

Dr. Dimitra Papadopoulou was born in Ioannina and grew up in Thessaloniki (Greece). Dimitra earned her BSc degree in Biology from Aristotle University of Thessaloniki in Greece, after she visited Aberystwyth University in Wales, UK where she completed her practical internship through Erasmus funding. She continued her studies at the Imperial College London, UK in the MRes of Biomedical Research, where she focused on the characterization and isolation of subgroups of mouse mesenchymal stem cells. She started her professional career as a research assistant in Prof Kollias' lab where she also continued her studies as a PhD candidate in collaboration with the Medical school of the Kapodistrian University of Athens. During her PhD, she focused on drug repurposing and novel compounds' evaluation aiming at the identification of new therapeutics against chronic inflammation, by performing cellular assays and in vivo studies in animal models of disease, while she performed mass spectrometry-based techniques, aiming to elucidate the target and the molecular mechanism of the compounds of interest. Today, she is a postdoctoral researcher in Prof Kollias' lab dissecting the role of fibroblasts' subclusters in Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA), exploring novel strategies for their in vivo targeting.