by real time PCR (Lightcycler): application to carrier screening and prenatal diagnosis for thalassemia syndromes. *Clinical Chemistry* 49: 769-776, 2003.
45. **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Vrettou C, Palmer G, Tzetzis M, Mastrominas M, Davies S, Kanavakis E. An evaluation of preimplantation genetic diagnosis in clinical genetic services through three years application for prevention of β -thalassaemia major and sickle cell thalassaemia. *Molecular Human Reproduction* 9: 301-307, 2003.
46. Skarmoutsou C, Papassotiriou I, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Stamou H, Ladis V, Metaxotou-Mavrommati A, Stamoulakatou A, Kanavakis E. Erythroid bone marrow activity and red cell hemoglobinization in iron sufficient β -thalassemia heterozygotes by measurement of soluble transferrin receptor (sTfR) and reticulocyte hemoglobin content (CHR): correlation with genotypes and Hb A₂ levels. *Haematologica* 88: 631-636, 2003.
47. Stamoulakatou A, Athanasiou-Metaxa M, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Lazaropoulou C, Harteveld K, Premetis E, Tsantali H, Zorai A, Giordano P, Papassotiriou I, Kanavakis E. Rare thalassaemic syndrome caused by interaction of Hb Questembert ($\alpha 1$ codon 131, TCT>CCT, Ser>Pro) with an α -thalassaemia-2 deletion: implications for diagnosis and management. *Blood Cells Molecules and Diseases* 32: 118-123, 2004.
48. Kanavakis E, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Lafioniatis S, Lazaropoulou C, Liakopoulou T, Paleologos G, Metaxotou-Mavrommati A, Stamoulakatou A, Papassotiriou I. A rare example that co-inheritance of a severe form of β -thalassemia and α -thalassemia interact in a "synergistic" manner to balance the phenotype of classic thalassaemic syndromes. *Blood Cells, Molecules and Diseases* 32: 319-324, 2004.
49. Karagianni C, Stabouli S, Roumeliotou K, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Kavazarakis D, Gourgiotis D, Lambrou J, Kanavakis E. Severe hypertriglyceridaemia in diabetic ketoacidosis: clinical and genetic study. *Diabetic Medicine* 20: 21: 380-382, 2004.

50. Vrettou C, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Tzetzis M, Palmer G, Sofocleous C, Kanavakis E. PCR for single cell genotyping in sickle cell and thalassemia syndromes as a rapid, accurate, reliable and widely applicable protocol for preimplantation genetic diagnosis. *Human Mutation* 23: 513-521, 2004.
51. Dimisianos G, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Vrettou C, Papasotiriou I, Kanavakis E. A rare 33bp in-frame deletion of the $\alpha 1$ -globin gene causing α^+ -thalassemia: a second observation. *Hemoglobin* 28(2):137-43, 2004.
52. Kavazarakis E, Stabouli S, Gouriotis D, Roumeliotou K, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Bossios A, Fretzayes A, Kanavakis E. Severe hypertriglyceridemia in a Greek infant: Clinical, Biochemical and Genetic Study. *European Journal of Pediatrics* 163(8):462-6, 2004.
53. Talmaci R, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Kanavakis E, Coriu D, Colita D, Gavrilă L. Scanning of beta-globin gene for identification of beta-thalassemia mutation in Romanian population. *Journal of Cellular and Molecular Medicine* 8(2):232-240, 2004.
54. Schulpis KH, Tsakiris S, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Papassotiriou I. Low total antioxidant status is implicated with high 8-hydroxy-2-deoxyguanosine serum concentrations in phenylketonuria. *Clinical Biochemistry* 38(3):239-42, 2005.
55. Kokkali G, Vrettou C, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Jones GM, Cram DS, Stavrou D, Trounson AO, Kanavakis E, Pantos K. Birth of a healthy infant following trophoctoderm biopsy from blastocysts for PGD of {beta}-thalassaemia major: Case report. *Human Reproduction* 2005 Jul;20(7):1855-9
56. Papassotiriou I, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Marden MC, Kister J, Liapi D, Prome D, Stamoulakatou A, Wajcman H, Kanavakis E. The homozygous state for Hb Crete [β 129 (H7) Ala \rightarrow Pro] is associated with a complex phenotype including erythrocytosis and functional anemia. *Blood Cells Molecules and Diseases* 34(3):229-34, 2005.
57. Harper JC, Boelaert K, Geraedts J, Harton G, Kearns WG, Moutou C, Muntjewerff N, Repping S, SenGupta S, Scriven PN, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Vesela K, Wilton L, Sermon KD. ESHRE PGD Consortium data collection V: cycles from January to December 2002 with pregnancy follow-up to October 2003. *Human Reproduction* 21(1):3-21, 2006.
58. Zerefos PG, Ioannou PC, **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Dimissianos G, Kanavakis E, Christopoulos TK. Photoprotein aequorin as a novel reporter for SNP genotyping by primer extension-application to the variants of mannose-binding lectin gene. *Human Mutation* 27(3):279-85, 2006.
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SCIENTIFIC BOOKS

Editor and contributor in 2; Contributor in 4

1. **Traeger-Synodinos J**. New Developments in Prenatal Diagnosis. In: The Prevention of Thalassaemia and other haemoglobinopathies, Volume 1. Eds. Agastiniotis M, Eleftheriou A, Galanello R, Old J, Petrou M, Traeger-Synodinos J. **Thalassaemia International Federation, 2003.** (2nd edition in preparation).
2. **Traeger-Synodinos J**. New technologies for DNA mutation detection. In: The Prevention of Thalassaemia and other haemoglobinopathies, Volume 2, A Laboratory Manual. Eds. Agastiniotis M, Eleftheriou A, Galanello R, Old J, Petrou M, Traeger-Synodinos J. **Thalassaemia International Federation. 1st edition 2004; 2nd edition 2012.**
3. Kanavakis E, **Traeger-Synodinos J**. Molecular basis of thalassaemia syndromes In **Disorders of Iron Homeostasis, Erythrocytes and Erythropoiesis.** Beaumont, Ph. Beris, C. Brugnara, M. Cazzola Eds. European School of Haematology. **2006**
4. **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Vrettou C, Kanavakis E Real-time PCR for prenatal diagnosis of monogenic diseases caused by single nucleotide changes – the example of the hemoglobinopathies. In **Real Time PCR (BIOS Advanced Methods)**. Ed Tefvik Dorak. Taylor & Francis Group. **2007**
5. **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Vrettou C, Kanavakis E. Rapid Detection of Fetal Mendelian Disorders: Thalassaemia and Sickle Cell Syndromes. In **Prenatal Diagnosis Series: Methods in Molecular Biology**, Vol. 444, Hahn, S; Jackson, LG. (Eds.) Humana Press. **2008**
6. **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Harteveld CL. Disease services: Haemoglobinopathies. In **Molecular Diagnosis of Genetic Diseases: Methods and Protocols**, 3rd Edition. Rob Elles; Andrew Wallace Eds. Humana Press. In press.
7. **Traeger-Synodinos J**, Staessen C. Preimplantation genetic diagnosis. In **Textbook of Human Reproductive Genetics**. Cambridge University Press, In preparation.

Invited talks at International meetings, since 2002

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|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2012 | 3rd Pan European Conference on Haemoglobinopathies and Rare Anaemias, October 2012, Limassol, Cyprus
Title: Advances in Molecular Diagnosis of Haemoglobinopathies. |
| 2012 | XXV International Symposium on Technical Innovations in Laboratory Hematology, Nice, France
Title: Hemoglobinopathy prevention and preimplantation genetic diagnosis (PGD). |
| 2011 | 12 th International Conference on Thalassaemias and Haemoglobinopathies, Antalya, Turkey
Title: The Molecular Basis of Alpha Thalassaemia» |
| 2011 | Catalan Network for the Diagnosis and Clinical Management of Major Haemoglobinopathies, ENERCA, Barcelona, Spain
Title: New developments in preimplantation and non-invasive prenatal diagnosis» |

- 2011 International Symposium "Progress in management of hemoglobin disorders: new perspectives for diagnostics, prevention and care", Rome, Italy
Title: The Greek experience and PGD.
- 2010 Golden Helix Symposium, Genetic Analysis In Translational Medicine, Athens.
Title: Prenatal, non-invasive and preimplantation genetic diagnosis of inherited disorders: Lessons from the hemoglobinopathies»
- 2009 European Hemoglobinopathy Forum, Paris, France
Title: An update on the epidemiology of hemoglobinopathies in Europe.
- 2008 9th International Thalassemia Conference, Cairo, Egypt.
Title: Advances in approaches for non-invasive prenatal diagnosis (NIPD) and preimplantation genetic diagnosis (PGD) of thalassemia.
- 2008 16th Meeting of Balkan Meeting of Balkan Clinical Laboratory Federation, Athens, Greece.
Title: Molecular diagnostics and Clinical chemistry: applications, technologies, laboratory requirements and quality control.
- 2007 3rd Symposium Cyprus Society of Human Genetics, Nicosia, Cyprus
Title Molecular mechanisms and phenotype-genotype relationships in monogenic diseases: lessons from the haemoglobinopathies».
- 2007 17th International Federation of Clinical Chemistry - FESCC European Congress of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine Euromedlab, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
Title: Haemoglobinopathies Identification of carriers: Screening for what?.
- 2007 International Scientific Symposium: New Methods and their applications to Assisted Reproduction. Athens.
Title: Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis for monogenic diseases: Current and emerging methods.
2006. Workshop on New Technologies for Non-Invasive Prenatal Diagnosis of Haemoglobinopathies, Limassol, Cyprus
Title: Locked nucleic acids (LNA) modified oligonucleotides
- 2005 Dubai International Pathology and Genetics Conference, Dubai, United Arab Emirates.
Title; Advances in methods for DNA analysis applied to prenatal and preimplantation genetic diagnosis of the hemoglobinopathies».
- 2002 UK Forum on Haemoglobin Disorders, Kings College Hospital, London, UK.
Title: Preimplantation genetic diagnosis applied for β -thalassaemic haemoglobinopathies: 3 years clinical experience in Greece.

Abstracts at scientific meetings

International meetings: >100

Greek meetings: >95

Patents

A patent awarded by the Greek Patent Register (OBI www.obl.gr). Application Number OBI 201002924/03-09-10

Title: Method and rapid multi-allele diagnostic test for molecular diagnosis of human β -haemoglobinopathies", Ioannou P, Christopoulos TK, Traeger-Synodinos J, Papanikos F, Iliadi A, Petropoulou M, Elenis D.

Awards

As a member of the research team in the First Department of Paediatrics and subsequently in the Laboratory of Medical Genetics I have been given the following awards (all related to molecular genetics and molecular diagnosis of human monogenic diseases):

1. The Greek Haematology Society (1997, 1998, 2011).
2. The Greek Society of Clinical Chemistry (1998)
3. The Greek Society of Paediatrics (1986, 1987, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2007, 2009).
4. The Greek Society of Paediatric Haematology-Oncology (2010)
5. The Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (2011).
6. The 4th International Congress –The young Woman at the Rise of 21st Century (1998)

Scholarships

Greek National Research Foundation as an associate researcher in the First Department of Paediatrics: 1984-1985.

FUNDED RESEARCH PROJECTS

EU funded projects

1990-1994 "Thalassemia Intermedia Syndromes: Molecular, Hematological, Clinical and Therapeutic Studies", Life Sciences and Technologies for Developing Countries (STD3). Three collaborating groups, with Athens group as co-ordinator. EU contribution 683,000ECU.

- 2002-2005, entitled: "Novel genechip technology for simplified detection of molecularly heterogeneous genetic diseases: Detection of cystic fibrosis as a model" (CF-CHIP) (see <http://www.nmrc.ie/projects/cf-chip/>), funded under the EU Fifth Framework, Quality of Life Programme (contract no. QLK3-CT-2001-01982) for the development of new diagnostics. Ten collaborating groups, EU contribution of 1,633,300 Euro (Athens group 150,000 Euro).
- 2006-2008, entitled: "Infrastructure for Thalassaemia Research Network" (Ithanet) funded under the EU Sixth Framework, Research Infrastructures - Communication Networks Development (contract number 026539). (see <http://www.ithanet.eu/>). EU contribution 1,200,000 Euro (Athens group 44,000 Euro).

Other funding

- **2012 John S. Latsis Public Benefit Foundation award.** Project title "microRNAs studies in normal and thalassaemic human erythroid progenitors to investigate modifiers of globin expression and potential therapeutic pathways for thalassaemia syndromes". I am Principle Investigator. (12,000 Euro).

• **2012 European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology (ESHRE) funded project entitled**

“The ESHRE Study into the evaluation of oocyte euploidy by microarray analysis (ESTEEM) trial”. A pragmatic, multicentre, randomized double-blind controlled trial with an intention-to-treat analysis of the use of preimplantation genetic screening (PGS) for aneuploidy by means of microarray comparative genomic hybridization (aCGH) for the chromosomal analysis of the polar bodies (PB) of oocytes collected after ovarian stimulation for in vitro fertilization (IVF) and with the intention to assess the genetic competence of oocytes of advanced biological age and the effect of this technique on reproductive outcome.

I am one of the Principle Investigators. I co-ordinate the research team in Athens and mediate between ESHRE and Athens. Funding will be centrally controlled by ESHRE and will cover the costs of all consumables for the microarray analysis and travel expenses for meetings.

I have also played fundamental roles in several other national (Greek) research proposals.