

Giles Anthony Palmer

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PROFILE

Solid background in Clinical Embryology, with strong emphasis in laboratory management.
Almost 20 years of experience in the field of assisted reproductive technologies, consistently involved in research and author of scientific papers. Responsible for the collaboration between the Medical Genetics Department, University of Athens Medical School resulting in the first births in Greece following pre-implantation diagnosis (PGD) for Beta Thalassaemia.
Able to manage busy fertility unit and exceeds in planning and developing In vitro fertilization (IVF) laboratories.
Skilled in quality management of IVF laboratories, implementing new techniques and staff training. Supervisor for biology students from Universities in Greece.

Consultant for Hellenic Lloyd's S.A. Quality Assurance for ISO standards in Cord Blood (Stem cells) Banks.

Experienced in counselling and understanding the patients needs, offering information to gynaecologists and support to patients in the form of seminars and by electronic means (e-mail / website support).

Accredited Senior Embryologist by the European Society for Human Reproduction & Embryology

EDUCATION

BSc (Hons) Genetics , University of Leeds, 1986-1989

Research: Pre-implantation Diagnosis for Beta Thalassaemia:
Medical Genetics Department, University of Athens Medical School

CAREER HISTORY

June 2002 - present

Assisted Conception Unit,

Mitera Hospital, Athens, Greece 151 23

Senior Embryologist & Director of Assisted Conception Unit

- Manage 22 -member team to serve large maternity hospital with IVF services.
- Daily hands-on work including all aspects of clinical embryology including PGD.
- Consistently increasing patient numbers- resulting in increased profit, customer satisfaction and market share.
- Duties include coordination and organization of the fertility unit (undergoing over 1000 egg collections a year, 1000 semen analysis and 1500 IUI cycles).
- Implemented new techniques such as PGD, Oocyte freezing and In Vitro Maturation.
- Supervision of all staff, including training laboratory staff in clinical embryology.
- Supervising Biology Students with final year projects from the Universities of Athens, Thessalonica and Ioannina.

Sept 1995-Jan 2002

"Embryogenesis" IVF Unit, Athens

Senior Embryologist

- Duties included day to day running of the IVF Laboratory undergoing 2000 IVF cycles a year.
- Research into PGD of Beta Thalassaemia.
- Coordinated relationships with the Department of Medical Genetics and Department of Embryology at Athens Medical School undertaking research in PCR and FSH.
- Member of board of directors.

- Sept 1992-Sept 1995 **Assisted Conception Unit,**
Mitera Hospital, Athens, Greece 151 23
Embryologist
- Duties as above included implementing ICSI for the first time in our laboratory.
- Jan 1992- July 1992 **National University Hospital of Iceland -IVF Unit,** (Landspittali)
Dept Ob/Gyn, Reykjavik, Iceland.
- 6 month contract-helping to establish the first IVF unit in Iceland, training of local embryologists and supervision of the first IVF cycles in the laboratory.
- Sept1989- Jan 1992 **Hammersmith IVF,** The Wolfson Family Clinic, Hammersmith Hospital, Du cane Rd, West London, UK.
- Trained in Clinical Embryology under the supervision of Dr. Karin Dawson.
 - Trained in Embryo Biopsy for PGD.

Courses Attended

- 1992
- ESHRE WORKSHOP
Centre for Reproductive Medicine, Dutch-speaking Brussels Free University Hospital.
"Assisted Fertilization by Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection".
- 2001
- ESHRE WORKSHOP
Centre for Reproductive Medicine, Dutch-speaking Brussels Free University Hospital.
"Hands-on Workshop in Pre-implantation Diagnosis".
- 2004
- MEDICULT WORKSHOP, University Hospital, Copenhagen, Denmark.
"In Vitro Maturation".
- 2006
- MEDICULT WORKSHOP.
Intercontinental, Athens.
"Vitrification Training Workshop".
- 2009
- CLEAN ROOM LABORATORY WORKSHOP.
President Hotel, Athens.
"Clean Room and Isolator Technology".

Publications

Abstracts & Speeches

- Davis S., Mastrominas M., **Palmer G.**, et al. Male factor in IVF: Where to draw the line? 9th Annual Meeting of ESHRE, Thessaloniki, Greece. 1993.
- Mastrominas M., Pistofidis G., Palmer G., et al. Embryo quality and endometrial thickness can predict IVF outcome. 9th Annual Meeting of ESHRE, Thessaloniki, Greece. 1993.
- Pistofidis G., Mastrominas M., **Palmer G.**, et al. Poor response in superovulation for IVF: cancel or go ahead? 9th Annual Meeting of ESHRE, Thessaloniki, Greece. 1993.
- Pistofidis G., Mastrominas M., **Palmer G.**, et al. Pattern of endometrial development and IVF pregnancy outcome. 10th Annual Meeting of ESHRE, Brussels, Belgium.1994.
- Maragou R., Davies S., **Palmer G.**, et al. Significance of the rate of oestradiol increase during ovarian stimulation in relation to IVF outcome. 10th Annual Meeting of ESHRE, Brussels, Belgium.1994.

- Pistofidis G., Davies S., **Palmer G.**, et al. Significance of the presence of endometrial polyps in the IVF setting. 20th Hellenic Medical Congress, Athens. 1994.
- Davis S., Mastrominas M., **Palmer G.**, et al. Significance of patient selection for the success of ICSI. 20th Hellenic Medical Congress, Athens. 1994.
- **Palmer G.**, Traeger-Synodinou J., Tzeti M., et al. The difficulties of Pre-implantation Genetic Diagnosis of Beta Thalassaemia. Conference of Clinical Geneticists, Ioannina. 1995.
- **Palmer G.**, Traeger-Synodinou J., Tzeti M., et al. Preliminary studies of pre-implantation genetic diagnosis for Beta thalassaemia in Greece. . 12th Annual Meeting of ESHRE, Maastricht, Netherlands. 1996.
- Traeger-Synodinou J., **Palmer G.**, Tzeti M., et al. Preliminary studies on the feasibility of pre-implantation genetic diagnosis for Beta thalassaemia. 6th International Conference on Thalassaemia, Malta 1997.
- Traeger-Synodinou J., **Palmer G.**, Tzeti M., et al. Preliminary studies on the feasibility of pre-implantation genetic diagnosis for Beta thalassaemia. European Society of Human Genetics, Genoa, Italy. 1997.
- Kanavakis E., **Palmer G.**, Tzeti M., et al. Mutation analysis of the CFTR Gene in patients with CBAVD and obstructive azospermia (OA). 21st European CF Conference, Davos, Switzerland. 1997.
- Davis S., **Palmer G.**, Mastrominas, M., et al. Preferred method of TESE: 24hrs prior to oocyte recovery. 1st Hellenic Conference on Fertility and Sterility. Athens. 1997.
- Davis S., **Palmer G.**, Argirou M., et al. Cryopreservation of individual spermatozoa after TESE. . 1st Hellenic Conference on Fertility and Sterility. Athens. 1997.
- Traeger-Synodinou J., Palmer G., Tzeti M., et al. Pre-implantation genetic diagnosis for Beta-thalassaemia. Medizische Genetic (9) 1999.
- Traeger-Synodinou J., **Palmer G.**, Vrettou C., et al. Application of DGGE analysis for accurate detection of B-globin genotypes. 4th International Congress- Young Women at the Rise of the 21st Century. 1998.
- Morphological Characteristics of zygotes using computer assisted imaging T. Triandafillou, V. Kallergi, **G.A. Palmer.** The 9th Pan Hellenic conference on Gynecology. June 2003
- Palmer G. Excellence in an IVF Laboratory. MITERA 2009 . "EXCELLENCE IN I.V.F" - Conference, Athens.
- Christofidou C; Sofocleous C; Vrettou C; Destouni A; Traeger-Synodinos J; Kekou K; **Palmer G**; Kokkali G; Mavrou A; Kitsiou S; Kanavakis E. PGD for X-linked and gender-dependent disorders using a robust, flexible single-tube PCR protocol. Reproductive biomedicine online 2009;19 (3):418-25.

- Palmer G. Medical services as a source of tourism. Greek Society of Travel and Tourism Enterprises. Xenia 2009. ATHENS METROPOLITAN EXPO.
- Palmer G. "The Modern IVF laboratory" First Obstetric & Gynaecological Conference of Hygeia Hospital Tirana. Hygeia Hospital Tirana, Albania, 3rd December, 2010.
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- A.D. Sialakouma, **G.A. Palmer**, M. Mpotsaki, X. Papanikou, N.M. Vaxevanidis. Establishment of Quality management system in clinical laboratories according to the ISO 15189 – Evaluation of the benefits of implementation in an Assisted Reproduction Laboratory. ICQME 2010, 2010, Montenegro.
- Zervomanolakis I, Palmer **G.**, Sofoudis X., et al. Development of a diffusion system for stimulation and maturation of ovarian tissue. 3rd Hellenic Conference for Gynaecological Endocrinology 2011-Scientific Content Award.
- Palmer G. "The Modern IVF Lab for Romania" Meeting at Regina Maria, Bucharest, Romania 28th Nov. 2011.
- Palmer G. "Time lapse observations in pre-implantation embryos and factors effecting implantation potential". Meeting: «New Developments in Assisted Reproduction (IVF)» at MHTEPA, Athens. 2nd Dec., 2011.
- P. Karantzis, A. Makris, A. Kouri, **G. Palmer**, S. Kousoulakos (2011). The impact of the fragment sperm-DNA in a successful IVF pregnancy. 9th International Scientific Meeting. Royal college of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.
- Giles Palmer Time-Lapse Photography of embryo development. Assisted Reproduction, New Horizons. 17th-18th March, 2012 at Mitera Hospital, Athens.

Papers

- Kanavakis E., Vrettou C., **Palmer G.**, et al. (1999) Pre-implantation genetic diagnosis in 10 couples at risk for transmitting Beta-thalassaemia Major: Clinical experience including six singleton pregnancies. *Prenat. Diagn.* 19, 1217-1222.
- Vrettou C., **Palmer G.**, Kanavakis E., et al. (1999) A widely applicable strategy for single cell genotyping of Beta-thalassaemia using DGGE analysis: application to pre-implantation genetic diagnosis. *Prenat. Diagn.* 19, 1209-1216.
- **Palmer G.**, Davies S., Kanavakis E., et al. (2002) Pregnancies following pre-implantation genetic diagnosis after blastocyst stage transfer. *Hum. Reprod.* 17(1), 25-31.
- C.Vrettou, M.Tzetzis, J.Traeger-Synodinos, **G.Palmer**, E.Kanavakis. (2002) Multiplex sequence variation detection throughout the CFTR gene appropriate for preimplantation genetic diagnosis in populations with heterogeneity of cystic fibrosis mutations. *Mol. Hum. Reprod.* September 1, 2002, 8(9). 880-886.

- J. Traeger-Synodinos, C. Vrettou, **G. Palmer** et al
An evaluation of PGD in clinical genetic services through 3 years application for prevention of β -thalassaemia major and sickle cell thalassaemia
Mol. Hum. Reprod. May 1, 2003; 9(5): 301 - 307.
- C. Vrettou, J. Traeger-Synodinos, **G. Palmer** et al. Real time PCR for single cell genotyping in sickle cell and thalassemia syndromes. Hum. Mutation, May, 2004,23(5): 513- 521.
- G. Palmer. Improving air quality in ART Laboratories. Fertility Magazine ESHRE edition 2010.

Professional Bodies

PEKE- Greek Society of Clinical Embryologists.

ESHRE-European Society for Human Reproduction & Embryology.

SIGE- Member of the Greek Society of Medical Genetics.