

Petros Karayiannis.

Hepatology Wing
St Mary's Hospital
Imperial College
London



Personal Profile

He came to London in 1970 to study as there was no university in Cyprus at the time. Dr Karayiannis obtained his Bachelor of Science (BSc) Degree in Medical Microbiology from the University of Liverpool, where he continued studying for a Doctorate (PhD) in the same subject. His current position is Reader in Molecular Virology at Imperial College, Faculty of Medicine, St. Mary's being one of the constituent campuses where he is based. He is Deputy Editor for the Journal of Viral Hepatitis

Research Profile

These transformations of the Hepatitis virus are the main subject of his research which begun about 15 years ago with the discovery of new mutated strains of the virus, mostly in Greek and Italian carriers which develop through the natural evolution of the disease.

Around the world there are now about 700 million carriers of these two forms of hepatitis – B and C.

Development of cirrhosis and liver cancer can be avoided by taking antiviral drugs. The use of such drugs made us realize that we have to deal with a very clever virus. It is able to transform itself and develop resistance to the drugs.

Other interests

He likes gardening which calms him down. One of the main reasons I bought this house was the garden. Keeping it takes up a lot of my time. Mowing the lawn, pruning shrubs and trees, planting bulbs and flowers...

Relevant Links or info

For further information about Imperial College's medical Research view <http://www1.imperial.ac.uk/medicine/>