

Chronis Fatouros, *PhD* | Molecular Biologist

Research Operations and Grant Manager @ Tsoumakidou lab

PROFILE & COMPETENCIES

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| ✓ Dedicated and accomplished professional bioscientist in the field of cell therapies (ATMPs) | ✓ Goal setter with planning and organizing skills |
| ✓ Combined background in Molecular Biology, Genetics and Biotech industry (GMP) | ✓ Adaptable, flexible & evolution-oriented |
| ✓ Proven team leadership experience | ✓ Strong communicator and presenter |
| ✓ Ability to work under pressure and handle crises | ✓ Problem solver with attention to detail and accuracy Critical thinking |
| | ✓ Tech savvy (automation, AI tools) |

PREVIOUS PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Theracell Laboratories, Orgenesis Group, Athens (Greece), 01/2021- 10/2025

Lab Head / R&D & Production Manager

- Supervision of the team of 4 lab scientists and direct management of all lab projects, providing accurate and timely reporting for higher management
- Distilling scientific literature combined with analysis of lab-generated data to achieve synthesis of relevant insights
- Responsible for designing the process development strategy and the experimental plans
- Responsible for the cell therapy production batches in the clean room under cGMP (Advanced Therapy Medicinal Products – ATMPs)
- Co-ordination and collaboration with the Quality Department to ensure adherence to highest quality standards according to GMP guidelines for ATMPs
- Responsibility for OPEX and CAPEX projects related to facility and lab management
- Budgeting and placing orders for consumables in the ERP, Supply Chain management. Managed a 10 million € budget over a span of 4 years
- Successfully led the tech-transfer processes of TILs, CAR-T and MSC therapies with international partners of the Orgenesis group (Israel & Belgium)
- Presenting the science and the projects to various stakeholders (prospective investors, collaborators), tailored for each audience
- Key role in establishing new synergies outsourcing various tasks like FACS analysis, proteomics or microbial testing to external core facilities (academia or industry)
- Rich hands-on experience in a variety of closed bioprocessing systems/devices & bioreactors
- Representing the company at several international conferences with poster or oral presentations and intensive networking with business acumen
- Pivotal role in setting up the new facility at Koropi: installation of equipment, validation *etc*
- Instrumental in preparing Theracell's dossier for obtaining scientific advice from Paul-Ehrlich Institute (PEI) regarding a prospective clinical trial using MSCs for osteoarthritis

Max Planck Institute for Immunobiology & Epigenetics, Freiburg (Germany), 04/2016-03/2020

Postdoctoral Scientist & Lab manager

- Senior wet lab researcher and experimentalist, independent but also collaborative work embedded in the network of the MPI core facilities (Andrea Pichler lab)
- Frequent seminars and presentation of scientific results in internal seminars or international conferences
- Risk management and handling of setbacks, building anti-fragility
- Supervision and guidance of a team of Master and junior PhD students or interns
- Troubleshooting, data analysis, reporting and problem solving, the heart of original research
- CRISPR design and engineering of knock-out cell lines.
- Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and confocal microscopy assays in the field of SUMO biology and DNA repair. Coauthor in 2 papers, two more are still in submission/review process

Santis GmbH on behalf of AstraZeneca, South Baden region (Germany), 07/2015-11/2015

Pharma Representative, Sales force

- Successful completion of 1-month intensive company sales training in Hamburg, held fully in German
- Responsible for a network of doctors in the South Baden area, arranging visits and pitching AstraZeneca drugs in the Asthma, COPD and Diabetes indications (Symbicort, Duaklir and Forxiga)
- Independent daily tour planning and competent presentation of the drug's advantages with a focus on strong science and clinical trial data
- Passionate communicator and amicable presence coupled with PhD accolades, increasing respectability from the doctor's viewpoint
- Competent use of the Veeva and Cognos ERP software tools for business analytics and account management
- Contributed to the team's increased sales quota in Q3 2015 by 6-7%

BioQuant, University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg (Germany), 10/2013-12/2014

Postdoctoral Scientist

- Work on Adeno-associated Viruses as gene therapy vectors (Dirk Grimm lab), coauthor in 1 paper
- CRISPR-engineering and complex molecular cloning techniques (eg Gibson assembly)
- Conference presentation at the European Society for Cell and Gene Therapies
- Virus production and work in BSL-2 level lab
- Science-communicator talking about CRISPR for lay audience (Pint of Science)

University Clinic Freiburg, Center of Cancer Research, Freiburg, 03/2013-07/2013

Postdoctoral Scientist (4-month training internship)

- Compound-screening in cell-based assays for epigenetic reader inhibitor molecules
- Steep-learning curve in a competitive environment (Roland Schule lab)
- First experience with the tech-transfer office of the university for potentially patentable compounds
- Chromatin research and epigenetics focus

EDUCATION

Albert-Ludwig University of Freiburg, Institute of Biology, Freiburg (Germany), 2007-2012

PhD in Biology, International Max Planck Research School (IMPRS); Doctoral studies (*doctor rerum naturalium*) as part of the prestigious IMPRS program, working with *C. elegans* as a model organism on neurodegeneration and protein misfolding diseases (Parkinson's, Tauopathies). Graduated with the best degree (1.0) and designation *summa cum laude*. Published 2 journal papers and presented the work at many international conferences.

University of Thessaly, Medical School, Larissa (Greece), 2020-2021

M.Sc. in Human Genetics & Genetic Counseling, 100% online 2-semester master's program with physical exam presence. Grade: Very Good (8,41/10)

University of Harvard and MIT, Coursera and EdX MOOCs, Online courses, 2013-2014

Certifications in Statistics, Programming, Business Strategy, Behavioral science; 100% online self-paced courses with demanding deliverables and ID-verified examinations.

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Faculty of Biology, Athens (Greece), 2000-2004

Diploma in Biology, grade: Very Good (7,65/10). Diploma Thesis on Experimental Autoimmune Thyroiditis performed at the Hellenic Pasteur Institute from 10/2003 to 6/2004 (Lymberi lab)

SKILLS

Languages: Greek: Native; English: Full professional proficiency; German: Full professional proficiency; French: Limited working proficiency; Spanish: Basic amateur knowledge (*enough to impress non-speakers*)

IT: Competent in prompt engineering using AI tools (ChatGPT, Gemini); ECDL certificate (Windows, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Internet, Outlook), SPSS Statistics; Graphpad statistics; Perseus Proteomics; basic R programming; ERP System: Oracle Netsuite; ImageJ for image analysis; Photoshop for image processing

Bench AKA "wet lab": Cell culture techniques; Cloning; Genetic engineering using CRISPR; Fluorescence microscopy including confocal; PCR and qPCR for gene expression analysis, Western Blot, ELISA, Bioreactor systems, LOVO, G-rex technology, closed systems for aseptic liquid transfer; Flow Cytometry; cell-based and biochemical analytical assays; IPC testing; microinjections; RNAi screening assays; Environmental Monitoring & microbiology

OTHER INFORMATION

- ♦ **Nationality:** native Greek, German citizenship acquired in 2015
- ♦ **Family status:** Married (since 2014), 1 kid (born 2015)
- ♦ **Licenses:** Driving License (Category B), FELASA B animal experimentation
- ♦ **Military Service:** Fulfilled in 2005
- ♦ **Awards:** VERUM foundation award for best junior presentation in the MEMOSAD symposium, (Barcelona 2011)
- ♦ **Societies memberships:** International Society for Cell Therapies (ISCT), Panhellenic Association of Bio-scientists, Bio-Innovation Greece, BioContact (alumni), Cheeky Scientists lifetime member
- ♦ **Guest lecturer:** Teaching 2 modules in the company-sponsored MSc Program "CGTs: From Bench to Bedside" run by the University of West Attica and the University of Patras
- ♦ **Volunteering:** Participation in the PhD as well as the Postdoc Committee of the MPI (Freiburg) organizing social, scientific and career events. BioContact e.V. member (career events). Olympic Games 2004 volunteer. Firefighting scout.
- ♦ **Interests:** Non-fiction books, chess, podcasts, activities in nature, mindfulness, Krav Maga, board games, TED talks
- ♦ **Publications:** 6 Pubmed-listed publications in peer-reviewed journals, 2 more papers still *in prep*, dozens of conference participations (talks and poster presentations). H-index = 8