

NATIONAL REPORT 2016-2017 GREECE

I) Health Psychology in the country

II) Education, training & professionalization

1. PROMOTION OF HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY

2. EDUCATION AND TRAINING INITIATIVES/PROGRAMS

A new MSc program in Psychological Interventions in Addictions was launched this year at the Department of Psychology, University of Crete (<http://addictions.psychology.uoc.gr/en/>).

In addition, there are some thoughts of upgrading the MSc program in Health Psychology at the Department of Psychology, University of Crete to a PhD program. For the time being, most PhD students in Health Psychology are trained in different clinics within the University of Crete Hospital.

III) Activities

1. CONFERENCES & MEETINGS

The biennial conference of the Hellenic Psychological Association was held this year at the Aristotle University of Thessalonica. The Division of Clinical and Health Psychology organized three symposia, while several oral presentations in health psychology-related topics were also presented.

2. WORKING GROUPS (if any)

The members of the Hellenic Psychological Association Division of Clinical and Health Psychology decided to form a Working Group for the advocacy for and promotion of the specialty-related professional rights of clinical and health psychologists in the country.

3. OTHER ACTIVITIES

A number of research programs and collaborations are under way.

1. A research project about the long-term relationship of cardiac patients' and their spouses' positive and negative affect to physical and psychological quality of life was

under way last year. The first findings are expected next year (Dr. E. Karademas, Professor in Clinical Health Psychology, University of Crete, is the P.I. of the project)

2. A one-year project developing an integrated theory, i.e., combining variables from social cognitive theoretical models, of the determinants of condom use among young people in Sub-Saharan African settings. The project was funded by the University of California, Berkeley, with support from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, (Dr. C. Protogerou, CPsychol AFBPsS, is the P.I. of the project).
3. A collaboration has begun, between the National School of Public Health and the Institute of Applied Biosciences (INAB) at the Center for Research and Technology Hellas (CERTH), that serves the development of effective and standardized protocols and tools for physician-patient communication, within the context of self-management enhancement in chronic illness, especially Chronic Lymphocytic Leukaemia. It involves the preparation, implementation and evaluation of a structured educational course for health professionals, (Dr. G. Koulirakis, acting Head of the Department of Sociology, at the National School of Public Health, is one of the P.I.'s of the program).
4. A research collaboration has begun between the Faculty of Nursing, National & Kapodistrian University of Athens and the University Mental Health Research Institute (UMHRI), looking on how the economic crisis (in Greece) has an impact on the care-givers and families with a member suffering from a chronic and serious mental illness. Factors such as, overall functioning of the family, the communication of its members, the ability to solve problems, the emotional response, are some of the variables involved, (Dr. A. Paschali, Assistant Professor in Health Psychology, is the P.I. of the project).

1. PLANNED/FUTURE ACTIVITIES AND INITIATIVES

IV) Other issues