

NATIONAL REPORT 2017-2018 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 last year at the Department of Psychology, University of Crete (<http://addictions.psychology.uoc.gr/en/>).

III) Activities

1. CONFERENCES & MEETINGS

The biennial conference of the Hellenic Psychological Association was held in May 2017 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.

Dr. Paschali, A., is a member of the new-committee of EHPS in relation to the training and profession-related regulations of Health Psychology. Main goal of this new task force would be to promote a coordinated approach and standardized international regulations of HP at a European & International level.

3. PUBLICATIONS

1. Mc Sharry, J., Chater, A., Lucanin, J., Höfer, S., Paschali, A & Warner, L. (2017), Education and Training in EHPS countries, Health Psychology Education and Training Countries Represented in the EHPS, (original article), *The European Health Psychologist, Bulletin of the European Health Psychology Society*, V. 19 (6), pp. 375-381, (Dec.2017 www.ehps.net/ehp).
2. Papathanasiou, C. & Stylianidis, S. (2018). Designing an inclusive model of clinical intervention among persons diagnosed with borderline personality disorder: A research project protocol. *European Psychiatry* 48, pp. 697-698.
3. Karekla, M., Karademas, E.C., Vasiliou, V., Kasinopoulos, O., Flouri, M., Christou, G., & Papaostas, S. (2017). In search on novel and more effective psychological treatments for chronic pain: The "Algea" research project. *The European Health Psychologist*, 19, 297-301.
4. Bitsios, P., Karademas, E., Mouzaki, A., Manolitsis, G., Kapellaki, O., Diacatou, A.... & Giovazolias, T. (2017). The Student Counselling Center at the University of Crete, Greece. *The British Journal of Psychiatry*, 14, 90-92.
5. Karademas, E.C., Karekla, M., Flouri, M., Vasileiou, V., Kasinopoulos, O., & Papakostas, S. (2017). The impact of experiential avoidance on the relations between illness representations, pain catastrophizing, and pain interference in chronic pain. *Psychology and Health*, 32, 1469-1484.
6. Karademas, E.C., & Roussi, P. (2017). Financial strain, dyadic coping, relationship satisfaction, and psychological distress: A dyadic mediation study in Greek couples. *Stress and Health*, 33, 508-517.
7. Artopoulou, I.I., Karademas, E.C., Papadogeorgakis, N., Papathanasiou, I., & Polyzois, G. (2017). Effects of sociodemographic, treatment variables, and medical characteristics on quality of life of patients with maxillectomy restored with obturator prostheses. *The Journal of Prosthetic Dentistry*, 118, 783-789.
8. Karademas, E.C. Ktistaki, G., Dimitraki, G., Papastefanakis, E., Mastorodemos, V., Repa, A. ... & Simos, P. (2017). Patient and partner dispositional optimism as a long-term predictor of illness representations in autoimmune diseases. *Journal of Health Psychology*, 22, 1691-1700.
9. Karademas, E.C., Dimitraki, G., Papastefanakis, E., Ktistaki, G., Repa, A., Gergianaki, I., Bertsiyas, G., Sidiropoulos, P., & Simos, P. (2018). Adaptation to Inflammatory Rheumatic Disease: Do Illness Representations Predict Patients' Physical Functioning Over Time? A Complex Relationship. *Journal of Behavioral Medicine*, 41, 232-242.

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 findings are expected later this year (Dr. E. Karademas, Professor in Clinical Health Psychology, University of Crete, is the P.I. of the project).

2. Dr Koulierakis, G., acting Head of the Department of Sociology, at the National School of Public Health co-ordinates the following project: “Participatory Approach for Raise Awareness and Discrimination against Sexual and gender Orientation in healthcare sector”. – PARADISO No 777338). PARADISO project (<https://paradiso.gr/>) is funded by European Commission’s Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme and lasts 16 months. The project aims to create an inclusive and LGBTQI culturally competent health sector through a participatory approach, in order to combat any LGBTQI discrimination and raise awareness among healthcare professionals on LGBTI definitions, rights and needs. The existing perception and beliefs on homophobic viewpoints and discrimination attitudes against LGBTQI people in the health professionals will be assessed and practical guide booklets on “dos and don’ts on LGBTQI people in the health sector” will be developed. Through a series of trainings to health professionals, the health professionals’ attitudes will be culturally improved and LGBTQI medically competent services will be provided.
3. Dr Papathanasiou C., has a Postdoctoral research program , in collaboration with Professor Stylianidis S. at Panteion University in Athens, for developing guiding principles of effective communication between mental health clinicians and service-users, diagnosed with Borderline Personality Disorder
4. Dr. Protogerou K., started a new research project at the University of Cape Town, South Africa, looking at the development and validation of a checklist to appraise the quality of survey studies in psychology (Q-SSP).

PLANNED/FUTURE ACTIVITIES AND INITIATIVES

IV) Other issues