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Assistant Professor

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SHORT CV

George Valiakos is Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Thessaly since December 2017. He was born in 1980, in Larissa. He is a graduate of the Veterinary School of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, has a master's degree from the Department of Medicine of the University of Thessaly related to Public Health and a doctorate from the Faculty of Veterinary Science of the same University. He is the author and co-author of 33 scientific publications, with over 600 references and a total h-index of 13 (Google Scholar). He has participated in more than 75 oral and poster announcements at national and international scientific conferences. He is a reviewer in 15 scientific journals.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Microbiology, Use of Antimicrobials in Veterinary Medicine, Antibiotic Resistance, One Health, Risk Factors Recognition for Infectious Diseases of Animals

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Veterinary Medicine, University of Thessaly, 2015

Dissertation: *Wild birds as a source of selected emerging and re-emerging pathogens: The*

West Nile Virus Example in Greece

Dissertation Advisors: Charalambos Billinis, Liljana Petrovska, Vassiliki Spyrou

M.Sc., Applied Public Health, School of Medicine, University of Thessaly, 2012

Thesis: *Microbiological quality investigation of minced meat samples, with special reference*

on Listeria spp. and Salmonella spp. Prevalence

Thesis Advisors: Vasilios Danielides, Anastasios Minas, Alexandros Govaris

D.V.M., Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, 2005

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor, University of Thessaly, 2017-present

Faculty of Veterinary Science

Courses: General Microbiology, Diagnostic Microbiology, Animal Infectious Diseases, Immunology

Academic Fellow, Technological Educational Institute of Thessaly, 2016-2017

Courses: Mycology – Parasitology, Technology and Quality of Animal Origin Food products, Milk & Dairy Products, Fish & Fish Products

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Analysis of the results of investigating the presence of genetic material of pathogenic agents, using molecular techniques, in milk samples from large ruminants – CEVA HELLAS

Application of infrared thermography (IRT) technology as a subclinical mastitis diagnostic tool: improving welfare and productivity indicators in sheep and goat farms – THERMASHEEP

Novel technologies for surveillance and characterization of Extended-spectrum β -lactamase and Carbapenemase producing *Enterobacteriaceae*, in human and animals – CARBATECH (MIS 5030125)

Increasing dairy cows' fertility through identification and exploitation of genetically thermotolerant individuals – THE SUMMER COW (MIS 5030162)

Interdisciplinary Investigation and Identification of *Rotaviruses*, *Bartonella henselae* and *Leishmania* spp. from Children and Animal Hosts using Novel Technologies: Public Health Importance – RBLHealth (MIS 377266)

Genetic Analysis and Molecular Epidemiology of human strains of Influenza A virus (MIS 383555)

Novel Technologies for Surveillance of Emerging and Re-emerging Infections of Wildlife – WildTech (Grant agreement ID: 222633)

Zoonotic infections in small ruminant populations and their farmers in the region of Thessaly (Contract No: 4290.01.39)

Integrated Surveillance and control programme for West Nile virus and malaria in Greece – MalWest (MIS 365280)

PUBLICATIONS AND CITATIONS REPORT

Articles in peer-reviewed scientific journals: 39

Chapters in editorial reviewed books: 2

Presentations (Oral, Poster) in scientific meetings: 75

Total citations:609 (Scopus and Google Scholar)

h-index: 13 (Scopus and Google Scholar)

PUBLICATIONS IN PEER-REVIEWED SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS

1. Molecular detection and phylogenetic analysis of West Nile virus lineage 2 in sedentary wild birds (Eurasian magpie), Greece, 2010. Valiakos G, Touloudi A, Iacovakis C, Athanasiou L, Birtsas P, Spyrou V, Billinis C. *Eurosurveillance*. 2011; 16(18):pii=19862. Cited:54

2. Exposure of Eurasian magpies and turtle doves to West Nile virus during a major human outbreak, Greece, 2011. Valiakos G, Touloudi A, Athanasiou L, Giannakopoulos A, Iacovakis C, Birtsas P, Spyrou V, Dalabiras Z, Petrovska L, Billinis C. *European Journal of Wildlife Research*. 2012; 58(4):749-753. DOI:10.1007/s10344-011-0603-1 Cited:5

3. Serological and molecular investigation into the role of wild birds in the epidemiology of West Nile virus in Greece. Valiakos G, Touloudi A, Athanasiou LV, Giannakopoulos A, Iacovakis C, Birtsas P, Spyrou V, Dalabiras Z, Petrovska L, Billinis C. *Virology Journal*. 2012; 9(1):266. DOI:10.1186/1743-422X-9-266 Cited:27

4. Abiotic factors and autumn migration phenology of Woodcock (*Scolopax rusticola* Linnaeus, 1758, Charadriiformes: Scolopacidae) in a Mediterranean area.

Birtsas P, Sokos C, Papaspyropoulos KG, Batselas T, Valiakos G, Billinis C. Italian Journal of Zoology. 2013; 80(3):392-401. DOI:10.1080/11250003.2013.805827 Cited:4

5. Effect of leptospirosis on the concentrations of streptomycin in liver and kidneys of pigs. Athanasiou LV, Papatsiros V, Valiakos G, Pardali D, Touloudi A, Spyrou V, Billinis C. American Journal of Animal and Veterinary Sciences. 2013; 8(1):50-54. DOI:10.3844/ajavsp.2013.50.54

6. Phylogenetic analysis of canine distemper viruses from red foxes, Greece. Billinis C, Athanasiou LV, Valiakos G, Mamuris Z, Birtsas P, Spyrou V. Veterinary Record. 2013; 173(8):194. DOI:10.1136/vr.101618 Cited:3

7. Polarisation of Major Histocompatibility Complex II Host Genotype with Pathogenesis of European Brown Hare Syndrome Virus. Iacovakis C, Mamuris Z, Moutou KA, Touloudi A, Hammer AS, Valiakos G, Giannoulis T, Stamatis C, Spyrou V, Athanasiou LV, Kantere M, Asferg T, Giannakopoulos A, Salomonsen CM, Bogdanos D, Birtsas P, Petrovska L, Hannant D, Billinis C. PLoS ONE. 2013; 8(9):e74360. DOI:10.1371/journal.pone.0074360 Cited:3

8. West Nile Virus State of the Art Report of MALWEST Project. Marka A, Diamantidis A, Papa A, Valiakos G, Chaintoutis S, Doukas D, Tserkezou P, Giannakopoulos A, Papaspyropoulos K, Patsoula E, Badieritakis E, Baka A, Tseroni M, Pervanidou D, Papadopoulos N, Koliopoulos G, Tontis D, Dovas C, Billinis C, Tsakris A, Kremastinou J, Hadjichristodoulou C, MalWest project. International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health. 2013; 10(12):6534-6610. DOI:10.3390/ijerph10126534 Cited:26

9. Use of Wild Bird Surveillance, Human Case Data and GIS Spatial Analysis for Predicting Spatial Distributions of West Nile Virus in Greece. Valiakos G, Papaspyropoulos K, Giannakopoulos A, Birtsas P, Tsiodras S, Hutchings MR, Billinis C. PLoS ONE. 2014; 9(5):e96935. DOI:10.1371/journal.pone.0096935 Cited:26

10. Enteric pathogens of dogs and cats with public health implications. Kantere M, Athanasiou LV, Chatzopoulos DC, Spyrou V, Valiakos G, Kontos V, Billinis C. American Journal of Animal and Veterinary Sciences. 2014; 9(2):84-94. DOI:10.3844/ajavsp.2014.84.94 Cited:7

11. Bluetongue Virus in wild ruminants in Europe: Concerns and facts, with a brief reference to bluetongue in cervids in Greece during the 2014 outbreak. Chatzopoulos DC, Valiakos G, Giannakopoulos A, Birtsas P, Sokos C, Vasileiou NGC, Papaspyropoulos K, Tsokana CN, Spyrou V, Fthenakis GC, Billinis C. Small Ruminant Research. 2015; 128:79-87. DOI:10.1016/j.smallrumres.2015.03.009 Cited:4

12. A Serosurvey for selected pathogens in Greek European wild boar. Touloudi A, Valiakos G, Athanasiou LV, Birtsas P, Giannakopoulos A, Papaspyropoulos K, Kalaitzis C, Sokos C, Tsokana CN, Spyrou V, Petrovska L, Billinis C. *Veterinary Record Open*. 2015; 2(2):e000077. DOI:10.1136/vetreco-2014-000077 Cited: 31
13. Orf virus infection in sheep or goats. Spyrou V, Valiakos G. *Veterinary Microbiology*. 2015; 181(1-2):178-182. DOI:10.1016/j.vetmic.2015.08.010 Cited: 46
14. Molecular Epidemiology of Human Influenza Viruses in Thessaly During 2014-2015. Plakocefalos E, Vontas A, Florou Z, Valiakos G, Georgantza K, Sarrou S, Labronikou M, Gramoustianou E, Peteinaki E, Markoulatos P, Minas A, Krikelis V, Noulas A, Manouras A. *The Internet Journal of Laboratory Medicine*. 2015; 6(1). DOI:10.5580/IJLM.34372
15. Influenza virus genotypes circulating in central Greece during 2012-2014 and vaccine strain match. Plakocefalos E, Vontas A, Florou Z, Valiakos G, Georgantza K, Sarrou S, Labronikou M, Gramoustianou E, Peteinaki E, Markoulatos P, Minas A, Krikelis V, Noulas A, Manouras A. *Internet Journal of Microbiology*. 2015; 13(1). DOI:10.5580/IJMB.33691
16. First evidence of *Leishmania* infection in European brown hare (*Lepus europaeus*) in Greece: GIS analysis and phylogenetic position within the *Leishmania* spp. Tsokana CN, Sokos C, Giannakopoulos A, Mamuris Z, Birtsas P, Papaspyropoulos K, Valiakos G, Spyrou V, Lefkaditis M, Chatzopoulos DC, Kantere M, Manolakou K, Touloudi A, Burriel AR, Ferroglio E, Hadjichristodoulou C, Billinis C. *Parasitology Research*. 2016; 115(1):313-321. DOI:10.1007/s00436-015-4749-8 Cited: 13
17. Serological Evidence of Pandemic H1N1 Influenza Virus Infections in Greek Swine. Kyriakis CS, Papatsiros VG, Athanasiou LV, Valiakos G, Brown IH, Simon G, Van Reeth K, Tsiodras S, Spyrou V, Billinis C. *Zoonoses and Public Health*. 2015; 63(5):370-373. DOI:10.1111/zph.12235 Cited:5
18. Mammals and habitat disturbance: the case of brown hare and wildfire. Sokos C, Birtsas P, Papaspyropoulos KG, Tsachalidis E, Giannakopoulos A, Milis C, Spyrou V, Manolakou K, Valiakos G, Iakovakis C, Athanasiou LV, Sfougaris A, Billinis C. *Current Zoology*. 2016; 62(5):421-430. DOI:10.1093/cz/zow020 Cited:7
19. Experiences from the 2014 outbreak of bluetongue in Greece. Vasileiou NGC, Fthenakis GC, Amiridis GS, Athanasiou LV, Birtsas P, Chatzopoulos DC, Chouzouris TM, Giannakopoulos A, Ioannidi KS, Kalonaki SN, Katsafadou AI, Kyriakis CS, Mavrogianni VS, Papadopoulos E, Spyrou V, Valiakos G, Venianaki AP, Billinis C. *Small Ruminant Research*. 2016; 142:61-68. DOI:10.1016/j.smallrumres.2016.02.010 Cited:4

20. Dissemination of intestinal pathogens between lambs and puppies in sheep farms. Chatzopoulos DC, Sarrou S, Vasileiou NGC, Ioannidi KS, Peteinaki E, Valiakos G, Tsokana K, Papadopoulos E, Spyrou V, Mavrogianni VS, Giannakopoulos A, Sbiraki A, Lacasta D, Bueso JP, Athanasiou LV, Billinis C, Fthenakis GC. Dissemination of intestinal pathogens between lambs and puppies in sheep farms. *Small Ruminant Research*. 2016; 141:5-10. DOI:10.1016/j.smallrumres.2016.06.006 Cited:6
21. Rabies outbreak in Greece during 2012-2014: use of Geographical Information System for analysis, risk assessment and control. Valiakos G, Giannakopoulos A, Papaspyropoulos K, Dougas G, Korou LM, Tasioudi KE, Fthenakis GC, Hutchings MR, Kaimaras D, Tsokana CN, Iliadou P, Spyrou V, Tzani M, Birtsas P, Kostoglou P, Sokos C, Doudounakis S, Yon L, Hannant D, Artois M, Tsiodras S, Hadjichristodoulou C, Billinis C. *Epidemiology and Infection*. 2016; 144(14):3068-3079. DOI:10.1017/S0950268816001527 Cited:6
22. Hare harvest and EBHS virus prevalence in differently populated Mediterranean ecotopes. Sokos C, Giannakopoulos A, Papaspyropoulos K, Touloudi A, Birtsas P, Spyrou V, Valiakos G, Tsokana C, Sfougaris A, Billinis C. *European Journal of Wildlife Research*. 2016; 62(6):695-700. DOI:10.1007/s10344-016-1047-4 Cited:1
23. Resistance in *Escherichia coli* Strains isolated from pig faecal samples and pig farm workers, Greece. Valiakos G, Vontas A, Tsokana CN, Giannakopoulos A, Chatzopoulos D, Billinis C. *American Journal of Animal and Veterinary Sciences*. 2016; 11(4):142-144. DOI:10.3844/ajavsp.2016.142.144 Cited:1
24. Review: Bacterial canine vector-borne zoonotic diseases in "One Health" concept. Valiakos G. *International Journal of One Health*, 2016; 2:58-68. DOI:10.14202/IJOH.2016.58-68
25. Influenza Virus Activity During Pandemic And Seasonal Influenza In Central Greece. Plakokefalos E, Vontas A, Florou Z, Valiakos G, Georgantza K, Sarrou S, Labronikou M, Gramoustianou E, Peteinaki E, Markoulatos P, Minas A, Krikelis V, Noulas A, Manouras A. *The Internet Journal of Infectious Diseases*. 2015; 14(1). DOI:10.5580/IJID.33808
26. Use of geographical information system and ecological niche model to analyse potential exposure of small ruminants to *Coxiella burnetii* infection in central Greece. Valiakos G, Giannakopoulos A, Spanos SA, Korbou F, Chatzopoulos DC, Mavrogianni VS, Spyrou V, Fthenakis GC, Billinis C. *Small Ruminant Research*. 2017;147:77-82. DOI:10.1016/j.smallrumres.2016.12.042 Cited:3
27. Molecular investigation and geographical distribution of *Leishmania* spp infection in stray and owned cats (*Felis catus*) in Thessaly, central Greece.

Giannakopoulos A, Tsokana CN, Papadopoulos E, Spyrou V, Chatzopoulos DC, Valiakos G, A. Touloudi A, Athanasiou LV, Billinis C. Journal of the Hellenic Veterinary Medical Society. 2017;68(1):27-34. DOI:10.12681/jhvms.15553 Cited:2

28. Interspecies transmission of Rotaviruses among ruminants, dogs and humans: Current facts and remarks. Valiakos G, Chatzopoulos DC, Tsokana CN. Journal of the Hellenic Veterinary Medical Society. 2017;68(2):123-30. DOI:10.12681/jhvms.15596 Cited:2

29. Valiakos G, Plavos K, Vontas A, Sofia M, Giannakopoulos A, Giannoulis T, Spyrou V, Tsokana CN, Chatzopoulos D, Kantere M, Diamantopoulos V, Theodorou A, Mpellou S, Tsakris A, Mamuris Z, Billinis C. Phylogenetic analysis of bird-virulent West Nile virus strain, Greece. Emerging Infectious Diseases. 2019;25(12):2323-5. DOI:10.3201/eid2512.181225

30. Serological and molecular investigation of selected parasitic pathogens in European brown hare (*Lepus europaeus*) in Greece: inferring the ecological niche of *Toxoplasma gondii* and *Leishmania infantum* in hares. Tsokana CN, Sokos S, Giannakopoulos A, Birtsas P, Athanasiou LV, Valiakos G, Sofia M, Chatzopoulos DC, Kantere M, Spyrou V, Rodi Burriel A, Billinis C. Parasitology research. 2019;118(9):2715-21. DOI:10.1007/s00436-019-06388-6 Cited:1

31. European Brown hare (*Lepus europaeus*) as a source of emerging and re-emerging pathogens of Public Health importance: A review. Tsokana CN, Sokos C, Giannakopoulos A, Birtsas P, Valiakos G, Spyrou V, Athanasiou LV, Rodi Burriel A, Billinis C. Veterinary Medicine and Science. 2020;6(3):550-64. DOI:10.1002/vms3.248 Cited:3

32. Investigation of the Role of the European Brown Hare in the Epidemiology of Bacterial Zoonotic Pathogens: A Serological and Molecular Survey in Greece. Tsokana CN, Sokos C, Giannakopoulos A, Birtsas P, Athanasiou LV, Valiakos G, Sofia M, Chatzopoulos DC, Athanasakopoulou Z, Kantere M, Spyrou V, Rodi Burriel A, Billinis C. Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Diseases. 2020;20(4):252-7. DOI:10.1089/vbz.2019.2506

33. Antimicrobial practices among small animal veterinarians in Greece: a survey. Valiakos G, Pavlidou E, Zafeiridis C, Tsokana CN, Del Rio Vilas VJ. One Health Outlook. 2020;2(1):7. DOI:10.1186/s42522-020-00013-8

34. Development of a Multiplex Bead Assay for Simultaneous Serodiagnosis of Antibodies against *Mycobacterium bovis*, *Brucella suis*, and *Trichinella spiralis* in Wild Boar. Touloudi A, Valiakos G, Cawthraw S, Kostoulas P, Gortázar C, Boadella M, Giannakopoulos A, Birtsas P, Sofia M, Athanasiou LV, Satra M, Athanasakopoulou Z,

Kantere M, Spyrou V, Petrovska L, Billinis C. *Microorganisms*. 2021;9(5):904. DOI:10.3390/microorganisms9050904

35. Risk and Environmental Factors Associated with the Presence of Canine Parvovirus Type 2 in Diarrheic Dogs from Thessaly, Central Greece. Kantere M, Athanasiou LV, Giannakopoulos A, Skampardonis V, Sofia M, Valiakos G, Athanasakopoulou Z, Touloudi A, Chatzopoulos DC, Spyrou V, Billinis C. *Pathogens*. 2021; 10(5):590. DOI:10.3390/pathogens10050590

36. Valiakos G, Kapna I. Colistin resistant mcr genes prevalence in livestock animals (swine, bovine, poultry) from a multinational perspective. A systematic review. *Veterinary Sciences*. 2021;8(11):265.

37. Bouroutzika E, Ciliberti MG, Caroprese M, Theodosiadou E, Papadopoulos S, Makri S, et al. Association of melatonin administration in pregnant ewes with growth, redox status and immunity of their offspring. *Animals*. 2021;11(11):3161.

38. Touloudi A, McGiven J, Cawthraw S, Valiakos G, Kostoulas P, Duncombe L, et al. Development of a Multiplex Bead Assay to Detect Serological Responses to Brucella Species in Domestic Pigs and Wild Boar with the Potential to Overcome Cross-Reactivity with *Yersinia enterocolitica* O: 9. *Microorganisms*. 2022;10(7):1362.

39. Tsiamita A, Valiakos G, Natsaridis N, Fotiadou S, Manouras A, Malissiova E. Preliminary Results on the Comparative Evaluation of Alkaline Phosphatase Commercial Tests Efficiency in Non-Cow Milk Pasteurization. *BioTech*. 2022;11(3):39.

CHAPTERS IN EDITORIAL REVIEWED BOOKS

1. West Nile Virus: Basic Principles, Replication Mechanism, Immune Response and Important Genetic Determinants of Virulence. Valiakos G, Athanasiou LV, Touloudi A, Papatsiros V, Spyrou V, Petrovska L, Billinis C. In: *Viral Replication*, book edited by German Rosas-Acosta, ISBN 978-953-51-1055-2. InTech Publications. Published: February 27, 2013. DOI: 10.5772/55198

2. Molecular Diagnosis of Leishmaniasis, Species Identification and Phylogenetic Analysis. Tsokana C, Athanasiou LV, Valiakos G, Spyrou V, Manolakou K, Billinis C. In: *Leishmaniasis - Trends in Epidemiology, Diagnosis and Treatment*, book edited by David M. Claborn, ISBN 978-953-51-1232-7. InTech Publications Published: March 19, 2014. DOI:10.5772/57448

PUBLICATIONS IN PROCEEDINGS OF SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

In total, 75 publications in proceedings of scientific meetings – oral and poster presentations, with abstract in proceedings, in below meetings:

- *9th Biennial Conference of the European Wildlife Disease Association*, Vlieland, The Netherlands, 13 to 16 September 2010
- *2nd Greek Veterinary Congress for farm animal medicine, food safety and hygiene and consumer protection*, Thessaloniki, Greece, 12 to 20 March 2011
- *7th International Symposium on Wild Fauna, WAVES*, Edinburgh, 20 to 23 October 2011
- *12th Pan-Hellenic Veterinary Annual Congress*, Athens, 5 to 8 April 2012
- *Joint 61st WDA/ 10th Biennial EWDA Conference “Convergence in Wildlife Health”*, Lyon, 23 to 27 July 2012
- *IX International Congress of Veterinary Virology and Joint Meeting with the European Society of Clinical Virology*, Madrid, Spain, 4 to 7 September 2012
- *International Meeting on Emerging Diseases and Surveillance*, Vienna, Austria, 15 to 18 February 2013
- *2nd GRF One Health Summit*, Davos, Switzerland, 17 to 20 November 2013
- *3rd Panhellenic Congress of Farm Animals & Food Hygiene*, Ioannina, 2 to 4 May 2014
- *11th Biennial Conference of the EWDA*, Edinburgh 26 to 29 August 2014
- *Joint Conference: German Symposium on Zoonoses Research 2014 and 7th International Conference on Emerging Zoonoses*, Berlin 16 to 17 October, 2014
- *13th Panhellenic Veterinary Congress*, Athens, 8 to 10 May 2015
- *32nd World Veterinary Congress*, Istanbul, 13 to 17 September 2015
- *The 4th Advanced Research in Scientific Areas, Virtual Conference (www.arsa-conf.com)*, 9 to 13 November 2015
- *12th Conference of the European Wildlife Disease Association (EWDA)*, Berlin, 27 to 31 August 2016
- *8th Congress of the Hellenic Ecological Society*, Thessaloniki, 20 to 23 October 2016
- *9th International Sheep Veterinary Congress*, Harrogate (UK) 22 to 26 May 2017
- *13th European Wildlife Disease Association Conference*, Larissa 27 to 31 August 2018
- *27th FECAVA Eurocongress, Prague, 8 to 11 June 2022*
- *33rd ESVD-ECVD European Veterinary Dermatology Congress. 29 September to 1 October 2022*

REVIEWER IN SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS

Journal of the Hellenic Veterinary Medical Society (8)
Pathogens (7)
Animals (7)
Small Ruminant Research (4)
Veterinary Sciences (4)
Acta Veterinaria Eurasia (3)

Antibiotics (3)
BMC Veterinary Research (2)
Journal of Virological Methods (2)
Microorganisms (1)
Applied and Environmental Microbiology (1)
Foodborne Pathogens and Disease (1)
International Journal of Molecular Sciences (1)
PLOS One (1)
Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Diseases (1)
Viruses (1)