



Despoina Koulenti MD, PhD

Specialty: Specialist in internal medicine & intensive care, research focus infectious diseases

Institute: Attikon University Hospital

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Function: Senior consultant, Critical Care Department, Attikon University Hospital, & Post-doc Research Fellow (Academic appointment), BTCCRC, UQ Centre for Clinical Research, Faculty of Medicine, The University of Queensland

Key words: Pneumonia, Sepsis, Hospital-acquired infections



What else do I want to say?

Dr Despoina Koulenti is a specialist physician in internal medicine & intensive care. Her research interest is infectious diseases, especially in the critical care setting. She received her Doctor of Philosophy in Dec 2012 through the University of Athens on the topic of intensive care unit (ICU) pneumonia. Her post-doc research entitled 'Advancing infectious diseases research in critical care' is through the University of Queensland.

Contribution to the field of research: Dr Koulenti started her research career in mid-2005 when, she joined the team of the world-leading expert in critical care infections, Dr Jordi Rello. Currently her research interests include pneumonia, sepsis, hospital-acquired infections, especially from multidrug resistant pathogens, and antibiotic stewardship and dosage optimisation. Her research has helped advance the understanding of the epidemiology, diagnosis and treatment of infections in the critical care setting, especially ICU respiratory infections. The results of her research have received wide recognition, with highly cited manuscripts (e.g. Koulenti et al. CCM 2009; 37:2360-8 Scopus citations: 132]. Moreover, her research publications have been cited in 3 guidelines. At present, she is the chief investigator of a large international project on ICU pneumonia (PneumoINSPIRE endorsed by ESICM) with >200 participating sites worldwide. The project aims to be the largest multinational cohort to provide a global up-to-date information on diagnosis and management of ICU pneumonia, and to benchmark current practise to guidelines in a worldwide level. She is the current head of the **Working Group on Pneumonia** of ESICM.

International standing & Collaborations: Dr Koulenti has invited national and international presentations and session/panel chairs in the field of ICU infections, including world-leading congresses such as the ESICM Annual Congress. She has been member of advisory board, adjudication committee & Delphi panels in the field of her research. She has an extensive network of international collaborations worldwide (>90% of her publications during the last 5 years are with international collaborations – SciVal March 2018). She has wide expertise in the conduct of multicentre studies: collaborated in 16 international studies (9 since 2013). She gained significant experience in development, conduct, quality control and analysis of research projects as the study coordinator of the EU-VAP/CAP study (endorsed by ESICM), the largest European multicentre study to date to record ICU pneumonia (>2,400 recruited patients; 27 sites; 9 countries) resulting in 9 publications, 6 in the



top 5 critical care journals. She was a member of the Steering Committee of EUROBACT Study (endorsed by ESICM), and the European coordinator for the international PK/PD study DALI (endorsed by ESICM).

Honours & awards: 1) 2015, UQ Early Research Career Fellowship (2016-2018); 2) 2014, Ian Potter Research Foundation Travel Grant; 3) 2013, Research Citation Finalist Award of the Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM)

Grants: 1) 2017, CIA, Rebecca L Cooper Medical Research Foundation grant 2) 2015, AI in Centre of Research Excellence (CRE) NHMRH grant (REDUCE; 2016-2020); 3) 2014, CIB in RBWH Foundation grant.

Publications-Summary Data: Dr Koulenti has published >70 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters; 46 in international journals since 2013. The 13.5% of her publications is in the top 1% most cited publications worldwide (field-weighted). Since 2013, 73.2% of her articles were published in journals ranked in the top 10% percentiles by SJR. Her overall Field-Weighted Citation Impact (2013-2018) is 3.49 which is considered excellent (1 signifies average). She has several 1st, 2nd and senior authorships (including editorials) in important journals in the fields of critical care, infection and respiratory diseases such as Lancet Respiratory Medicine, Intensive Care Med, Crit Care Medicine. Her work has been cited in 21 different subject categories of research demonstrating its ability to translate into different disciplines. [Data above from Scopus & SciVal accessed March 2018]

Peer Review Involvement: Dr Koulenti has reviewed for 17 international journals since 2012, including leading journals, Intensive Care Med, Crit Care, Inter J Antimicrob Agents.

Congress abstract reviewer: She is abstract reviewer for ESCMID annual congress and ESICM annual congress.

Grant Review Involvement: Reviewer of ESCMID Research Grants since 2014 & ESICM Research Awards since 2018.

Contribution to Journal Club of ESICM: She reviews regularly for the Journal Club and coordinated the contribution of the WG on Pneumonia.

Committee Involvement: Representative of Greece in ESICM Council 2009-2012

Mentoring & Research Training: Dr Koulenti has supervised 14 medical student of the UQ extra-curricular research program (past/current) & 12 in Research Electives (2016: 4, 2017:8)

Teaching: High-fidelity medical simulation in critical care, emergency department, and ward calls since 2014.

How I would help the mentee?

I will be pleased to mentor a young physician in the field of my specialization and research. I could transfer my experience and help the mentee to design, develop and conduct his/her own research project and/or conduct a sub-analysis in an existing database. I would also be happy to supervise and guide the mentee to study a 'hot' topic in the field of infectious disease and write a review manuscript.