

## University of Crete (RHEUMACRETA)

The Division of Rheumatology Clinical Immunology and Allergy of the Medical School University of Crete, is a center of excellence in the research and management of musculoskeletal diseases. The inpatient Unit has 18 hospital beds. In 2006 the unit admitted 1879 patients. The outpatient units include: Day Hospital - Infusion Center (2300 visits per year); Outpatient Clinic (total annual patient visits approximately 8000); Special Clinics; Biologic Therapy Registry (approximately 1200 patients). Research activities include inflammatory arthritides, collagen vascular diseases, osteoporosis and osteoarthritis. We have contributed to the development of international guidelines for the care of ankylosing spondylitis, rheumatoid arthritis and systemic lupus erythematosus. We have contributed to the development of patient-based diseases response criteria (RAID). In epidemiology we have documented the morbidity associated with MSK diseases in Crete.

### Key Staff

**Dimitrios T Boumpas**, MD, FACP, Professor of Medicine, Director, Internal Medicine/Rheumatology, University of Crete, Faculty of Medicine. Acting Clinical Director, National Institute of Arthritis Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases, NIH, Bethesda, MD.; Board Member, Hellenic Organization for Medicines; Chair: EULAR task Force on SLE. Research Interests: Pathogenesis and treatment of systemic autoimmune diseases. Publications: Over 134 original papers, reviews, editorials and chapters in books (approximately 4,000 citations). Latest representative papers: 3. Bertsias GK, Ioannidis JP, Boletis J, Bombardieri S..... Boumpas DT. EULAR recommendations for the management of Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE). *Ann Rheum Dis.* 67:195-05, 2008. 4. Kastrinaki MC, Sidiropoulos P, ....., Boumpas DT, Papadaki HA. Functional, molecular and proteomic characterization of bone marrow mesenchymal stem cells in rheumatoid arthritis. *Ann Rheum Dis.* 2007 2007 Oct 5; 5.. Sidiropoulos P, Hatemi G, Song I-H, ..... Boumpas DT, Dougados M. Evidence-based recommendations for the management of Ankylosing Spondylitis: Systematic literature search and meta-analysis of the 3E Initiative in Rheumatology involving a broad panel of experts and practicing rheumatologists. *Rheumatology* 47:355-61, 2008. 6.. Raptopoulou A, Sidiropoulos P, ... Boumpas DT. Evidence-based Recommendations for the Management of Ankylosing Spondylitis: Results of the Hellenic Working Group of the 3E Initiative in *Rheumatology Clin Exp Rheumatol* (In press) 2008.

**Prodomos I Sidiropoulos**, MD. Lecturer of Rheumatology, University of Crete, Medical School. Research Interests: Management of musculoskeletal diseases. Publications: Author of 25 medline cited articles; in 12 of them first authorship; 46 posters presentations in international meetings ; 2 chapters in textbooks.

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