



**AGNANTIS, NIKI J.**

**Full Member, Ioannina, GREECE**

**Prof., MD, Ph.D., FRCPath, AGE – oncology**

**Date of birth: 13 December 1940**

After graduating from the Medical School of Athens University in 1965, I went on to specialize in Pathology in 1970 and Cytology in 1974. I earned a Master's degree in Pathology in 1973 and a Philosophy degree in Pathology in 1981 from the Medical School of Athens University. I was named an Assistant Professor of Pathology of the Athens University Medical School in 1983 and a Full Professor of Pathology of the Ioannina University Medical School in 1990. I worked as a resident and fellow in the Department of Pathology of the Hellenic Anticancer Institute of Athens, St. Savvas Hospital, from 1966 to 1973. Also, in the same Department of Pathology, I served as an Attending Pathologist from 1974 to 1979, Associate Director and Chief of the Breast Division in 1979 and from 1984 to 1991 I was the Director of the Department. I worked for one year, beginning in March 1973 as Director in the General Hospital of Larissa (a town north of Athens) where I established the Department of Cyto-Pathology.

In 1978, I visited the Department of Cyto-Pathology of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (S.K.C.C.) in New York, U.S.A., where I stayed for six months supported by a grant from the Hellenic Anticancer Institute. Since then, I've visited the Memorial S.K.C.C. about every two years. From 1991 up to the present, I've been the Director of Pathology of the University Hospital at Ioannina Medical School. Since 1996, I've been organizing and teaching in the postgraduate courses in Ioannina (up to now 18) on different topics of Pathology-Oncology. These courses are granted officially under the auspices of the European Society of Pathology within the frame of the European Institute of Continuing Medical Education and in collaboration with the European School of Oncology. I am a member of 34 Greek and foreign medical societies. In many of these societies I served as a president or active board member.

I have presented more than 350 studies and have published more than 250 of these, in Greek and foreign publications. My concern was always to study the multistep process of carcinogenesis in different organs (such as the breast, gyn, colon and rectum, bladder, prostate, liver, and skin) and find out which of the so-called borderline, or premalignant or precancerous lesions are expressed with the different tumor markers. Interestingly, in almost all organs studied a considerable percentage of the above lesions showed an elevated expression to oncoproteins, similar to the one observed in well-differentiated carcinomas. Our findings proved the important role of oncoproteins in the development of the malignant phenotype. I do hope that in the near future all our efforts will contribute to the establishment of valuable prevention markers, which will detect the real candidates for cancer development.

Out of my 269 publications in peer-reviewed international journals, the total Impact Factor is 324.549 according to the ISI 2003 edition. The total number of my Citations in the ISI and in the International Books amounts to 1286 (until January 2005). In 1995, I was appointed by the European Society of Pathology as co-editor of the *Europath News*, with Professor Sir Colin Berry (U.K.), and Chief-editor, in 2003. Co-editor (2003) in the *Gastric-Breast Cancer* (GBC) Network Center website and electronic journal.

**Affiliations:** Hellenic Society of Pathology, Hellenic Society of Cytology, Hellenic Society of Oncology, European Society of Pathology, International Academy of Pathology, Society of Continuing Medical Education (USA), Balkan Medical Union, Hellenic Balkan Medical Society, International Society Against Breast Cancer, Hellenic Society of Senology, Senologic International Society, International Association for Breast Cancer Research, American Society for the Study of Breast Disease, European Society of Surgical Oncology, Hellenic Cancer Society, Medicosurgical Society of Athens, European Society of Gynaecological Oncology, Hellenic Society of Gynaecological Oncology, European Tissue Culture Society, Medical Society of Athens, Pathological Society of Great Britain and Ireland, Mediterranean Society of Tumour Marker Oncology, The European Group for Breast Cancer Screening, Mastology Association of Northern-Southern Mediterranean, Greek Society of Tumour Marker Oncology, New York Academy of Sciences.

**Awards:** Over 16 Honorary Diplomas and Awards from Medical Societies, Institutes and Universities (Greek and foreign): Medical Balkan Union: Diploma of Emerite Member, 1985; European School of Oncology: Honorary Diploma and Gold Medal, 1985; European Society of Pathology: Honorary Diploma, 1985; Saitama Medical School: Certificate of Appreciation, Tokyo, 1994; Hellenic Anticancer Institute: Athens: Honorary Diploma for my 25 years contribution, 1995; American Biographical Institute, USA: International Cultural Diploma of Honor, 1995. The Twentieth Century Achievement Award, 1995. Commemorative Medal of the Woman of the Year along with a Certificate of Authenticity, 1995. Data from my CV were included in the Eleventh Edition of American Biographical Institute (2002) entitled: *Dedication of the International Directory of Distinguished Leadership*; International Biographical Center: Cambridge, U.K.: Illuminated Diploma of Honour in recognition of outstanding achievements in the field of Oncogenes, The 20th Century Award for Achievement, November 1995. Roumanian Academy of Sciences: Honorary Diploma and Medal of Corresponding Member, 1996; National Academy of Medicine of France, Honorary Medal, 1998; Royal College of Pathologists, Diploma of Fellow based on published work, London U.K., 1999; UNESCO praise of the Programme Women in Science Selected in the final list of Nominees along with 31 female Scientists out of 400 applicants from all over the world, Paris, 2000; American Biographical Institute. Honorary plaque for Outstanding Contributions to continuing medical education, 2001; Roumanian Academy of Sciences: Honorary Diploma and plaque of Full Member, 2001; Serbian Scientific Society: Honorary Member, Belgrade, 2002; Nominated from the American Biographical Institute: Ambassador of Grand Eminece, 2002; Albanian Oncology Association: Honorary Member, 2003; World Academy of Letters, Chair of Medicine, 2004.

**Scientific achievements and contributions:** After 15 years of postgraduate studies and research in 1979 I published with Peter Rosen my first important paper entitled Mammary Carcinoma with Osteoclastlike Giant Cells which helped me to become internationally well known among pathologists. Since then, I continue to work intensively in the fields of oncogenes (c-ras, c-myc, c-erbB-2, bcl-2) and oncosupressor genes (p53, Rb) growth factors, adhesion molecule CD44, BM antigens (collagen type IV and laminin), fibronectin, proteolytic enzyme Cathepsin D and proliferating indices (Ki-67, PCNA) as well as metallothionein, stromelysin-1 and other potentially valuable prognostic markers.

**References:** [http://www.researchgate.net/profile/Niki\\_Agnantis](http://www.researchgate.net/profile/Niki_Agnantis).