Dr. Mara Simopoulou B.Sc., M.Sc., Ph.D.
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Dr. Mara Simopoulou is a Professor of Physiology and Clinical Embryology at the Medical School of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and a Deputy Laboratory Manager at Aretaieio University Hospital IVF Unit in Athens in Greece. She holds the position of an Honorary Senior Associate Professor at the Institute for Women' Health of the University College London (UCL), where she works closely with Professor Joyce Harper.

Professor Simopoulou is a Certified Senior Clinical Embryologist from ESHRE and has over 20 years of experience in the field of Assisted Reproduction and Clinical Embryology. She serves as the Head of the "Unit of Physiology of Reproduction and Clinical Embryology" in the Department of Physiology of the Medical School of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens in Greece supervising PhDs and Postdoctoral fellows.

 She represents Greece at the ´´International Reproductive Health Education Collaboration (IRHEC)´´ conducting research and working collectively with multidisciplinary professionals to promote Fertility Health Education and ascertain informed decisions. Professor Simopoulou has also been elected as member of the ESHRE Committee of National Representatives (CNR) representing Greece. She also serves as an Appointed Assessor for ESHRE's Centre Accreditation of Training Program in Clinical Embryology. She is a founding member and General Secretary of the "Scientific Society of Clinical Embryology and Biology of Reproduction" based in Greece.

Professor Simopoulou is personally invested in Education and Training of Clinical Embryologists and Biologists of Human Reproduction. She is the Founder, Scientific and Academic Director of the International Postgraduate Programme "Advanced Course in Clinical Embryology" offered by the Medical School and the Center of Continuing Education and Lifelong Learning of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens.

She serves as a member of the Editorial Board and Special Issue Editor for nine peer reviewed journals, and she also serves as a Reviewer for 61 peer reviewed journals, including Human Reproduction. She is an Associate Editor for Human Reproduction Update.

Professor Simopoulou studied Molecular Biology at King's College of London, United Kingdom and in 1998 she obtained her Master of Sciences degree in Prenatal Genetics and Fetal Medicine from UCL of United Kingdom. In 2004 she was awarded her Ph.D. in Obstetrics and Gynaecology & Human Genetics from UCL on "Molecular and Cytogenetic Approaches in Analyzing Human Preimplantation Embryos" supervised by the late Professor Joy Delhanty and Professor Joyce Harper.

She was attached as a Research Fellow specializing in PGT in UCL and did postgraduate training at Mount Sinai Hospital-New York. As an academic, she is actively involved in the undergraduate teaching of medical students in the University of NKUA, and in the supervision of numerous postgraduate students attending MSc

Programs focusing on Physiology of Reproduction and Clinical Embryology in Greece and in the UK.

Her research focuses on the preimplantation embryo and its evaluation as well as on novel approaches addressing ovarian insufficiency. She enjoys numerous collaborations on an academic, clinical and research level with University Departments, Assisted Conception Units and Hospitals. She has authored and co-authored 109 research articles published in international peer reviewed journals. Her personal mission in the scientific community is to contribute to the successful management of the challenging reproductive journey of infertile patients, advancing the field through her published work along with balancing her teaching, research, and clinical commitments in the field of Clinical Embryology and Genetics.