## The electronic health record and primary health care in Greece: The case of local health units

Periklis Rompolas; Panicos Masouras; Sotiris Avgousti; Andreas Charalambous Cyprus University of Technology, Cyprus

## ABSTRACT

The field of health today, influenced by technological developments, is in a dynamic stage of total transition from the handwritten file to the Electronic Health Record. In Greece, especially for Primary Health Care, although the efforts have been timeless and in some cases fragmentary, since 2017 the introduction of the Electronic Health Record in the newly established Local Health Units (TOMY) has been a technological innovation. Despite the shortcomings regarding the specialization of users, the interconnection of information with hospital units, as well as software compatibility problems, the capabilities it provides are the framework for continuous and quality health care that will be evidenced at the primary level, but will be disseminated to other levels of care. The primary goal should be to develop a national system with an emphasis on interoperability and equal access to the Electronic Health Record and other health professionals such as nurses, in order to provide a holistic health care framework. And it is an event that can be the focus of current and future e-health policies driven by health professionals as users of the Electronic Health Record.

## SPEAKER PROFILE:

Periklis Rompolas BSc, MSc, Med, is completing his PhD at the age of 41 at the Cyprus University of Technology. She has clinical experience in Primary Health Care and works as a nursing teacher in the Vocational Education and Training of the Greek Ministry of Education, Religion and Sports. In the past he has been an associate of the Nursing Department of the University of Patras and is now an associate of the Nursing Department of the University of Patras. He has 21 publications in Greek and foreign language journals, 4 publications in conference proceedings, 33 posters in scientific conferences, 4 chapters in collective volumes and 1 monograph. He is a judge of the International Conference for the Promotion of Educational Innovation.

Panicos Masouras is Assistant Professor at the Department of Nursing, School of Health Sciences. He holds a BSc degree from the State University of New York at Albany (1985) and an MSc in Information Systems (1996) from the University of Kingston. He worked as Lecturer (1989 – 2002) and as Senior Lectured (2002 – 2007) at the Computer Studies Department of the Higher Technical Institute. He specializes in information systems and data management. His research interests focus on e-health and e-inclusion policies, e-Learning, e-Skills and e-Assessment.

Sotiris Avgousti joined the Department of Nursing, School of Health Sciences, Cyprus University of Technology in 2008 as an Instructor in Health Informatics and served as a Senior Instructor since 2013. Currently he is an Assistant Professor. He has served as member of the CUT Senate for four years, and he is a member of the University Committee for student's welfare. Previous affiliations include the Department of Electrical and electronics of Higher Technical Institute. (1994-2007). His research interests focuses on the fields of Data Communication, computer Networks and Telerobotics / Telemedicine and especially on remote robotized echography. He has a considerable number of publications.

Andreas Charalambous, BSc, MSc, PGCert (Research), PhD (Oncology Nursing), started his nursing career in 1995. He obtained his BSc in Nursing Science in 1999 by the Northumbria University (U.K), his MSc (Nursing Science) from the Middlesex University (UK) in 2002 and his PhD (Oncology Nursing) from the same University in 2008. With a clinical background in cancer care and more specifically in oncology, he has worked clinically and academically in Cyprus and the U.K. He has a long and proven track in academia since 2004. Through this track and additionally to his Doctorate studies he has acquired specialised skills in the development and review of nursing educational programmes, both clinical and academic. Presently he is an Associate Professor of Oncology and Palliative Care at the Cyprus University of Technology and a Docent at University of Turku (Finland). He is the founder and current President of the Cyprus Oncology Nursing Society. He is an EONS Executive Board Member (Research) since 2013 and he is currently involved in the RECaN project (recognition of specialized cancer nursing in Europe) of EONS. Presently he is involved in several National and International research programs in various fields of cancer care. He has published over 80 National and International publications in esteem journals in the fields of cancer care, quality care, supportive care and Integrative Medicine.