# **Anastasios Gkountakos PhD**

Biochemist-Biotechnologist

Curriculum Vitae November 2023

# **Professional Summary**

I am currently a postdoctoral researcher at the Department of Diagnostics and Public Health of University of Verona, Italy. My research is focused on the generation and interpretation of multi-omics data and their coupling with functional preclinical experiments towards the identification of predictive biomarkers of drug sensitivity in solid tumors and mostly in pancreatobiliary and lung cancer.

# Education

PhD, Molecular Oncology	University of Verona, Italy	2020	Tutor: Prof. Aldo Scarpa
MSc, Molecular Basis of Human Disease	University of Crete, Greece	2015	Tutor: Prof. Dimitris Mavroudis
BSc, Biochemistry-Biotechnology	University of Thessaly, Greece	2012	Tutor: Prof. George Skavdis

# Experience

Oct 2019-Present	<b>Postdoctoral Researcher</b> Next-generation sequencing of solid tumors for diagnostic and research purposes	Department of Diagnostics and Public Health
Oct 2016-Oct 2019	PhD student Identification and targeting of druggable genomic alterations in Squamous Cell Lung Cancer	Department of Diagnostics and Public Health
Sept 2015-Mar 2016	<b>Erasmus+ Fellow</b> Pharmacological perturbation of candidate druggable targets in <i>in vitro</i> models of liver and lung cancer	Catalan Institute of Oncology/Pangaea Biotech
Sept 2013-Sept 2015	<b>MSc student</b> Detection of <i>KRAS</i> mutations by PNA-based qPCR in plasma cell-free DNA of patients with colorectal cancer	Laboratory of Translational Oncology

# Skills

#### Laboratory techniques

- > Cell cultures: 2D and 3D (organoids) maintenance and cryopreservation, drug and genetic perturbation (shRNA, siRNA), cell viability assays
- > NGS-based DNA sequencing (Illumina): NGS libraries preparation (Agilent, 4bases) and data analysis
- > Biobanking: Urine and blood samples handling (Serum/Plasma/PBMCs/Buffy coat isolation)
- > Nucleid Acid isolation: DNA/RNA extraction from Fresh/Frozen/FFPE tissue, cell lines
- > Liquid biopsy: Cell-free DNA purification from serum and plasma, circulating tumor cells detection and enumeration method (CellSearch)
- > Other: Endpoint PCR, real-time qPCR, PNA-based real-time qPCR, Western Blot, ELISA, FISH, DNA cloning

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#### (Bio)informatics and computational biology

- > **Programming languages**: *R* (basic)
- > R for statistics, bioinformatics, data visualization (basic)
- > Integrative Genomic viewer for NGS data analysis
- > Data mining from public -omics database (TCGA, ICGC, CCLE, DepMap)
- > Statistics: GraphPad Prism, IBM SPSS
- > Microsoft office: Word, Excel, Powerpoint

#### Languages

- > Greek (Native)
- > English (C1)
- > Italian (C1)
- > German (A2)

# Soft skills

- > I am capable of working in team, and I have always enjoyed multicultural environments
- > I care and enjoy the coordination of other team members as well as the training, integration and supervision of the thesis work and internship of various BSc and MSc students
- > I set goals, apply innovative approach to problem solving and take the initiative
- > I prioritize effectively and I meet objectives within pre-determined deadlines
- > I demonstrate excellent attention to detail and accuracy

# Honors & Awards

- Fondazione IRCCS-Istituto Nazionale dei Tumori (INT) di Milano Research fellowship "Progetto Call Eranet PMTR-pNET"
- > University of Verona, School of Life and Health Sciences PhD fellowship in the program "Inflammation, Immunity and Cancer"

# **Journals Reviewed For**

- > Scientific Reports
- > Cancers
- > Critical Reviews in Oncology/Hematology
- > Molecular Cancer

# Publications > 20, h-index: 8, Selected peer-reviewed publications:

1. **Gkountakos A.** et al. "Extrahepatic Distal Cholangiocarcinoma vs. Pancreatic Ductal Adenocarcinoma: Histology and Molecular Profiling for Differential Diagnosis and Treatment". Cancers. 2023 Feb 24;15(5):1454.

2. **Gkountakos A**. et al. "Genomic characterization of undifferentiated sarcomatoid carcinoma of the pancreas". Human Pathology. 2022, Vol.128: 124-133.

3. **Gkountakos A**. et al. "Identification of Targetable Liabilities in the Dynamic Metabolic Profile of EGFR-mutant Lung Adenocarcinoma: Thinking beyond Genomics for Overcoming EGFR TKI Resistance". Biomedicines. 2022, 10(2), 277.

4. **Gkountakos A**. et al. "Undifferentiated Sarcomatoid Carcinoma of the Pancreas: From Histology and Molecular Pathology to Precision Oncology". Int. J. Mol. Sci. 2022, 23(3), 1283.

5. **Gkountakos A**. et al. "*Harnessing the epigenome to boost immunotherapy response in NSCLC patients*". Therapeutic Advances in Medical Oncology. 2021, Vol. 13: 1-13.

6. **Gkountakos A**. et al. "*PTEN in Lung Cancer: Dealing with the Problem, Building on New Knowledge and Turning the Game Around*". Cancers (Basel). 2019 Aug 9;11(8).

7. **Gkountakos A**. et al. "Unmasking the impact of Rictor in cancer: novel insights of mTORC2 complex". Carcinogenesis.2018 Jul 30;39(8): 971-980.

# **Google Scholar Profile**

https://scholar.google.it/citations?hl=it&user=sWBax98AAAAJ