

Name: Leontios Kostrikis

Job title: Professor of Biotechnology and Virology / Head of laboratory of Biotechnology and Molecular Virology

Career: I have BA, M.Sc and Ph.D. in Biochemistry. My research relates to the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) that causes AIDS and focuses on population studies. I have a post-doctoral research on the molecular virology of human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (HIV-1).

Responsibilities: I start work at university early in the morning until late in the afternoon. I spend most of my time thinking and brainstorming. Then I process my thinking and do some reading. If I figure out that this thinking could lead to a series of experiments, then I talk with my colleagues and try to see how to expand these ideas through collaboration with other scientists and universities. All the important moments in my scientific career came out of coffee chatting with other scientists.

Essential skills in my Job:

- Creative
- Teamwork
- Organization skills
- Time-management skills

What I need to know in my Job:

- Scientific background
- Passionate for science
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Research team description:

The Laboratory of Biotechnology and Molecular Virology (BMV) has been part of the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Cyprus since 2004. My research team at the university mainly consists of biologists or geneticists.

In my laboratory we study the mechanisms of drug resistance development during HIV antiretroviral therapy, we work on understanding the implications of natural genetic diversity in efficacy of antiretroviral drugs, we study the molecular phylogeography of HIV-1 and HCV infection in Europe and we develop novel HIV-1 immunogens and vaccination strategies for mucosal and systemic immunity. Now, I focus on novel concepts in HIV vaccine development and prevention of HIV-1 transmission. The idea is to how to use some viruses in human's intestines.

Our Laboratory uses a variety of experimental approaches to understand the molecular mechanisms of HIV-1 transmission and the pathogenesis of AIDS.

A major part of our research is conducted in collaboration with an international multi-disciplinary network of colleagues, consisting of molecular biologists, immunologists, human geneticists, molecular biophysicists, clinical microbiologists, virologists and epidemiologists. Such collaborations will involve the provision of clinical material, exchange of reagents or having members of their staff carry out research work in my laboratory, as in the past.



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Professor of Biotechnology and Virology / Head of laboratory of Biotechnology and Molecular Virology, Leontios Kostrikis

I am a Professor of Biotechnology and Virology and Head of the laboratory of Biotechnology and Molecular Virology the University of Cyprus. I have BA, M.Sc and Ph.D. in Biochemistry. My research relates to the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) that causes AIDS and focuses on population studies. I have a post-doctoral research on the molecular virology of human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (HIV-1).

I start work at university early in the morning until late in the afternoon. I spend most of my time thinking and brainstorming. Then I process my thinking and do some reading. If I figure out that this thinking could lead to a series of experiments, then I talk with my colleagues and try to see how to expand these ideas through collaboration with other scientists and universities. All the important moments in my scientific career came out of coffee chatting with other scientists. For my job I need to be creative and have teamwork, organization and time-management skills. I also need to have a scientific background in biology and be passionate for science.

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