

Despina Papakosta is currently Professor of Pneumonology – Lung Immunology at the Pulmonary Department, Medical School, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece. She supervises the Asthma and Interstitial Lung Disease (ILD) Units of the Department.

She was born in Thessaloniki, obtained her Diploma of Medical School in 1980 and her PhD Thesis in 1989, both at the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. She was certified as “Pulmonary Medicine Specialist” in 1984. She completed a postgraduate work in Lung Immunology and Bronchoalveolar Lavage in the “Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale », Unité INSERM 214, LAËNNEC Hospital Paris, France (1985-1986) and obtained a postgraduate diploma by the University René Descartes, Paris V, in 1986. She has fluency in English and French languages and basic knowledge in German. Her clinical work and research focuses on Asthma and ILDs. She was the first to introduce BAL in Greece. She participated in official research projects and in clinical trials. She is a reviewer of many international journals and has co-authored over 100 papers and book chapters. She has been involved with the BAL Group of the European Respiratory Society since 1990 and has been Coordinator in the ILD group of the Hellenic Thoracic Society 2005-2011.