

Curriculum Vitae

APOSTOLOS VANTARAKIS



ASSIST. PROFESSOR
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
MEDICAL SCHOOL
UNIVERSITY OF PATRAS
Τηλ/Fax: +302610969875
e-mail: avanta@upatras.gr
<http://www.avantarakis.gr>

Education

2012: Seminar in Risk Assessment in Food, organized by EFSA, Parma, Italy
2010-2013: Part-time Distant Study for Diploma in Epidemiology (Distant learning), London School of Hygiene and Infectious Diseases, University of London, U.K
2006: Specialization in Epidemiology, European Education Programme in Epidemiology (EEPE), Firenze, Italy
1998-2001: Postdoctoral experience in Food Microbiology and Safety
1994-1998: Ph.D Public Health, Medical School, University of Patras
1990-1991: M.Sc in Genetics and its Applications, University College of Swansea, Wales, UK.
1985-1990: B.Sc, Biology, University of Patars, Greece.

Professional Experience

2008-Today: Assist. Professor in Public Health, Medical School, University of Patras, Patras, Greece
2009-2012: Member of Technical Committee TE2/OE 4 of National Body ELOT, for Microbiology in food and water
2003-2008: Assist. Professor in Public Health, Medical School, Democritus University of Thrace, Thrace, Greece
2006: Representative of ELOT in Technical Committee CEN/TAG4/WG6 for standardization of molecular techniques for the detection of viruses in food and water.
2006-2010: Representative of General Secretariat Research (GSRT) in COST project ENVIRONET
2006-2011: Cooperate with WHO/UNEP for microbiological quality of seawater and mussels
2002-2006: Expert of Ministry of Agriculture and Food for microbiological quality of shellfish
2002-2003: Inspector of EFET, Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Civil Servant
2000-2002: Inspector of Safety in Labour, Ministry of Labour. Civil Servant
1993-2007: Research Associate of Department of Public Health, University of Patras

Research

- 28 research projects as a coordinator (funded by National and International Bodies such as E.U FP7, Ministries etc.).
- 15 research projects as main researcher
- 8 Ph.D thesis as a scientific tutor and responsible person
- 4 M.Sc dissertations as a scientific responsible person
- 14 Undergraduate dissertations as a scientific manager

Publications

- 55 reseach articles in foreign journals (peer-reviewed)
- 6 research articles in Greek journals (peer-reviewed)
- 24 articles in Greek newspapers (no peer reviewing).
- 43 announcements in International Conferences
- 47 announcements in Greek Conferences
- 34 invited lectures in International and Greek Conferences

Teaching

Postgraduate Level

2009-Today: Postgraduate Programme «Basic Medical Specialties», Medical School, University of Patras,
2008-Today: Postgraduate Programme «Clinical Specialties», Medical School, University of Patras
2009-Today: Postgraduate Programme, Ichthyology Department, Agricultural University of Thessaly
2006-Today: Postgraduate Programme «Applied Public Health», Medical School, University of Thessaly
2005-2008: Postgraduate Programme «Applied Public Health», Medical School, University of Thessaly
2005-2008: Member of the Executive Committee in the Graduate Program Health and Safety, organized by the Medical Department of the D.P.TH and the Department of Public Health TEI Athens

Undergraduate Level

2007-Today: «Public Health», Medical School, University of Patras
2007-Today: «Preventive Medicine & Health Promotion and Community Medicine» Medical School, University of Patras
2009-Today: «Molecular and Genetic Epidemiology» Medical School, University of Patras
2008-Today: «Environmental Microbiology» Geology Department, University of Patras
2003-2008: «Hygiene» Medical School, Democritus University of Thrace, Greece
2003-2008: «Infectious Disease Epidemiology» Medical School, Democritus University of Thrace, Greece
2006-2007: Invited lecturer in Polytechnic University of Valencia, Spain in Environmental Hygiene through Socrates/Erasmus.

Preclinical Work

Since May 2008, under his scientific responsibility, drinking water, bottled water, food and water analyses have been performed for the control of microbiological and chemical quality and risk assessment for Public Health in the framework of the Laboratory of Hygiene at the University of Patras.

He is a Quality Manager in an accredited laboratory (AP 550) since May 2008.

In addition he is the Technical Manager for accredited microbiological testing laboratory work.

Over 4000 environmental analysis of water and foods have been conducted under his scientific responsibility.

Administrative Work

He was a member and participated in meetings of the General Assembly's of Medical School for the academic years 2010-2011 and 2008-2009.

He is a member of the Educational Laboratories of the Department of Medicine for the biennium 2009-2011.

He is a member of the Coordinating Committee on Health and Safety at the University of Patras in the years 2009-2011.

He is a member of the Commission on the reform and development of the site of the Department of Medicine, 2009-2011.

Scientific Associations Member

2012: Member of Board of International Association of Food and Environmental Virology (FEV)
2012: Member of International Epidemiological Association (IEA)
2010-2012: Elected member of Management Board of Panhellenic Union of Biologists
2009-2012: Chairman of Watermicro Greek Society.
2002-2009: Member of Management Board of Watermicro Society
2005-2007: Elected member of Management Board of Panhellenic Union of Biologists
2008-Today: Member of Ecocity
2004-Today: Member of IWA and ASM.

Editorial Work

He is a member of the editorial Board of the journal Food & Environmental Virology (Elsevier), Associate Editor in Water Science Technology, Water Supply (IWA). He is also reviewer in over than 10 journals such as Virology Journal, Journal of Virological Methods, Environmental Research etc.

Social Action

2010-2014: Elected Councillor of the Municipality of Patras

Publication list (peer-reviewed)

55. A.Birmipa, V.Sfika and **A.Vantarakis**, “Ultraviolet and Ultrasound as non-thermal treatments for the inactivation of microorganisms in fresh ready-to-eat foods” δεκτό προς δημοσίευση στο Inter. J. Food Microbiology, on line
- 54.K.Mellou, A.Katsioulis, M.Potamiti-Komi, V. Nakoulas, M.Kyritsi, A.Katsiaflaka, A. Kallimani, P.Kokkinos, E.Peteinaki, T.Sideroglou, T.Georgakopoulou, **A.Vantarakis**, C.Hadjichristodoulou, “A large waterborne outbreak in central Greece, March 2012. Challenges in the investigation and management” Epidemiology & Infection 2013 Apr 30:1-11.
- 53.P.A. Kokkinos, P.G. Ziros, M. Monini, P. Lampropoulou, A. Karampini, E. Papachatz, S. Mantagos, F.M. Ruggeri, **A. Vantarakis**. “Rare types of rotaviruses isolated from children with acute gastroenteritis in Patras, Greece” Intervirology, on line
52. K.Mellou, T.Sideroglou, M.Potamiti-Komi, P.Kokkinos, P.Ziros, T.Georgakopoulou, **A. Vantarakis** “Epidemiological investigation of two parallel gastroenteritis outbreaks in school settings, Nea Santa Kilkis, Greece, January 2012” BMC Public Health 13(1), 241
51. A.Carratalà, A.Hundes, A.Bach, A.Kern, **A.Vantarakis**, R.Girones, S.Bofill-Mas “Description of a novel polyomavirus (OPyV) as a tool to identify and quantify faecal pollution in the environment Science of the Total Environment, 2013 458–460, 355–360
- 50.Vantarakis A.**, M.Bellou, I. Detorakis, G.Vantarakis, M.Papapetropoulou “Diachronic long-term surveillance of bacteriological quality of bottled water in Greece (1995-2010)”, Food Control 33 (1), pp. 63-67
49. Papapetropoulos N., M.Papapetropoulou, **A.Vantarakis** “Abscesses and wound infections due to staphylococcus lugdunensis” Infection 2013 Apr; 41(2):525-8.
48. M. Bellou, P.Kokkinos, **A.Vantarakis** “Shellfish-borne Viral Outbreaks: A Systematic Review” Food and Environmental Virology 5 (1), pp. 13-23
- 47.Leontsini F., Papapetropoulos N., A.Vantarakis “Stethoscopes as vectors of multi-resistant coagulase negative staphylococci in a tertiary hospital” Inter. J. of Medical Science and Public Health 2013; 2(3): 338-343
- 46.P. Kokkinos, I. Kozyra, S. Lazic, M. Bouwknecht, S. Rutjes, K. Willems, R. Moloney, A.M. de Roda Husman, A. Kaupke, E. Legaki, M. D'Agostino, N. Cook, A. Rzeżutka, T. Petrovic, **A. Vantarakis**, “Harmonised investigation of occurrence of human enteric viruses in the leafy green vegetables supply chain in three European countries”, Food and Environmental Virology, 4 (4) , pp. 179-191
45. P.G. Ziros, P.A.Kokkinos, K. Papanotas, **A.Vantarakis** “Loop-mediated isothermal amplification (LAMP) for the detection of Salmonella spp. isolated from different food types, J.of Microbiology, Biotechnology and Food Sciences, 2012 : 2 (1) 152-161
44. Anna Carratalà, Marta Rusiñol, Ayalkibet Hundesa, Mar Biarnés, Jesus Rodriguez-Manzano, **Apostolos Vantarakis**, Anita Kern, Ester Suñen, R. Girones, and Silvia Bofill-Mas. A novel tool to trace poultry fecal contamination in the environment: specific detection and quantification of chicken/turkey parvoviruses, Applied and Environmental Microbiology 2012 Aug 17. [Epub ahead of print]
43. Marta Diez-Valcarce, Petros Kokkinos, Kirsi Söderberg, Kris Willems, Ana Maria de Roda-Husman, Carl-Henrik von Bonsdorff, Marta Hernández, Maria Mpellou, Leena Maunula, **Apostolos Vantarakis** and David Rodríguez-Lázaro. “Harmonised investigation of occurrence of human enteric viruses in commercial mussels at retail level in three European countries”, Food Environmental Virology
42. Martin D'Agostino, Nigel Cook, Ilaria Di Bartolo, Franco M. Ruggeri, Alessandra Berto, Francesca Martelli, Malcolm Banks, Petra Vasickova, Petr Kralik, Ivo Pavlik, Petros Kokkinos, **Apostolos Vantarakis**, Kirsi Söderberg, Leena Maunula, Katharina Verhaelen, Saskia Rutjes, Ana Maria de Roda Husman, Renate Hakze, Wim Van der Poel, Agnieszka Kaupke, Iwona Kozyra, Artur Rzeżutka, Jasna Prodanov, Sava Lazic, Tamas Petrovic, Anna Carratala, Rosina Gironés, Marta Diez-Valcarce, Marta Hernandez, David Rodriguez-Lazaro, “Multicenter Collaborative Trial Evaluation of a Method for Detection of Human Adenoviruses in Berry Fruit” 2012, Food Analytical Methods , 5:1–7
41. K.Fragou, P.Kokkinos, C.Gogos, Y.Alamanos, and **A.Vantarakis**. Prevalence of Legionella spp. in water systems of hospitals and hotels in South Western Greece, 2011, International Journal of Environmental Health Research 2012 Aug;22(4):340-54. Epub 2011 Dec 12.
40. David Rodríguez-Lázaro*, Nigel Cook, Franco M. Ruggeri, Jane Sellwood, Abid Nasser, Maria Sao Jose Nascimento, Martin D'Agostino, Ricardo Santos, Juan Carlos Saiz, Artur Rzeżutka, Albert Bosch, Rosina Gironés, Annalaura Carducci, Michelle Muscillo, Katarina Kovač, Marta Diez-Valcarce, **Apostolos**

- Vantarakis**, Carl-Henrik von Bonsdorff, Ana Maria de Roda Husman, Marta Hernández, Wim H. M. van der Poel. Virus hazards from food, water and other contaminated environments” 2011, FEMS Microbiol Rev. 2012 Jul;36(4):786-814.
39. **A.Vantarakis**, K.Mellou, G.Spala, P.Kokkinos and Y.Alamanos. A Gastroenteritis Outbreak Caused by Noroviruses in Greece Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health 2011, 8, 3468-3478
38. P.G Ziros, P.A.Kokkinos, E.Legaki and **A.Vantarakis** «Development of an optimized method for the detection of airborne viruses with real-time PCR analysis» Virology Journal 2011, 8:369, 27 July 2011
37. P.A.Kokkinos, P.G.Ziros, D.Meri, S.Philippidou, S.Kolla, A.Galanis and **A.Vantarakis** “Environmental surveillance. An additional/alternative approach for the virological surveillance in Greece?” Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health , 8(6), 1914-1922
36. P.A.Kokkinos, P.G.Ziros, A.Mpalasopoulou, A.Galanis, **A.Vantarakis** “Molecular detection of multiple viral targets in untreated urban sewage from Greece” Virology Journal, **2011, 8:195**
35. **Vantarakis A.**, Affifi M., Kokkinos P., Tsibouxi M., Papapetropoulou M. “Occurrence of microorganisms of public health and spoilage significance in fruit juices sold in retail markets of Greece”, Anaerobe. 2011 Dec;17(6):288-91
34. M. Kanieff, G.Rago, G.Minelli, T.Lamagni, O.Sadicova, J Šelb, **A.Vantarakis**, S.Conti, “The potential for a concerted system for the rapid monitoring of excess mortality throughout Europe”, Eurosurveillance, Volume 15, Issue 43, 28/10/2010
- 33.P.Kokkinos, P.Ziros, S.Filippidou, I.Mpampounakis and **A.Vantarakis**, “Molecular characterization of hepatitis A virus isolates from environmental and clinical samples in Greece” Virology, 2010, 7: 235
32. A.Papachatzopoulou, A.Kourakli, E.F.Stavrou, E.Fragou, **A.Vantarakis**, G.P.Patrinou, A.Athanassiadou “Region-specific genetic heterogeneity of HBB mutation distribution in South-Western Greece” 2010, Haemoglobin 34 (4), pp. 333-342
31. Lees.D.N. and **CEN WG6 TAG4** group (**Apostolos Vantarakis**, Member of CENWG6 TAG4). International Standardisation of a Method for Detection of Human Pathogenic Viruses in Molluscan Shellfish. Food and Environmental Virology: Vol.2, Issue 3 (2010), P.146.
30. Kokkinos P., S. Filippidou, K.Karlou and **A.Vantarakis**. 2010. Molecular typing of enteroviruses, adenoviruses and hepatitis A viruses in untreated and treated sewage of a biological treatment plant in Greece, Food and Environmental Virology, Vol.2 (2):89
29. Mazick A, Gergonne B, Wuillaume F, Danis K, Vantarakis A, Uphoff H, Spiteri G, van 't Klooster T, Junker C, Holmberg M, Molbak K. Higher all-cause mortality in children during autumn 2009 compared with the three previous years: pooled results from eight European countries.Eurosurveillance **2010 Feb 4;15(5). pii: 19480.**
28. Mavridou A., E. Smeti, G. Mandilara, P. Boufa, M. Vagiona-Arvanitidou, **A. Vantarakis**, G.Vassilantonopoulou, O. Pappa, V. Roussia, A. Tzouanopoulos, M. Livadara, I Aisopou, V. Maraka, E. Nikolaou. «Equivalency testing of Lactose TTC agar (ISO9308-1:2000) with 5 culture media for the detection of E. coli in water samples in Greece», Water Science and Technology, Water Sci. Technol. 2010; 61(1):67-76.
27. **Vantarakis A**, Nearxou A, Pagonidis D, Melegos F, Seretidis J, Kokkinos P, Zarkadis I, Parasidis T, Alamanos Y. An outbreak of hepatitis A in Roma populations living in three prefectures in Greece. Epidemiol Infect. 2010;138(7):1025-1031.
26. **Mpountoukas P.**, A. Vantarakis, E. Sivridis and T. Lialiaris. «Cytogenetic study in cultured human lymphocytes treated with three commonly used preservatives», **Food Chem Toxicol. 2008 Jul;46(7):2390-3.**
- 25.T.Parasidis, E. Vorou, Mellou, G. Theodoropoulou-Rodiou, G. Katsantridou, G. Stamatopoulou, **A.Vantarakis** “Outbreak of Gastroenteritis Occurred in North-Eastern Greece Associated with Several Waterborne Strains of Noroviruses. International Journal of Infectious Diseases 2008, 12: E104-E105
24. Filippidou, A,Parasidis, T,Alexandropoulou, I,Stavrou, E,Karlou, K, **Vantarakis, A.**“Detection of Infectious Pathogenic Viruses in Untreated and Treated Wastewater Samples from an Urbanised Area“. International Journal of Infectious Diseases 2008, 12: E104-E104
23. Nikolaidis C., P.Mandalos and **A.Vantarakis** «Impact of intensive agricultural practices on drinking water quality in Evros Region (NE GREECE) by GIS analysis». Environ. Monitor. Assess. 2008 Aug;143(1-3):43-50.

22. **A.Vantarakis**, M. Chondrou, M. Efstratiou, M. Papapetropoulou, Use of an AFLP technique for the discrimination of source (human or animal) of E.coli. International Journal of Antimicrobial Agents, Volume 29, Pages S338 - S339
21. Parasidis T., Divari E., Fatouros N., and **A.Vantarakis**: «Outbreak of acute gastroenteritis in Greece during a school excursion, April 2007», 2007, Eurosurveillance 12(7):1
20. **Vantarakis A.**, D. Venieri, G. Komninou and M. Papapetropoulou, “Hybridization of F+RNA coliphages detected in shellfish samples with oligonucleotide probes to assess the origin of microbiological pollution of shellfish» 2006, Wat.Sci.Technol. 54(3): 219-223
19. **A.Vantarakis**, D.Venieri, G.Komninou and M. Papapetropoulou. “Differentiation of faecal Escherichia coli from humans and animals by Multiple Antibiotic Resistance Analysis (MAR)”. 2006, Let.Appl. Microb., 42: 71-77.
18. D.Venieri, **Vantarakis A.**, G.Komninou, M.Papapetropoulou “Microbiological evaluation of bottled non-carbonated “still” water from domestic brands in Greece” 2006, Int. J. Food Microbiol. 107(1):68-72.
17. Sazakli E., Leotsinidis M., **Vantarakis A.** & Papapetropoulou M. “Comparative typing of Pseudomonas species isolated from the aquatic environment in Greece by SDS-PAGE and RAPD analysis”. 2005, J.Appl.Microb., 99:1191-1203
16. Brion G., Viswanathan C., Neelakantan T. R., Lingireddy S., Girones R., Lees D., Allard A., and **A.Vantarakis**. “Artificial Neural Network Prediction of Viruses in Shellfish” 2005, App.Environ.Microb. 71(9): 5244-5253.
15. **Vantarakis A.**, A. Tsibouxi, D.Venieri, G.Komninou, A. Athanassiadou, M. Papapetropoulou. “Evaluation of microbiological quality of coastal waters of Greece” 2005, J.Wat. Health, 3(4):371-80.
14. D.Venieri, **A.Vantarakis**, G.Komninou and M.Papapetropoulou “Differentiation of fecal Escherichia coli from humans and animals by Random Amplified Polymorphic DNA-PCR (RAPD-PCR), 2004, Wat. Sci.Tech. 50:1:193-198.
13. G.Brion, S. Lingeriddy, T.R. Neelakantan, M. Wang, R.Girones, D.Lees, A.Allard, **A.Vantarakis** “Probing Norwalk-like virus presence in shellfish, using artificial neural networks” 2004, Wat.Sci.Tech. 50(1): 125-129.
12. Komninou G., **A.Vantarakis**, D. Venieri and M. Papapetropoulou “Evaluation of virological quality of sewage from four biological treatment plants by a nested PCR technique” 2004, Wat. Sci.Technol. 50 (1):253-257
11. Formiga-Cruz, M., A. K. Allard, A.C. Condin-Hansson, K. Henshilwood, B.E. Hernroth., J. Jofre, D.N.Lees, F.Lucena, M. Papapetropoulou, G. Tofiño-Quesada, A. Tsibouxi, **A.Vantarakis**, and R. Girones. 2003 “Evaluation of potential indicators of viral contamination in shellfish and their applicability to diverse geographical areas” Appl.Environ.Microbiol., 69 (3):1556-1563.
10. Formiga-Cruz, M., G. Tofiño-Quesada, S. Bofill-Mas, D. N. Lees, K. Henshilwood, A. K. Allard, A.C. Conden-Hansson, B.E. Hernroth, **A. Vantarakis**, A. Tsibouxi, M. Papapetropoulou, M. D. Furones, and R. Girones 2002. “Distribution of human viral contamination in shellfish from different growing areas in Greece, Spain, Sweden and UK”. Appl. Environ. Microb 68(12): 5990-5998.
9. **Vantarakis A.**, Komninou G., Venieri D., and M. Papapetropoulou 2000. “Development of a multiplex PCR detection of Salmonella spp. and Shigella spp. in mussels”. Lett. Applied Microbiology 31(2): 105-110
8. Papandreou S., Pagonopoulou O., **Vantarakis A.**, Papapetropoulou M. 2000 “Multiantibiotic resistance of Gram (-) bacteria isolated from drinking water samples in Southwestern Greece” J. Chemotherapy 12(4): 267-273.
7. Tsintzou A., **A.Vantarakis**, Pagonopoulou O., Athanasiadou A. Papapetropoulou M. 2000. “Environmental mycobacteria in drinking water before and after replacement of the water distribution network”. Wat.Air Soil Poll.120 (3-4): 273-282.
6. **Vantarakis A.** & M. Papapetropoulou. 1999. «Detection of enteroviruses and adenoviruses and HAV in raw sewage and treated effluents by nested-PCR». Water, Air Soil Pollut. 114:85-93.
5. **Vantarakis A.** & M. Papapetropoulou 1998. «Detection of enteroviruses, adenoviruses in coastal waters of SW Greece by nested polymerase chain reaction». Wat.Res.Vol. 32 (8) pp.2365-2372.
4. **Vantarakis A.**, A.Tsintzou, A.Diamandopoulos, M.Papapetropoulou 1998. «Non-tuberculosis Mycobacteria in hospital water supplies» Water, Air and Soil Pollution 104: 331-337.

-
3. Papapetropoulou M. & **Vantarakis A.** 1998. «Detection of adenovirus outbreak at a municipal swimming pool by nested-PCR amplification» J. of Infection 36(1):101-103.
 2. Papapetropoulou M., A.Tsintzou, and **A.Vantarakis** 1997. «Environmental Mycobacteria in bottled table waters in Greece», Can. J. Microbiology 43: 499-502.
 1. **Vantarakis A.**, A.Tsintzou and M.Papapetropoulou 1997. “Atypical Mycobacteria in hospital water supplies” Medical Microbiology Letters vol. 5, Suppl.1 S21.