FACULTY OF MEDICINE
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Dean – Prof. Habil. Dr. Algirdas Utkus

STAFF
582 teachers (540 holding research degree), 88 research fellows (65 holding research degree), 170 doctoral students.

DEPARTMENTS OF THE FACULTY

Institute of Biomedical Sciences:
Department of Anatomy, Histology and Anthropology
Department of Human and Medical Genetics
Pharmacy Centre
Department of Pathology, Forensic Medicine and Pharmacology
Department of Physiology, Biochemistry, Microbiology and Laboratory Medicine
Department of Radiology, Nuclear Medicine and Physics of Medicine

Institute of Clinical Medicine:
Clinic of Obstetrics and Gynecology
Clinic of Anaesthesiology and Reanimatology
Clinic of Ear, Nose, Throat and Eyes diseases
Clinic of Gastroenterology, Nephrourology and Surgery
Clinic of Infectious Diseases and Dermatovenereology
Clinic of Chest Diseases, Immunology and Allergology
Clinic of Neurology and Neurosurgery
Clinic of Psychiatry
Clinic of Rheumatology, Orthopaedic and Traumatology and Reconstructive Surgery
Clinic of Cardiovascular diseases
Clinic of Children’s Diseases
Clinic of Internal Medicine, Family Practice and Oncology
Clinics of Emergency Medicine

Institute of Dentistry

Institute of Health Sciences:
Department of Rehabilitation, Physical and Sports Medicine
Department of Nursing
Department of Public Health
Center for Health Ethics, Law and History

RESEARCH AREAS
Human Genome Diversity, Its Origin and Phenotypic Realization
Human and Public Health, Quality of Life and Environment
Etiopathogenesis, Diagnostics, Treatment of Diseases: Fundamental and Clinical Research, Innovative Technologies
Development of the new diagnostic and prognostic molecular markers and tools for their quantification in the tissues. Diagnostic value of pathology tests and efficiency of cancer prevention programs.

Development of the predictive, preventive, personalized and prognostic biomarkers of the diseases.

Genesis and gnoseology of violence.

Changes in cardiovascular medicines utilization, morbidity, and mortality from cardiovascular disease in Lithuania

Research and investigation of ethiopathogenetic mechanisms of atherosclerosis

Research and investigation of new methods in laboratory diagnostics of diseases

Investigation of nutrition and evaluation of new high quality food products with increased biological value to human health

Development of new antimicrobials for control of the medically important bacterial biofilms

Design of new molecular biology techniques for identification of the pathogenic and commensal microorganisms, genotyping, antimicrobial resistance and epidemiology

DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS MAINTAINED IN 2019


Vytautas Žėkas. Extracellular Vesicles as a New Biomarker of Early Atherosclerosis in Healthy and Ischemic Heart Disease-Affected Male Populations.

Sigitas Chmieliauskas. Evaluating Homicide in Lithuania in Terms of Forensic, Ethical, Social and Legal Aspects (Supervisor Prof. Dr. Dainius Characiejus, Scientific Consultant Dr. Algimantas Jasulaitis).


Solovjova S. The study of influence of altered arterial function and structure on diastolic heart failure in middle-aged high-risk cardiovascular subjects.

Lipnevičius A. A comparison of postoperative outcomes between transapical and conventional mitral valve repair.


Jarašūnas J. Analysis of the link between various cardiovascular factors and atrial fibrillation.

Aistė Kadziauskienė. Morphologic changes of lamina cribrosa in glaucomatous eyes after trabeculectomy“

Birutė Zablockienė „Prevention of Influenza Viral Pneumonia Using Zanamivir and Antisense Oligonucleotide Against Inducible Nitric Oxide Synthase“. 2019 kovo 14 diena.

R. Kavalnienė. The influence of social and demographic factors, depression and anxiety on patient satisfaction with primary care.

Augustė Kačėnienė: Suicide risk among cancer patients in Lithuania.
Laura Steponavičienė. Mamography screening in Lithuania: the program’s course and its influence on the epidemiological situation of breast cancer.

MAIN CONFERENCES ORGANIZED IN 2019
International scientific practical conference „Dysmorphology autumn 2019“
Organizing & maximizing rare disease biological sample data in biobanks
The 16th Baltic Conference on Intellectual Co-operation “Genes: from the Past to the Future”
International conference „7th Nordic-Baltic Biometric conference“
National conference „International Down Syndrome Day 2019“
National conference „International DNA Day in Lithuania“
Huntington Disease conference, Huntington disease patients school „Rare neurological movement disorders“
24th meeting of the International Society for the History of the Neurosciences,
National conference „Conference of Lithuanian Stroke Association”
National conference „17th Lithuanian Summer School of Neurology“
The 6th International Conference on Prehypertension, Hypertension, Metabolic Disorders and Cardiovascular disease
Seminars in Cardiology – 2019
8th Vilnius-Gdansk Universities Meeting on Hypertension, Kidney Disease and Cardiovascular Protection
International conference „4th meeting of Baltic Society of Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance.“
http://balticcmr.com/
Conference „Heart Failure Biomarkers Meeting“
International conference „Actual Questions in Heart and Chest Surgery“
Lithuanian Hypertension Congress
Vilnius Rheumatology seminars/25
National conference „How to avoid traps at the perioperative period?“
Lithuanian otorhinolaryngology society conference “Otorhinolaryngology actualities”
Lithuanian otorhinolaryngology society conference “Otorhinolaryngology seminars”
International forum Ophthalmologicum Balticum
National conference „Topical problems of Pulmonology“
Allergology and clinical immunology: new challenges and treatment options in 2019
Seminar „Bronchial asthma day“
Conference “News in allergology and clinical immunology“
Conference Winter of allergology and clinical immunology 2019
CAMS: Collaborative Assessment and Management of Suicidality
Conference „My own psychotherapy“
National conference „Diabetes and pregnancy“
International conference „Current issues in aesthetic and reconstructive gynecology“
National conference and training course „New treatments for male and female infertility and other topical infertility issues“
International conference „Congress on paediatric and adolescent gynaecology. Oncogynecology. Oncofertility“
International conference “Fetal medicine”
Scientific-practical conference „Urgent situations and their management in the field of infectious diseases and toxicology“
Scientific-practical conference “Communicable diseases of travellers and their prophylaxis”
International scientific-practical conference „Infectology 2019“
International scientific-practical conference 2nd Baltic Young Infectologists Conference
Scientific-practical conference Dermatovenereology Afternoon III
Scientific-practical conference Dermatovenereology Update 2019
Scientific-practical conference Dermatovenereology Afternoon IV
Scientific-practical conference LDVD Vilnius Seminars V
International Scientific Conference „Can emigrants doctors contribute to the Health System progress in Lithuania? 1st Conference.“
International Scientific Conference „News of acute coronary syndromes and emergency medicine“.
International Scientific Conference „Progress of ECMO in Lithuania. 3rd Conference“
„11th European Regional Conference on Thoracic Oncology: Where We Are Now?“
Scientific – practical conferences “Endocrine diseases diagnostics and treatment: an update”
National scientific conference “Diabetes and pregnancy: an update on diagnostics, long-time follow up and treatment”
Mayo Clinic days in Klaipeda 2019
National scientific conference “Addictions and harm reduction strategies”
Organized nine Cycles of the National Conference „Fundamentals of Organ Donation“
Organized four Cycles of the National Conference „Ultrasound Guided Regional Anesthesia“
XXIII – XXVI Vilnius International Paediatric Pulmonology and allergology Conference – School
Annual Meeting of the Lithuanian Pediatric Nephrology Society
Current Issues in Pediatric Liver Transplantation
Clotting disorders. Introduction to VWD
Haemophilia A: Needs and Challenged
Hepatomegaly and Splenomegaly: Challenges and Therapeutic Options
News in Pediatric Oncohematology
International annual meeting of Lithuanian Society of Prosthodontics

International conference „Tipicality in periodontology“

International conference „ENDOBALTIC 2019“

National Scientific-Practical Conference “A Sustainable Environment for Children’s Health”

4th International School on Public Mental Health: Research In Public Mental Health And Resilience“

Scientific-practical conference ”The Place of Alternative and Complementary Health Care in the Lithuanian Health Care System“.

Scientific-practical conference ”Correction of Diplopia by Prism“

Summer School for nursing doctoral students „Research in Nursing Care“

Scientific-Practical Conference “Simulative education innovations”

Scientific-Practical Conference ”Development of competences of pharmacy and improvement of skills in nursing“

MAIN SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2019

1. Patent application “Automated Tumour-Stroma Interface Zone Detection for Anti-Tumour Response Assessment by Immunogradient Indicators” (No. LT 2019 509)


3. Evaluating the effects of obstructive sleep apnea on the cornea (published scientific article in ISI Web of Science (Clarivate analytics) journal).

4. Assessing the risk of pulmonary artery thrombotic embolism in patients with advanced lung cancer using the Khorana Scale (cornea (published scientific article in ISI Web of Science (Clarivate analytics) journal).

5. Participation at international multicenter study on the adverse effects of tuberculosis drugs on the cornea (published scientific article in ISI Web of Science (Clarivate analytics) journal).

6. Validation of the Lithuanian version of sarcopenia-specific quality of life questionnaire (SarQoL®)

7. The predictive markers in the efficacy of radical combined surgical and conservative treatment in women with stage I-IV non-small cell lung cancer.


11. Dr. Daiva Brogiene. Vice-president of CPME (The Standing Committee of European Doctors)
INSTITUTE OF BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

Department of Anatomy, Histology and Anthropology

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Head – Prof. Dr. Janina Tutkuviene

STAFF


Lecturers: dr. V. Bartuškienė (part-time), R. Karneckė (part-time), J. Janavičius (part-time).

Researchers: dr. J. Kozakaitė, dr. D. Piombino-Mascalı

Research Assistant: S. Šilovė


Students’ scientific group of Human Biology and Evolutionary Medicine: scientific supervisor – prof. J. Tutkuviene; coordinator – student S. Ekkert; in total – 25 members of students.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Phenotypic variety of Lithuanian and other populations in a changing environment

The variety of morphometric (skeletal and dental) health indicators of Lithuanian paleopopulations, paleopathology and its factors (ecological, demographic, social).

The peculiarities and factors of growth programming, prenatal and postnatal development, also health risk factors, using data from experimental animal models (chicken embryos, rats, other) studies.

The diversity of physical status of Lithuanian and other populations, the biotic and abiotic factors of phenotypic expression, and the relationship between markers of physical and general health status from the viewpoint of evolutionary medicine.

RESEARCH PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN 2019

Projects Supported by University Budget


Bioarcheological investigations. Data of infection diseases (syphilis, TB) in historical Lithuanian populations were summarised. Samples selected for pathogen analysis in mummified remains collected and submitted for analysis. Collection of samples for pathogen detection in medieval
remains continued, one paper submitted. Papers on stable isotope analysis as indicator of nutrition and data on mummified tissue pathologies published.

**Main publications:**


2. **Experimental (growth programming) investigations.**

Further analysis of data from the experimental study on the influence of maternal nutrition prior to pregnancy and during pregnancy was carried out: the histomorphological profile of the rat offspring eyes was determined with an analysis of photoreceptors, retinal microglia and ganglion cells, the results on evaluation of retinal microglia and retinal thickness were presented at international conference. Further analysis of data from the experimental study on the influence of ionized water, boron and fluorine on rat embryos was carried out: the results were presented at international conference and the scientific article was published. The viability of periodontal ligament cells in different media was studied and results were presented at international conference, demineralization and remineralization of periodontal tissues around dental implants was analysed, data published in two scientific articles.

**Main publications:**


3. **Investigations of physical status of contemporary inhabitants.**

The data on prevalence of prematurity in Lithuania during the 1995-2015 period in relation to maternal age, antenatal and perinatal pathologies were analysed and presented at the international conference, materials on newborns head circumference were prepared for publication, also further data collecting and analysis of longitudinal study of preterm newborns in Lithuania was continued. Analysis of stillbirths during the 1995-2016 period in Lithuanian newborns was performed, and data were presented at the international conference. Worldwide variations in prevalence of low birth weight, prematurity and stillbirth rate in relation to different factors were studied in 57 counties, and the results were presented at the international conference. Analysis of data from study on premenstrual syndrome was carried out and the results were presented at the international conference. The manuscript on female’s breast morphology were prepared for publication. The study on physical status, health, body image, psychological status, consumption of psychoactive substance of different age and sex groups, also incarcerated persons was continued, and materials were prepared for publication. The study on the relationship between the joint’s alignment in relation to the lower limb function and physical status of young adults was continued (in total, 176 persons were investigated): the data on X-rays and the results of physical examination were
analysed. The study on anatomical variants of cerebral arteries in relation to cerebral vascular pathologies was started: 75 patients were included into the investigation (25 persons treated with reperfusion and 50 persons treated with basic stroke therapy). The data on variations in facial nerve branches and anatomical landmarks for its trunk identification in cadavers were collected, analysed and published.

Main publication:


**National Research Projects**


   Analysis of human osteological collection was continued. More than 2000 skeletal remains were reanalyzed. Digital osteological database was established first data were entered. An archaeological and historical data, including all publications of the analyzed osteological collection was collected. The osteological collection and the project were introduced at national and international conferences, including an international seminar.


   During historical, archaeological and anthropological investigations of orphan’s cemetery of the 19th c. in Vilnius another 15 remains of victims of Soviet repressions (1956–1969) were uncovered. Remains of the participants of the Lithuanian partisans’ movement Antanas Kraujalas-Siaubūnas
and Juozapas Streikus-Stumbras were identified by complex anthropological and forensic analysis. Investigation is continued.

4. Granted by the Genocide and Resistance Research Centre of Lithuania: **Anthropological investigations of remains of participants of anti-Soviet resistance in 1944-1953** (Leipalingis, Alytus district). Prof. R. Jankauskas (leading scientist), dr. J. Kozakaitė (researcher), assoc. Prof. Ž. Miliauskienė (researcher), 2019–2020. During historical, archaeological and anthropological investigations in Leipalingis (Alytus district) 33 remains of participation of anti-Soviet resistance (1944-1953) were uncovered. Investigation were continued.

**International Research Projects**

1. Horizon-2020 project of EU-13 countries “**Alliance for Life: Closing Research and Innovation Divide in the European Union**” (2017–2019). Prof. J. Tutkuvienė (Strategy Board member from Lithuanian partner – Vilnius University, Faculty of Medicine). Summing up of the materials with respect to organisation and management of research activities, research evaluation criterions and research infrastructure at the 13-EU countries (partners of the project) was finalised. Assessment report (methodology and indicators, benchmarking of A4L member institutions, benchmarking with EU advance institutions) was issued.

**MAIN R&D&I (RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION) PARTNERS**

Institute of Anthropology, University of Vienna (Austria)
Max-Planck-Institute, Starnberg-Seewiesen (Germany)
Institute of Evolutionary Medicine, University of Zürich (Switzerland)
Institute for Anthropological Research, Zagreb (Croatia)
The Institute for Mummy Studies, Bolzano (Italy)
Institute of Forensic Medicine, Heinrich-Heine University of Düsseldorf (Germany)
Department of Anatomy, University of Göttingen (Germany)
University of Central Florida (Orlando, Florida, USA)
Medical University of Lodz (Poland)
University of Torun (Poland)
Cranfield University (UK)
University of Tartu (Estonia)
McMaster University (Canada)
University of Catania (Italy)
State Forensic Medicine Service (Lithuania)

**OTHER SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES**

Prof. J. Tutkuvienė
- member of the Council of the Faculty of Medicine
- chair of the Doctoral Committee for PhD studies in Medicine at Vilnius University
- Council member of the European Anthropological Association
- member of the Commission for Human Ecology of International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences (IUAES)
- member of the other international scientific societies: International Association of Human Biologists, Society for Studies of Human Biology, International Auxollogical Society
- member of national scientific societies: Lithuanian Morphological Society, Lithuanian Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (Section of Gynaecology of Children and Adolescents)
- editorial board member of the journals: Anthropologischer Anzeiger; Journal of Human Ecology; Acta Medica Lituanica; Visuomenes Sveikata (Public health)

**Prof. R. Jankauskas**
- editorial boards member of the journals: Papers on Anthropology (Tartu University, Estonia); Anthropologischer Anzeiger; Lietuvos archeologija; Archaeologia Baltica;
- member of the Board of the European Anthropological Association;
- member of the Scientific Council of the Lithuanian Institute of History;
- member of the Scientific Council of the Nature Research Center;
- member of Lithuanian Academy of Sciences (http://ima.lt/old/intranetas);
- member of Paleopathology Association.

**Prof. R. Šimkūnaitė-Rizgeliūnė**
- member of the European Anthropological Association;
- board member of the Lithuanian Morphological Society.

**Prof. V. Žalgirėvičienė**
- vice-chairperson of the Commission of Appeal at the Faculty of Medicine;
- member of the Lithuanian Morphological Society;
- member of Baltic Laboratory Animal Association (Balt-LASA).

**Senior Research Fellow D. Piombino-Mascali**
- member of Paleopathology Association;
- honorary membership at American Society of Embalmers.

**Assoc. Prof. A. Barkus**
- member of the Lithuanian Morphological Society;
- member of the European Anthropological Association;
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Archaeology.

**Assoc. Prof. R. Čepulienė**
- member of the Lithuanian Morphological Society;
- member of the European Anthropological Association;
- member of the World’s Poultry Science Association.

**Assoc. Prof. E. M. Jakimavičienė**
- member of the Lithuanian Morphological Society;
- member of the European Anthropological Association;
- member of the International Auxological Society.

**Assoc. Prof. Ž. Miliauskienė**
- member of the Lithuanian Morphological Society;
- member of Paleopathology Association;
- member of the European Anthropological Association;
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Archaeology.

**Assoc. Prof. L. Nedzinskienė**
- member of the Lithuanian Morphological Society.

**Assoc. Prof. A. Suchomlinov**
- member of the European Anthropological Association;
- member of the International Auxological Society;
• member of the Lithuanian Morphological Society.

Assoc. Prof. V. Tutkus
• member of European Society of Sports Traumatology, Knee Surgery and Arthroscopy (ESSKA);
• member of International Society of Arthroscopy, Knee Surgery and Orthopaedic Sports Medicine (ISAKOS);
• member of Lithuanian Association of Arthroscopic Surgeons;
• member of Lithuanian Society of Orthopaedics and Traumatology;
• member of Lithuanian Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery.

Assist. dr. M. Leonavičiūtė-Klimantavičienė
• member of Lithuanian Society of Children’s Pulmonology;
• member of Lithuanian Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology;
• member of European Respiratory Society.

Junior Assist. R. Mackevičienė
• member of the Lithuanian Morphological Society;
• member of the Lithuanian Ornithological Society.

Junior Assist., PhD student R. Morkūnienė
• member of Lithuanian Pediatric Society;
• member of European Anthropological Association;
• member of the International Auxological Society.

Researcher J. Kozakaitė
• Member of the Lithuanian Society of Archaeology

Lect. dr. V. Bartuškienė
• member of the European Anthropological Association;
• member of the Lithuanian Morphological Society.

Lect. R. Jacevičiūtė
• member of the Lithuanian Morphological Society.

Lect. J. Janavičius
• president of Lithuanian Hand Surgery and Rehabilitation Society Manus Lithuanica;
• member of Lithuanian Foot Surgery Society;
• member of International Federation of Societies for Surgery of the Hand;
• member of European Foot and Ankle Society.

PhD student K. Kuolienė
• member of the European Anthropological Association;
• member of Lithuanian Ophthalmological Society;
• member of the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology.

PhD student G. Laurinavičiūtė
• member of Lithuanian Ophthalmological Society;
• European Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgeons.

PhD student V. Lukošaitis
• member of Lithuanian Association of Neurologists;
- member of Lithuanian Society for Epileptology;
- member of Lithuanian Stroke Association.

**PhD student A. Vaitiekus**
- member of Lithuanian Society of Orthopaedics and Traumatology;
- member of Lithuanian Foot Surgery Society;
- member of European Foot and Ankle Association (EFAS);
- member of Lithuanian Association of Arthroscopic Surgeons

**BEST REPORTS DELIVERED AT CONFERENCES ABROAD**

1. Tutkuviene J. Variation in facial morphology and biopsychosocial factors of facial attractiveness (invited lecture). Riga Stradinš University International Conference on Medical and Health Care Sciences, April 1th-3th, 2019, Riga, Latvia.


**MOST IMPORTANT PARTICIPATION CASES OF RESEARCHERS IN WORKING GROUPS OR COMMISSIONS SET UP BY STATE AUTHORITIES, STATE AND MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS, AND BUSINESS ENTITIES**

**Jankauskas R.** Working group on identification of remains of leaders of 1863–1864 uprisal.

**Jankauskas R.** Working group on identification of remains of Soviet regime victims inhumed in Antakalnis cemetery.

**Jankauskas R.** European Commission Research Executive Agency expert.

**Jankauskas R.** The State Education Development Agency of Latvia expert.

**CONSULTATIONS PROVIDED BY THE UNIT TO THE PUBLIC OR ECONOMIC ENTITIES**

**Tutkuvienė J.** Regular consultations provided to public and other institutions with regard to growth and development criterions of Lithuanian children.

**MOST IMPORTANT RESEARCH DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES**

Tutkuvienė J. A public discussion at the Baltic Food and Beverage Exhibition BAF'19 “Eat or not to eat – that is the question!” on the topics of human body changes in relation to nutrition, dieting, physical activity, other factors (on the 9th of November, 2019): https://www.litexpo.lt/lt/parodos/baf-lt-3#event-inner-modal3044

Tutkuvienė J. Interview to the magazine “Tavo vaikas (Your Child)” on factors and tendencies related to growth and development of children: “Ar panašūs? Tėtis aukštas, sūnus žemas: Aplinka keičia paveldėjimo dėsnius (Are they similar? Dad is tall, son is short: The environment is changing the laws of inheritance)".
https://www.tavovaikas.lt/lt/idomybes/g-56640-zurnalotavo-vaikas-viesnia-neseniai-mamatapusi-dovile-filmanaviciute

Piombino-Mascali D. A public speech at the Egyptian museum of Turin, concerning ethics, research and display of the palermo mummies: https://www.musei.re.it/appuntamenti/anatomia-della-meraviglia-la-splendida-vita-delle-mummie/

Piombino-Mascali D. A public speech at the city museums of Reggio-Emilia about mummy studies around the world and a summary of mummy investigation: https://www.museoegizio.it/esplora/notizie/conference-human-remains-ethics-conservation-display/

Department of Human and Medical Genetics

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www http://www.genetika.mf.vu.lt

Head – Prof. Dr. Algirdas Utkus

STAFF

Professors: Dr. L. Cimbalistienė (part-time), Dr. A. Jakaitienė (part-time), Habil. Dr. V. Kučinskas (emeritus), Dr. A. Utkus (part-time).

Associate professors: Dr. L. Ambrozaitytė (part-time), Dr. A. Matulevičienė (part-time), Dr. A. Morkūnienė (part-time), Dr. A. Molytė (part-time).

Assistant professors: Dr. A. Bankauskienė (part-time), Dr. N. Bratčikovienė (part-time), Dr. A. Morkūnienė (part-time), Dr. A. Molytė (part-time).

Researchers: Dr. I. Domarkienė (part-time), Dr. V. Mikštienė (part-time), Dr. T. Rančelis (part-time), Dr. B. Aleksiučiūnienė (part-time), Dr. A. Umikytė (part-time), Dr. E. Pranckevičienė (part-time), Dr. E. Preikšaitienė (part-time), Dr. Ž. Maldžienė (part-time), Dr. V. Ginevičienė (part-time).

Lecturers: Dr. V. Šliužas (part-time), Dr. J. Songailienė (part-time), K. Baronas, (part-time), N. Krasovskaja (part-time), D. Vansevičiūtė (part-time).

Researchers assistants: J. Arasimavičius (part-time), E. Siavrienė (part-time);


Genetic scientific group of students: scientific leader – Dr. E. Preikšaitienė, coordinator – student Eglė Griškevičiūtė; 8 members of students.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Genetic variation inter- and intra-population of Lithuania
Genomics of intellectual disability and congenital anomalies
Genetic analysis of hereditary phenotypes – genetic characterization of human phenome, genome and regulome

RESEARCH PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN 2018

Projects Supported by University Budget


The research of the specific genetic loci for neurodevelopmental disorders and intellectual disability, severe dysmorphic phenotypes, and other challenging hereditary phenotypes were performed investigating physical mapping and possible DNA variants function. Genetic variation analysis of the Lithuanian population considering genomic factors within the population groups was carried out and compared to the other European and world populations.

Main publications:
Urnikytė, Alina; Flores-Bello, Andre; Mondal, Mayukh; Molytė, Alma; Comas, David; Calafell, Francesc; Bosch, Elena; Kučinskas, Vaidutis. Patterns of genetic structure and adaptive positive selection in the Lithuanian population from high-density SNP data // Scientific reports. London: Nature publishing group. ISSN 2045-2322. 2019, vol. 9, art. no. 9163, p. 1-11. DOI: 10.1038/s41598-019-45746-3. [DB: MEDLINE; Biological Abstracts; Scopus; Science Citation Index Expanded (Web of Science)] [Indėlis: 0,125] [Citav. rod.: 4.011 (2018, SCIE)] [M.kr.: N 010]


National Research Projects


Intellectual disability and congenital anomalies (ID/CA) are significant causes of chronic illness and constitute a leading socio-economic problem of health care. The main objective of the study is to detect and validate novel genetic causes of ID/CA through identification of novel DNA sequence and copy number variants and their clinical, molecular and functional characterization. During this project the researches use most up to date technologies, including next generation sequencing, bioinformatics and gene expression analysis. The knowledge will be expanded in functional genomics approaches, particularly in live cell genome editing. For that purpose, strongest candidate genes will be selected for CRISPR-Cas9 experiments. Discovery of novel genes associated with ID/CA will contribute to deeper understanding of etiology and pathophysiology of congenital disorders. Straighforward benefit of the obtained results will be providing an accurate diagnosis in a significant fraction of individuals with previously idiopathic ID/CA, which is the basis of effective genetic counselling.

Main publications:


MAIN R&D&I (RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INOVATION) PARTNERS

Thermo Fisher Scientific Baltics (Lithuania)
Lithuanian Olympic Sports Center (Lithuania)
University of Lausanne (Swiss Confederation)
Department of Medical Research Kaohsiung Chang-Gung Memorial Hospital, Taiwan (China)
Division of Medical Genetics Department of Pediatrics, Keio University School of Medicine, Tokyo (Japan)

OTHER SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

Prof. Dr. A. Utkus
- member of the Executive Committee of The Association of Medical Schools in Europe (AMSE);
- member of the National Health Council;
- editorial board member of the journal Laboratorinė medicina (Laboratory Medicine);
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Human Genetics, http://www.geneticahumana.lt/LZGD/organizacija.htm;
- President of the Lithuanian Society of Human Genetics, http://www.geneticahumana.lt/LZGD/organizacija.htm;
- editorial board member of the journal Sveikatos mokslai (Lietuva);
- member of the European Society of Human Genetics, www.eshg.org;
- member of the American Society of Human Genetics, www.ashg.org;
- dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Vilnius University, www.mf.vu.lt;
- member of the Rectorate of Vilnius University;
- coordinator of ERN-RND (European Reference Network on Rare Neurological Diseases).

Prof. Habil. Dr. V. Kučinskas
- council member of the Federation of European Academies of Medicine, https://www.feam.eu/about-us/governance;
- chairperson of the division of Biology, Medicine and Geosciences of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences, http://www.lma.lt/;
- editorial board member of the journal Laboratorinė medicina (Laboratory Medicine), http://www.llmd.ip.lt/lm;
- editorial board member of the Journal of Applied Genetics (Poland), http://www.jay.au.poznan.pl/JAG/;
- editorial board member of the journal Medicina (Medicine);
- editorial board member of the Journal Medical Genetics (Russia);
- editorial council member of the Journal Acta Medica Lituanica;
- editorial board member of the Balkan Journal of Medical Genetics (Makedonija);
- consultant on medical genetics, Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania;
- board member of the Lithuanian Society of Human Genetics, http://www.geneticahumana.lt/LZGD/organizacija.htm;
- member of the European Society of Human Genetics, www.eshg.org;
- member of the American Society of Human Genetics, www.ashg.org;
- member of Human Genome Organization (HUGO);
- chairman of the committee of Master study programme Medical Genetics at Vilnius University.

Prof. Dr. L. Cimbalistienė
• member of the Society for the Study of Inborn Errors of Metabolism (SSIEM), http://www.ssiem.org;
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Human Genetics (chairperson of Committee of Financial Supervisory Commission), http://www.geneticahumana.lt/LZGD/organizacija.htm;
• member of the Lithuanian Doctors’ Union, http://www.lgs.lt/.

Prof. Dr. A. Jakaitienė
• member of Lithuanian Mathematical Society, http://www.mif.vu.lt/lmd/index.html;
• board member of Lithuanian Statistics Society, http://www.statistikusajunga.lt/;
• member of International Biometric Association, https://www.biometricsociety.org;
• country representative of International Biometric Association in Nord Baltic Region, http://ibsnbr.org;
• member of International Epidemiological Association;
• chairman of the committee of Master study programme Systems Biology at Vilnius University.

Dr. E. Pranckevičienė
• member of Canadian Society of Molecular Biosciences, https://csmb-scbm.ca;
• member of American Association of Advancement of Science, https://www.aaas.org;
• member of International Neural Network Society, https://www.inns.org;
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Human Genetics;
• member of the European Society of Human Genetics, www.eshg.org;

Dr. L. Ambrozaitytė
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Human Genetics (board member), http://www.geneticahumana.lt/LZGD/organizacija.htm;
• member of the European Society of Human Genetics, www.eshg.org;
• member of the American Society of Human Genetics, www.ashg.org.

Dr. I. Domarkienė

Dr. V. Ginevičienė
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Human Genetics, http://www.geneticahumana.lt/LZGD/organizacija.htm;
• member of the European College of Sport Science, http://www.ecss.mobi/;
• member of the Baltic Sport Science Society, www.leu.lt/download/6594/bsss_sutartis.pdf;
• member of the Lithuanian Federation of Sports Medicine, http://www.lsmf.lt/.

Dr. Ž. Maldžienė

Dr. A. Matulevičienė
• member of the European Society of Human Genetics, www.eshg.org;
• member of the Committee for Orphan Medicinal Products (COMP);
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Human Genetics, (board member of the Committee of Financial Supervisory Commission), http://www.geneticahumana.lt/LZGD/organizacija.htm;
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Doctors;
- coordinator of ERN-ITHACA (Network of Intellectual Disability and Congenital Malformations).

**Dr. A. Morkūnienė**
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Human Genetics, [http://www.geneticahumana.lt/LZGD/organizacija.htm](http://www.geneticahumana.lt/LZGD/organizacija.htm).

**Dr. A. Molytė**
- member of the Lithuanian Computer Society.

**Dr. J. Songailienė**
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Human Genetics, [http://www.geneticahumana.lt/LZGD/organizacija.htm](http://www.geneticahumana.lt/LZGD/organizacija.htm);
- member of the International Society for Neonatal Screening, [https://www.isns-neoscreening.org/](https://www.isns-neoscreening.org/);
- member of the Society for the Study of Inborn Errors of Metabolism (SSIEM), [http://www.ssiem.org/home/welcome.asp](http://www.ssiem.org/home/welcome.asp);
- president of the Baltic Metabolic Group; [http://www.ssiem.org/nationalsocieties/membercountries.asp](http://www.ssiem.org/nationalsocieties/membercountries.asp);
- National representative of Lithuania in ERNDIM/EuroGenTest (ERNDIM- European Research Network for Evaluation and Improvement of Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment of Inherited Disorders of Metabolism; EuroGentest - EU-funded Network of Excellence), [https://erndim.org/home/start.asp](https://erndim.org/home/start.asp).

**Dr. V. Šliužas**
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Human Genetics, [http://www.geneticahumana.lt/LZGD/organizacija.htm](http://www.geneticahumana.lt/LZGD/organizacija.htm);
- member of the European Society of Human Genetics, [www.eshg.org](http://www.eshg.org).

**Dr. E. Preikšaitytė**
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Human Genetics, [http://www.geneticahumana.lt/LZGD/organizacija.htm](http://www.geneticahumana.lt/LZGD/organizacija.htm).

**Dr. A. Bankauskienė**
- members of the Lithuanian Mathematical Society.

**Dr. V. Mikščienė**
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Human; Genetics, [http://www.geneticahumana.lt/LZGD/organizacija.htm](http://www.geneticahumana.lt/LZGD/organizacija.htm);
- member of the European Society of Human Genetics, [www.eshg.org](http://www.eshg.org).
Dr. B. Tumienė
- board member of the European Society of Human Genetics, www.eshg.org;
- member of the Panel of Experts, Rare2030: Foresight in rare disease policies, https://www.rare2030.eu/;
- member of the Interregional Committee, Regions4PerMed, https://www.regions4permed.eu/;
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Human Genetics, http://www.geneticahumana.lt/LZGD/organizacija.htm;
- member of the Society for Studies of Inborn Errors of Metabolism, SSIEM;
- board member of Baltic Metabolic Group;
- member of Lithuanian Child Neurology Association;
- member of Lithuanian Society of Epileptology;
- member of Lithuanian Society of Neurosciences;
- Orphanet Lithuania National Coordinator, Orphanet Operating Committee member, https://www.orpha.net/consor/cgi-bin/index.php.

Dr. B. Aleksiūnienė
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Human Genetics, http://www.geneticahumana.lt/LZGD/organizacija.htm;

Dr. B. Burnytė
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Human Genetics, http://www.geneticahumana.lt/LZGD/organizacija.htm;
- member of the European Society of Human Genetics, www.eshg.org;
- member of the American Society of Human Genetics, www.ashg.org;
- member of the Society for Studies of Inborn Errors of Metabolism, SSIEM
- Orphanet information scientist.

E. Siavrienė

J. Arasimavičius
- member of European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology, https://eadv.org/;
- member of European Association of Dermato Oncology, http://www.eado.org/;
- member of International Dermoscopy Society, https://dermoscopy-ids.org;

MOST IMPORTANT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL AWARDS RECEIVED FOR R&D ACTIVITIES


MOST IMPORTANT PARTICIPATION CASES OF RESEARCHERS IN WORKING GROUPS OR COMMISSIONS SET UP BY STATE AUTHORITIES, STATE AND MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANISATIONS, AND BUSINESS ENTITIES
Dr. L. Ambrozaitytė – nominated representative to the Working Group on the White Paper on good genomic practice *Towards access to at least 1 million sequenced genomes in the European Union by 2022.*

**MOST IMPORTANT RESEARCH DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES**

Results of the scientific manuscript “Patterns of genetic structure and adaptive positive selection in the Lithuanian population from high-density SNP data” in the media (in the Lithuanian language):

- https://lithuaniaatribune.com/lithuanian-genetics-new-unique-findings/
- https://en.delfi.lt/lifestyle/lithuanian
- https://lithuaniatribune.com/lithuanian
- https://sodas.ugdome.lt/naujienos/perziura/48650/
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iQ60e2TZj4Q
- https://lithuaniaatribune.com/lithuanian-genetics-new-unique-findings/

Dissemination of the results for 2018 „Prevalence of prenatal alcohol exposure in Lithuania and the effect of prenatal alcohol exposure on metabolism of newborns (ALKOMET LT)“ in the media (in the Lithuanian language):


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• https://lsveikata.lt/aktualijos/tyrimas-alkoholi-paskutinemis-nestumo-savaitemis-vartojo-apie-3-proc-gimdyviu-10931
• https://inha.lt/36441/paskutinemis-nestumo-savaitemis-alkoholi-vartojo-3-proc-nesciuju/
• https://www.lrs.lt/sip/portal.show?p_r=119&p_k=1&p_t=267972
Pharmacy Centre

Geležinio Vilko g. 29A, LT-03101 Vilnius
Tel. +370 5 239 8771
E-mails: dale.marciulioniene@mf.vu.lt

Head – prof. dr. Jolanta Gulbinovič

STAFF

Professors: dr. Gene Biziulevičienė (part-time)
Associate Professors: dr. Jonas Grincevičius
Teaching Assistants: Indrė Trečokienė
Assistants Professor: dr. Nora Šlekienė
Researcher: Indrė Trečiokienė

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Drug utilization research
Research on drug utilization patterns in Lithuania, adherence and persistence rates in different ATC classes. Various source data on drug utilization is used to link morbidity, outcome of treatment and quality of care with the ultimate goal of assessing whether drug therapy is rational or not. Research goal is to describe the extent, nature and determinants of drug exposure.

Need for and implementation of pharmacy services
Research on need and implementation of value-added services in pharmacy practice, improvement of pharmaceutical services, evaluation and implementation of clinical pharmacist in Lithuania.

RESEARCH PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN 2019

Projects Supported by University Budget

1. The role of pharmacist and importance of pharmacy services in treatment management in hypertensive patients, Supervisors: prof. J. Gulbinovič, 2017-10-01 - 2021-12-31.
Questionnaire for hypertensive patients prepared. In 2020 the questionnaire would be piloted and validated.
Protocol for antihypertensive drugs utilization patterns and persistence in hypertensive patients’ research in Lithuania prepared. Data from Sveidra database requested.
Patterns of antihypertensive medicine use trends in Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia studied, manuscript prepared.

International Research Projects

International research project was initiated by University of Tartu, Estonia and started in Spring 2019. The concept of MUR service is developed based on PCNE classification. In 2019 protocol for researche pilot was developed. The aim of the pilot is to evaluate professional competency of community pharmacists about MUR and possible impact of MUR service to patient’s knowledge about medication use (administration, medication adherence, etc) as well as validation of instrument. Research protocol was presented at conference Next Chapter in Patient Care 2019 – Medication use review in the era of digital care, Narva, Estonia.

MAIN R&D&I (RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INOVATION) PARTNERS
Groningen University, Netherlands
UAB Eurovaistinė, Lithuania
UAB Gintarinė vaistinė, Lithuania
UAB Universiteto vaistinė, Lithuania

OTHER SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES
I.Trečiokienė
- member of International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP)
- member of International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research (ISPOR)
- board member of Lithuanian Pharmaceutical Association

K. Ložienė
- board member of “THAISZIA – Journal of Botany“ (P. J. Šafárik University, Košice, Slovakia) (ISSN 2233-0275)
- member of joint of doctoral committee of Nature Research Centre and Vilnius University (domain Biomedical Sciences, direction - Ecology and Environmental Science)

R. Losinskaja
- member of Lithuanian Pharmaceutical Association

R. Matulaitienė
- board member of Lithuanian Pharmaceutical Association

J. Grincevičius
- member of Lithuanian Pharmaceutical Association

BEST REPORTS DELIVERED AT CONFERENCES ABROAD
MOST IMPORTANT PARTICIPATION CASES OF RESEARCHERS IN WORKING GROUPS OR COMMISSIONS SET UP BY STATE AUTHORITIES, STATE AND MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS, ORGANISATIONS, BUSINESS ENTITIES

I. Trečiokienė:
- Task Force to implement immunization services in pharmacy, initiated by Health Ministry
- Working group to update requirements for pharmacy studies in Lithuania, initiated by Centre for Quality Assessment in Higher Education
- Working group to set requirements on reimbursement of new medicines and HTA use in assessment process, initiated by Health Ministry

MOST IMPORTANT RESEARCH DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

Conference on Drug Utilization Research, March, 2019
Department of Pathology, Forensic Medicine and Pharmacology

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Head – Prof. Dr. Arvydas Laurinavicius

STAFF

Professors: Dr. Dainius Characiejus, Dr. Virginija Grabauskienė, Dr. Jolanta Gulbinovič, Dr. Arvydas Laurinavičius, Dr. Aurelija Žvirbliénė.

Associate professors: Dr. Aušrinė Barakauskienė, Dr. Edita Kazėnaitė, Dr. Violeta Kvedarienė, Dr. Jurgita Stasiūnienė, Dr. Eduardas Žurauskas.

Teaching Assistants: Tomas Baltrūnas, Dr. Justinas Besusparis, Dr. Sigita Chmieliauskas, Dmitrij Fomin, Aušra Garnelytė, Elena Jurevičienė, Dr. Allan Rasmusson, Dovilė Stravinskienė, Rokas Šimakauskas, Dovilė Žilėnaitė.


Assistants Professor: Dr. Sigitas Laima, Dr. Ingrida Lisauskienė.

Researchers: Dr. Allan Rasmusson.

Doctoral students: Tomas Baltrūnas (Institute of Clinical Medicine), Vaida Baltrūnienė, Agnė Ėrkauskaitė, Ieva Drejerienė, Ieva Kažuaskienė, Donata Linkevičiūtė-Ulinskienė, Sandra Mažeikienė, Rokas Šimakauskas, Dovilė Žilėnaitė.

Project group: Chief researcher Dr. Jen Kuang-Yu, Chief researcher Dr. Aida Laurinavičienė, Chief researcher (project leader) Dr. Arvydas Laurinavičius, Chief researcher Dr. Richard Montefiore Levenson, Senior researcher Dr. Benoit Plancoulaine, Senior researcher Dr. Allan Rasmusson, Chief researcher Dr. Michael Shribak.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Digital pathology, digital image analysis, pathology informatics, artificial intelligence in pathology, multi-dimensional analysis of biomarkers.

Inflammatory cardiomyopathy: prognostic biomarkers of heart failure.

RESEARCH PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN 2019

Projects Supported by University Budget


Main publications:


Meeting abstracts:


The use of the new biomarkers has evolved in a better identification of the aetiology and pathophysiology of the disease and development of novel treatment strategies. We are searching new immunohistochemical and molecular biology biomarkers for diagnosis, prognosis and disease progression of dilated cardiomyopathy and for patient selection for novel aetiology-directed treatment strategies. We investigate the prognostic and predictive biomarkers in cancer patients with special attention on T lymphocytes which are most important payers of the control of neoplastic disease.

Main publications:


Meeting abstracts, reviews:


Even though the majority of preventative programs are intended to decrease violen crime rate, in dynamics, the numbers decrease insignificantly and remain high. It is clear that several preventative programs are needed aiming at diminishing alcohol consumption and population groups regarding their social background.

Main publications:


Meeting abstracts, reviews:

4. **Side effect – reason of hospitalizations and result of hospitalization.** Prof. Dr. J. Gulbinovič. 2019-01-01 - 2023-12-31

The objective is to evaluate the hospitalization for medicine side effect and frequency and nature of it.

**Short description:** Researches for side effect of drug reactions were started.

**National Research Projects**

1. **Search for new pathology imaging techniques**, ESF project under the measure No 09.3.3-LMT-K-712 „Development of Competences of Scientists, Other Researchers and Students Through Practical Research Activities“ activity “Supporting students’ research practices (for instance, students' researches carried outside study hours)” of Priority Axis 9 “Educating The Society and Strengthening the Potential of Human Resources”). Project leader prof. A. Laurinavičius, A.Vitkūnaitė – student; 2014-2020.

The Aim of the project is to explore novel pathology imaging techniques for cellular and extracellular analysis approaches to improve digital analysis accuracy. The Objective is to study novel deep UV microscopy and polychromatic polarization microscopy imaging techniques approaches and their combined possibilities for novel digital image analysis methodologies in pathology lab.

**International Research Projects**

1. **Deep-Context Tissue Analytics for Integrated Pathology Modeling in Tumors and Kidney Allografts**, ESF project under the measure No 09.3.3-LMT-K-712 „Strengthening the Skills and Capacities of Public Sector Researchers for Engaging in High Level R&D Activities“ activity „Strengthening of General Skills and Competences of Researchers Through Implementation of High Level R&D Projects“. Project leader prof. dr. A. Laurinavičius, other participants: Dr. A. Laurinavičienė, Dr. A. Rasmusson, Dr. B. Planoulaine, Dr. R. Levenson, Dr. M. Shribak, Dr. KY. Jen; 2014-2020.

The Aim of the study is to develop novel tissue-based analytical assays for integrated modelling of tumor and kidney allograft pathology.

Objective 1. Explore tissue processing/data extraction approaches to discover unique digital signatures of tissue components and integrated pathology indicators.

Objective 2. Design and validate the “deep-context” tissue assays for selected analytical and clinical tasks to enable robust and affordable multidimensional modelling of tissue pathology.

**Oral/Poster presentations:**

Arvydas Laurinavičius: poster presentation “Automated tumour-stroma interface zone CD8+ Immunogradient indicators predict overall survival of the patients with breast and colorectal carcinoma”, Immuno-Oncology Summit, July, 2019, Boston, USA;

Aušrinė Nestarenkaitė, Allan Rasmusson A, Dovilė Žilienaitė, Renaldas Augulis, Aida Laurinavičienė, Valerijus Ostapenko, Tomas Poškus, Arvydas Laurinavičius: poster presentation “Prognostic value of CD8 Immunogradient indicators in tumour-stroma interface zone of colorectal cancer”, 31st European Congress of Pathology, September, 2019, Nica, France;

Dovilė Žilienaitė, Allan Rasmusson, Aušrinė Nestarenkaitė, Renaldas Augulis, Aida Laurinavičienė, Valerijus Ostapenko, Tomas Poškus, Arvydas Laurinavičius: poster presentation “The Immunogradient of CD8+cell density in the tumour-stroma interface zone predicts overall survival of patients with hormone receptor-positive invasive ductal breast carcinoma”, 31st European Congress of Pathology, September, 2019, Nica, France;


MAIN R&D&I (RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INOVATION) PARTNERS

Université de Caen Basse-Normandie (France)
Cancer Pathology Nottingham University (GB)
Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA (USA)
Ruprecht-Karls-universität Heidelberg, EMBL (Germany)
University Hospital Gießen and Marburg (Germany)
Division of Clinical Pharmacology, Karolinska Institutet, Karolinska University

OTHER SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

Prof. Dr. A. Laurinavičius
- member, Lithuanian Association of Nephrology, Dialysis, and Transplantation
- member, European Society of Pathology
- member, Renal Pathology Society
- member, the board of the Lithuanian Society of Pathology
- editorial board member of the journal Medicina (Medicine)
- editorial board member of the journal Diagnostic Pathology
- editorial board member of the journal Pathology Informatics
- chairman, Management Board, Lithuanian Association of Health Informatics and Bioinformatics

Prof. Dr. V. Grabauskienė
- fellow of the European Society of Cardiology (FESC)
- member of the European Association of Echocardiography (EAE) of the ESC
- member of the Heart Failure Association (HFA) of the ESC
- member of the American Society of Echocardiography;
- UEMS (European Union of Medical Specialist) Diploma of European Cardiologist Nr.52546
- member of the European Association for Predictive, Preventive and Personalized Medicine (EPMA)

Prof. Dr. Jolanta Gulbinovič
- Member of Executive Committee of the European Association of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics (EACPT)
- Member of Council of European Drug Utilisation Group (EuroDurg)
- Board member of Lithuanian Association of Clinical Pharmacology
- Member of Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee of the European medicines Agency

Prof. Dr. D. Characiejus
- National Representative of the European Association for Predictive, Preventive and Personalized Medicine (EPMA) in Lithuania
- editorial board member of The EPMA Journal
- member of the Council of the Lithuanian Society of Immunology
Assoc. Prof. Dr. E. Žurauskas
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Pathology

Dr. Aida Laurinavičienė
- president of Lithuanian Association of Pathology Technologists

Ugnius Mickys
- board member of the Lithuanian Society of Pathology

D. Petroška
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Pathology

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jurgita Stasiūnienė
- Member of the Lithuanian Society of Forensic Medical Physicians

Assistant Dr. Sigitas Laima
- Vice–President of the Lithuanian Society of Forensic Medical Physicians

Junior Assistant Rokas Šimakauskas
- Member of the Lithuanian Society of Forensic Medical Physicians

Doctoral student Sigitas Chmieliauskas
- Member of the Lithuanian Society of Forensic Medical Physicians

MOST IMPORTANT RESEARCH DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

Department of Physiology, Biochemistry, Microbiology and Laboratory Medicine

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Head – Assoc. Prof. Dr. Dovilė Karčiauskaitė

STAFF

Professors: Dr. Zita Aušrelė Kučinskienė, Dr. Algis Abaravičius, Dr. Arvydas Kaminskas, Dr. Vaiva Hendrixson

Associate Professors: Dr. Dovilė Karčiauskaitė, Dr. Valerija Jablonskienė, Dr. Tomas Kačergius, Dr. Rėda Matuzevičienė, Dr. Loreta Bagdonaitė, Dr. Dalius Vitkus, Dr. Sandra Meidutė - Abaravičienė

Assistant Professors: Dr. Asta Mažeikienė, Dr. Agnė Kirkliauskienė, Dr. Tomas Kačergius, Dr. Rėda Matuzevičienė, Dr. Loreta Bagdonaitė, Dr. Dalius Vitkus, Dr. Sandra Meidutė - Abaravičienė

Teaching Assistants: Mantas Radzևičius, Žilvinas Chomanskis, Vytautas Žėkas, Eglė Mazgelytė, Inga Bikulčienė

Lecturers: Dr. Dalia Paškevičienė, Laima Vasiliauskaitė, Elvyra Ostanevičiūtė

Researchers: Dr. Maxim Bratčikov, Dr. Aušra Linkevičiūtė, Dr. Žydrūnas Daunoravičius

Doctoral students: Mantas Radzևičius, Vytautas Žėkas, Eglė Mazgelytė

RESEARCH PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN 2019

Projects Supported by University Budget


The aim was to evaluate the etiopathogenetic relationship between different clinical manifestations of atherosclerosis: coronary heart disease and metabolic syndrome. Different diagnostic biomarkers in healthy individuals and patients with coronary heart disease and metabolic syndrome were investigated, including routine and new parameters.

Main publications:

Bikulčienė, Inga; Golubevaitė, Orinta; Žėkas, Vytautas; Radzևičius, Mantas; Karčiauskaitė, Dovilė; Matuzevičienė, Rėda; Hendrixson, Vaiva; Mažeikienė, Asta; Burokienė, Neringa; Kaminskas, Arvydas; Kučinskienė, Zita Aušrelė. Association of platelet membrane fatty acid composition with markers of oxidative stress in healthy men // Medical science monitor. 2019, vol. 25, p. 6405-6416. DOI: 10.12659/MSM.915111.

Žėkas, Vytautas; Matuzevičienė, Rėda; Karčiauskaitė, Dovilė; Mažeikienė, Asta; Burokienė, Neringa; Radzևičius, Mantas; Janulionienė, Aušra; Linkevičiūtė, Aušra; Kučinskienė, Zita Aušrelė. Chronic and oxidative stress association with total count of endothelial microvesicles in healthy young male plasma // Advances in clinical and experimental medicine. 2019, vol. 28, no. 5, p. 683-692. DOI: 10.17219/acem/94144.

Kutkienė, Sandra; Petrušionienė, Žaneta; Karčiauskaitė, Dovilė; Laučevičius, Aleksandras; Matuzevičienė, Gabija; Šiaigytė, Justina; Šaulytė Mikulskienė, Akvilė; Gargalskaitė, Urtė; Skiauterytė, Eglė; Kovaitė, Milda. Lower than average HDL cholesterol efflux capacity in

Mazgelytė, Eglė; Karčiauskaitė, Dovilė; Linkevičiūtė, Aušra; Mažeikienė, Asta; Burokienė, Neringa; Matuzevičienė, Rėda; Radzevičius, Mantas; Januliонienė, Aušra; Jakaitienė, Audronė; Dindienė, Lina; Kučinskiene, Zita Aušrėlė. Association of hair cortisol concentration with prevalence of major cardiovascular risk factors and allostatic load // Medical science monitor. 2019, vol. 25, p. 3573-3582. DOI: 10.12659/MSM.913532.

Simundic, Ana-Maria; Filipi, Petra; Vrtaric, Alen; Miller, Marijana; Gabaj, Nora Nikola; Kocsis, Andrea; Avram, Sanja; Gligorovic Barhanovic, Najdana; Bulo, Aynla; Cadamuro, Janne; van Dongen-Lases, Edmee; Eker, Pinar; Vital-E-Silva, Andre; Homsak, Evgenija; Ibarz, Mercedes; Labudovic, Danica; Nybo, Mads; Pivovarniková, Hedviga; Shmidt, Inna; Siodmiak, Joanna; Sumarac, Zorica; Vitkus, Dalius. Patient's knowledge and awareness about the effect of the over-the-counter (OTC) drugs and dietary supplements on laboratory test results: a survey in 18 European countries // Clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine. 2019, vol. 57, no. 2, p. 183-194. DOI: 10.1515/cclm-2018-0579.

Trimigno, Alessia; Khakimov, Bekzod; Savoran, Francesco; Tenori, Leonardo; Hendrixson, Vaiva; Čivilis, Alminas; Glibetic, Marija; Gurinovic, Mirjana; Pentikäinen, Saara; Sallinen, Janne; Díaz, Sara Garundo; Pasqui, Francesca; Khokhar, Santosh; Luchinat, Claudio; Bordoni, Alessandra; Capozzi, Francesca; Engelsen, Sören Balling. Investigation of variations in the human urine metabolome amongst European populations: an exploratory search for biomarkers of people at risk-of-poverty // Molecular nutrition & food research. 2019, vol. 63, Iss. 1, sp. iss, art. no. 1800216, p. [1-11]. DOI: 10.1002/mnfr.201800216.

Austys, Donatas; Dobrovolskij, Andrej; Jablonskiene, Valerija; Dobrovolskij, Valerij; Valevčienė, Nomeda Rima; Stukas, Rimantas. Epicardial adipose tissue accumulation and essential hypertension in nonobese adults // Medicina. 2019, vol. 55, no. 8, art. no. 456, p. [1-11]. DOI: 10.3390/medicina55080456

2. Optimisation of flow cytometry for the diagnostics and minimal residual disease detection of haematological disorders and research of the new methods for leukemic cell phenotyping. Assoc. Prof. R. Matuzevičienė, 2019-2020

The aim is to investigate changes in neoplasmic cells and compare them with normal cells at the cytomic-proteomic level. Also to analyse the peculiarities of neoplasmic cell signal transmitting pathways, to determine their influence on disease proceeding, prognosis and response to treatment.

Main publications:


Main aim is to investigate novel, plant-based and synthetic bacterial film-forming inhibitors and test their efficacy against oral, cardiovascular and infectious streptococci in vitro. As well to investigate the application of new molecular biology methods and technologies for identification of pathogenic and conditionally pathogenic microorganisms, genotyping, detection of antimicrobial resistance molecular markers and epidemiological studies.

Main publications:
Gabė, Vika; Kačergius, Tomas; Abu-Lafi, Saleh; Kalesinskas, Povilas; Masalha, Mahmoud; Falah, Mizied; Abu-Farich, Basheer; Melnikaitis, Andrius; Zeidan, Mouhammad; Rayan, Anwar. Inhibitory effects of ethyl gallate on streptococcus mutans biofilm formation by optical profilometry and gene expression analysis // Molecules. Basel : MDPI. ISSN 1420-3049. 2019, vol. 24, no. 3, art. no. 529, p. [1-14]. DOI: 10.3390/molecules24030529.

Gabė, Vika; Kačergius, Tomas; Abu-Lafi, Saleh; Zeidan, Mouhammad; Abu-Farich, Basheer; Austys, Donatas; Masalha, Mahmoud; Rayan, Anwar. Suppressive effects of octyl gallate on Streptococcus mutans biofilm formation, acidogenicity, and gene expression // Molecules. Basel : MDPI. ISSN 1420-3049. 2019, vol. 24, no. 17, art. no. 3170, p. [1-14]. DOI: 10.3390/molecules24173170.

Mačiulaitis, Justinas; Miškinienė, Milda; Rekštytė, Sima; Bratchikov, Maksim; Darinskas, Adas; Šimbelytė, Agnė; Daunoras, Gintaras; Laurinavičienė, Aida; Laurinavičius, Arvydas; Gudas, Rimtautas; Malinauskas, Mangirdas; Mačiulaitis, Romaldas. Osteochondral repair and electromechanical evaluation of custom 3D scaffold microstructured by direct laser writing lithography // Cartilage. 2019, p. 1-11. DOI: 10.1177/1947603519847745.

Mačiulaitis, Justinas; Rekštytė, Sima; Bratčikov, Maksim; Gudas, Rimtautas; Malinauskas, Mangirdas; Pockevičius, Alius; Ūsas, Arvydas; Rimkūnas, Augustinas; Jankauskaitė, Virginija; Grigaliūnas, Valdas; Mačiulaitis, Romaldas. Customization of direct laser lithography-based 3D scaffolds for optimized in vivo outcome // Applied surface science. 2019, vol. 487, p. 692-702. DOI: 10.1016/j.apsusc.2019.05.065.


Stanevičiūtė, Elyvra; Buliūtė, Inga Urtė; Ridziauskas, Martynas; Besuparės, Justinas; Kirkliauskienė, Agne; Zabulis, Vaidotas; Davainis, Linas; Valiūnaitė, Gabrielė; Triponis, Vytautas Jonas; Sirvydis, Vytautas Jonas. Efficacy of antiseptic solutions in treatment of Staphylococcus aureus infected surgical wounds with patches of vascular graft: an experimental study in rats // Medicina. 2019, vol. 55, no. 4, art. no. 106, p. [1-10]. DOI: 10.3390/medicina55040106.

International Research Projects

1. **Treatment Protocol for Children (1.0–17.9 years of age) and Young Adults (18–45 years of age) with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia NOPHO (Nordic Pediatric Hemato-Oncology) group**, [http://www.nopho.org/welcome/frame.htm](http://www.nopho.org/welcome/frame.htm). Flow Cytometry Coordinator of the Project in Lithuania: Assoc. Prof. R. Matuzevičienė.
Vilnius University Children’s Hospital, Organizer of the Project – Nordic Society of Paediatric Haematology and Oncology (NOPHO), www.nopho.org. Countries involved in the Project: Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia. 2008 - 2019

2. International Joint Project with AL-Qasemi Research Center, Israel: Effect of Rhus Plant Extract and Its Active Fractions on Biofilm Formation in Bacterial Systems. Assoc. Prof. Dr. T. Kačergius, Prof. Dr. A. Rayan (Israel). 2015-2019

The aim of this study is to investigate whether the methanolic extract of Rhus coriaria L. fruits and its active fraction – methyl gallate inhibit Streptococcus mutans biofilm formation and acidogenicity. The findings are important for the development of new antibacterial agents.

Main publications:


MAIN R&D&I (RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INOVATION) PARTNERS
NOPHO (Nordic Pediatric Hemato-Oncology) group (http://www.nopho.org/welcome/frame.htm)
Malmö University, Malmö (Sweden)
Clinical Institute of Chemistry, Zagreb (Croatia)
AL-Qasemi Research Center (Israel)
Department of Human and Medical Genetics of Faculty of Medicine of Vilnius University (Lithuania)
Centre of Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, Vilnius University (Lithuania)

OTHER SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

Prof. Z. A. Kučinskienė
- member of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences;
- member of the European Atherosclerosis Society (EAS);
- member of the Board of the Lithuanian Society of Laboratory Medicine;
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Human Genetics;
- editor-in-chief of the journal Laboratorinė medicina (Laboratory Medicine);
- editorial board member of the journals: Acta Medica Lituanica, Medicina, Medicinos teorija ir praktika, Sveikatos mokslai, Seminars in Cardiology.

Prof. A. J. Abaravičius
- member of the National Committee of New Food Products;
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Laboratory Medicine;
- member of Lithuanian Physiological Society.

Prof. A. Kaminskas
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Laboratory Medicine;
Prof. V. Hendrixson
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Laboratory Medicine;
- member of open Medical Institute Lithuanian Association of Neuroscience;
- member of Federation of European Neuroscience Societies (FENS);
- Honorary Professor of the Karaganda State Medical University.

Assoc. Prof. L. Bagdonaitė
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Laboratory Medicine;
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Allergology and Clinical Immunology;

Assoc. Prof. V. Jablonskienė
- editorial board member of the journal Laboratorinė medicina (Laboratory Medicine);
- executive editor of the journal Laboratorinė medicina (Laboratory Medicine);
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Laboratory Medicine.

Assoc. Prof. T. Kačergius
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Medical Microbiologists.

Assoc. Prof. R. Matuzevičienė
- editorial board member of the journal Laboratorinė medicina (Laboratory Medicine);
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Laboratory Medicine;
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Haematology;
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Allergology and Clinical Immunology;
- member of the Lithuanian Medical Association;
- member of the European Society for Clinical Cell Analysis – ESCCA.

Assoc. Prof. D. Vitkus
- president of the Lithuanian Society of Laboratory Medicine;
- National Representative at the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC);
- National Representative at the European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM);
- National Representative at the Registration Commission of the European Society of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM);
- member at large of the Board of Baltic Association of Laboratory Medicine;
- member of the American Association for Clinical Chemistry;
- corresponding Member of the Committee of Nomenclature for Properties and Units of Scientific Division of the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (IFCC);
- corresponding Member of the Committee of Reference Systems of Enzymes of Scientific Division of the IFCC;
- corresponding Member of the Committee of Traceability in Laboratory Medicine of Scientific Division of the IFCC;
- member of the ISTH;
- corresponding member of the IFCC Task Force on Proficiency Testing;
- corresponding member of the IFCC EMD Clinical Laboratory Management; Committee, Analytical Quality Committee;
- corresponding member of the EFLM Working Group on Congresses and Postgraduate Education;
- editorial board member of the journal Laboratory Medicine.

Assoc. Prof. D. Karčiauskaitė
• board member of Baltic Atherosclerosis Society;
• board member of Lithuanian Laboratory Medicine Society;
• member of European Atherosclerosis Society.

Assist. Prof. A. Kirkliauskienė
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Laboratory Medicine;
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Infectious Diseases.

Assist. Prof. S. KIVERYTĖ
• member of the European Society of Clinical Virology;
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Laboratory Medicine.

Assist. Prof. V. Banys
• board member and treasurer of the Lithuanian Society of Laboratory Medicine;
• AACC (American Association for Clinical Chemistry);
• ISTH (International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis);
• CLSI (Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute);
• IFCC (International Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine)
corresponding member of);
• IFCC EMD Evidence-Based Laboratory Medicine Committee (C-EBLM)
• IFCC EMD Harmonization of Interpretive Comments EQA Working Group (WG-ICQA)
• IFCC EMD Laboratory Errors and Patient Safety Working Group (WG-LEPS)
• IFCC SD Reference Intervals and Decision Limits Committee (C-RIDL)
• IFCC Task Force on Ethics (TF-E)
• IFCC Task Force on Ethics (TF-E)
• IFCC Task Force for Young Scientists (TF-YS).

Assist. Prof. A. MAZEIKIENĖ
• member of European Atherosclerosis Society (EAS);
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Laboratory Medicine.

BEST REPORTS DELIVERED AT CONFERENCES ABROAD


Žėkas, Vytautas; Matuzevičienė, Rėda; Karčiauskaitė, Dovilė; Vitkus, Dalius; Radzevičius, Mantas; Janilionienė, Aušra; Linkevičiūtė, Aušra; Kučinskienė, Zita Aušrelė. Endothelial microvesicles as biomarkers of oxidative stress // Medicina: vol. 55, suppl. 1: 77 International Scientific Conference of the University of Latvia, February 22, 2019, Riga, Latvia.
Mazgelytė, Eglė; Kučinskienė, Zita Aušrėlė. The comparison of objective and subjective chronic stress assessment techniques // Health for all: Science and innovation week 2019: International doctoral and resident students conference: Science for health: Kaunas, Lithuania, 8-12 April, 2019

Mickūnaitė, Gerda; Bandzevičiūtė, Rimantė; Čeponkus, Justinas; Rudzikaitė, Gabija Julija; Olekaitė, Eglė; Kirkliauskienė, Agnė; Hendrixson, Vaiva; Šablinskas, Valdas. Tulžies pūslės akmenų susiformavimo tyrimas Ramano sklaidos spektroskopiniu metodu = Study of gallstones formation by means of Raman scattering spectroscopy // 43-jių Lietuvos nacionalinė fizikos konferencija, 2019 m. spalio 3-5 d., Kaunas
Department of Radiology, Nuclear Medicine and Medical Physics

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Head – Prof. Dr. Algirdas Edvardas Tamošiūnas

STAFF

Professors: Dr. A. E. Tamošiūnas, Dr. N. R. Valevičienė.
Associate Professors: Dr. J. Dementavičienė, Dr. S. Letautienė.
Asisstants Professor: Dr. A. Samuilis, Dr. A.Brazaitis, Dr. D.Palionis, Dr. J.Ušinskienė, Dr. B. Gricienė, Dr. M. Matačiūnas Dr. R. Briedienė, D. Valančienė.
Lecturers: R.Baltagalvienė, J.Šilanskienė.


RESEARCH INTERESTS

Creation of new functional and anatomical imaging techniques and evaluation of effectiveness for diagnostics of cardiovascular and oncological diseases

Estimation of iron overload in liver and heart on 3T MRI

Physical properties in vitro of metabolites using high resolution 9.4T NMR spectrometer

AI and deep learning applications in diagnostic imaging

RESEARCH PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN 2019

Projects Supported by University Budget

1. New Functional and Anatomical Imaging Techniques in Cardiovascular and Oncology Diagnostics. Dr. A. E. Tamošiūnas, Dr. N. R. Valevičienė.Dr. J. Dementavičienė, Dr. R. Briedienė, Dr. S. Letautienė, Dr. A. Samuilis, Dr. B. Gricienė, Dr. M. Matačiūnas. Prof. G. Kalinauskas, Dr. J. Valaikeinė, Dr. J. Dementavičienė. 2014–2020.

Developing and evaluating new functional and anatomical imaging techniques in cardiovascular and oncology cancer diagnostics. Evaluation of the role of intracranial arterial stenosis and general atherosclerosis process for the patients undergoing surgery for coronary artery disease has been done. The patients, who are undergoing surgery for coronary artery disease were investigated before and after the surgery.

Main publications:

severe hypercholesterolemia. *Atherosclerosis Supplements*, Volume: 36 Pages: 6-11 Published: MAR 2019


**International Research Projects**


Objectives of the project are to create new diagnostic guidelines and optimize CT and Nuclear medicine imaging techniques. In 2017, we collected ionizing radiation exposure data from one CT scanner, analysed exposure profiles, preliminary data were presented in Baltic Congress of Radiology 2016. At the end of 2017–18 collected data should be published.

**OTHER SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES**

**Prof. A. E. Tamosiunas** –
- board member of Lithuanian Radiologists’ Association;
- board member of Lithuanian Ultrasound Association;
- member of European Society of Radiology.

**Assoc. Prof. J. Dementavičienė** –
- editorial board member of the journal *Theory and Practice in Medicine*;
- vicepresident of Lithuanian Radiologists’ Association;
- member of European Society of Radiology;
- member of European Society of Neuroradiology;
- member of International Society of Magnetic Resonance in Medicine;
- member of Radiology Society of North America;
- social Adviser to Health Care Minister of Lithuania;
- lecturer at continuing and advanced education courses at Vilnius University in Neuroradiology, Chest, Abdominal, Musculoskeletal Imaging;
- member of Research Committee at European Society of Radiology.

**Assist. Prof. Dr. R. Briedienė** –
- managing editor of the journal *Acta Medica Lituanica*.

**Assist. Prof. R. Grigienė** –
- editorial board member of the journal *World Journal of Surgical Oncology*.

**BEST REPORTS DELIVERED AT CONFERENCES ABROAD**

Annual International Meeting of Lithuaina senological Society. J.Ušinskienė- Metastatic breast cancer
INSTITUTE OF CLINICAL MEDICINE

Clinic of Obstetrics and Gynecology

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Tel./fax 2501484; 2501487
E-mail diana.ramasauskaite@mf.vu.lt

Head – Prof. Dr. Diana Ramašauskaitė

STAFF

Professors: Dr. D. Ramašauskaitė, Dr. HP G. S. Drąsutienė, Dr. Ž. Bumbulienė, K. Mačiulienė (prof of partnership)

Associate professors: Dr. A. Arlauskienė, Dr. D. Bartkevičienė, Dr. N. Drazdienė, Dr. D. Laužikienė, Dr. M. Šilkūnas, Dr. R. Vansevičiūtė-Petkevičienė (assoc. prof of partnership), Dr. J. Zakarevičienė

Assistants Professor: Dr. A. Amšiejienė, Dr. D. Bužinskienė, Dr. G. Domža, Dr. V. Paliulytė, Dr. V Rudaitis

Teaching assistants: K. Norvilaitė

Lecturers: I. Daunoravičienė,

Doctoral students: Ž. Sabonytė-Balšaitienė, G. Balčiūnienė, K. Norvilaitė, R. Gricius

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Health of mother and fetus: physiology and pathology.

RESEARCH PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN 2019

Project Supported by University Budget

1. Peculiarities of women's health care. Prof. Dr. D. Ramašauskaitė, 2019-2023

The present report describes a female patient with 46,XY karyotype and normal female external genitalia, and provides a detailed clinical characterization of the patient and a new pathogenic gene leading to androgen insensitivity syndrome. A prospective cohort study to evaluate quality of life (QOL) was performed including 440 pregnant women during the first trimester visit. Our questionnaire consisted of mental (MCS) and physical (PCS) health scores. Several significant variables that influence QOL of women during the first trimester of pregnancy were found: lower MCS and PCS scores during the first trimester were associated with large for gestational age newborns.

Main publications:

Bedei, Ivonne; Bumbulienė, Žana; Sirakov, Milko; Mahmood, Tahir; Wood, Paul. Provision of paediatric and adolescent gynaecology in Europe today: a joint review by The European Association of Paediatric and Adolescent Gynaecology (EURAPAG) and European Board and College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (EBCOG) // European journal of obstetrics, gynecology, and reproductive biology. Amsterdam : Elsevier Scientific BV. ISSN 0301-2115. eISSN 1872-7654. 2019, vol. 235, p. 116-120. DOI: 10.1016/j.ejogrb.2018.08.023.


National Research Projects


The most common complications of preterm premature rupture of membranes is intrauterine infection, which is related to fetal inflammatory response syndrome (FIRS), and is characterized by severe fetal and newborn injury, and can be a cause of death. As diagnosis of intrauterine infection is made, it is recommended to disconnect the pregnancy. However, there is a risk of neonatal respiratory distress syndrome (NRDS). Most of the amnioc fluid analysis are performed invasively, using amniocentesis. In this project evaluation of immunological markers in amnioc fluid collecting them transvaginally is being done seeking to determine the cut-off values of immunological markers for FIRS and NRSD.

MAIN R&D&I (RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INOVATION) PARTNERS

Zurich University (Switzerland)
University of Gdansk (Poland)
Warshaw Medical University (Poland)
Jagiellonian University Krakow (Poland)
Pomeranian Medical University (PMU) Szczecin (Poland)
Lund University (Sweden)
Riga Stradins University (Latvia)
Niels-Stensen-Kliniken Marienhospital Osnabrück (Germany)
University Hospital Estaing Of Clermont-Ferrand (France)

OTHER SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

Prof. HP G. S. Drašutienė –

- editorial board member of the journal Lietuvos chirurgija (Lithuanian Surgery).

Prof. N. Drazdienė –

- editorial board member of the journal Lietuvos akušerija ir ginekologija (Lithuanian Obstetrics & Gynecology);
- board member of Lithuanian Pediatric Society and Vilnius Pediatric Society;
- head of Lithuanian section of German-Baltic Physician Society.

Prof. D. Ramašauskaitė –
• president of Lithuanian Society of Obstetricians Gynecologists, (http://www.lagd.lt/apie-mus/valdybos-nariai/28);
• editorial board member of the journal Lietuvos akušerija ir ginekologija (Lithuanian Obstetrics & Gynecology);
• member of EBCOG Counsil (EBCOG European board & college of obstetrics and gynaecology)
• Moderator of international conference Women’s Health day 2019 (http://www.lagd.lt/renginiai/womens-health-day-2019-conference/135)
• organizing committee board member of the national conference and training course „New treatments for male and female infertility and other topical infertility issues “ 2019.06.06-07 https://reg.eventas.lt/ehome/nmvn2019/organizatoriai/
https://reg.eventas.lt/ehome/nmvn2019/programa/

Prof. Ž. Bumbulienė –
• president-elect of EURAPAG (European Association of Paediatric and Adolescent Gynaecology), http://www.eurapag.com/association/ec/;
• board member of FIGIJ (International Federation Of Infant and Juvenile Gynecology), http://www.figij.org/
• head of section of Lithuanian Society of Obstetricians Gynecologists;
• board member of Vilnius Medical Society;
• international editorial board member of the journal Wiadomości Lekarskie;
• international advisory board member of the journal Pediatric and Adolescent Reproductive Health, http://rzdp.geotar.ru/;
• editorial board member of the journal Lietuvos akušerija ir ginekologija (Lithuanian Obstetrics & Gynecology);
• head of editorial board of the journal Ginekologijos aktualijos.
• organizing committee board member of the international conference “Pan-European Trainees’ Congress in Paediatric and Adolescent Gynaecology”, Frankfurt, Germany, 15-16 February 2019.
• organizing committee board member of the international conference “4th Baltic Paediatric Congress under the auspices of European Academy of Paediatrics (EAP/UEMS-SP)”, 16-18 May 2019.

Assoc.prof. A. Arlauskienė –
• board member and treasurer of Lithuanian Society of Obstetricians Gynecologists;
• editorial board member of the journal Lietuvos akušerija ir ginekologija (Lithuanian Obstetrics & Gynecology);
• member of International Society of Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology, www.isuog.com;
• director of Ian Donald School of Medical Ultrasound branch for Lithuania, www.iandonaldschools.com.

Assoc. Prof. M. Šilkūnas –
• head of Vilnius region Society of Obstetrics and Gynecology;
• board member of Lithuanian Society of Obstetricians Gynecologists;

Assoc. Prof. D. Bartkevičienė –
• president of The Lithuanian Aesthetic Gynecology Association, (http://www.estetineginekologija.lt/daiva-bartkeviciene/);
• editorial board member of the journal Sveikatos mokslai (Health sciences);
• board member of Vilnius region Society of Obstetricians Gynecologists;
• member of Lithuanian Society of Obstetricians Gynecologists;
• member of International Society of Ultrasound in Obstetrics and Gynecology(ISUOG), www.isuog.com;
• member of European Society for Gynaecological Endoscopy (ESGE);
• member of The International Ovarian Tumor Analysis (IOTA) group;
• member of The European Society of Aesthetic Gynecology (ESAG).

Assist. V. Paliulytė –
• board member of Vilnius region Society of Obstetricians Gynecologists.
• board member of International Society of Ultrasound in Obstetrics and gynecology; www.isuog.com.

Assist. Vilius Rudaitis
• president of Gynecology Oncology association
• board member of EU initiative programme # ENI-LLB-1-029 on reduction of social exclusion in the quality of life cancer patients in Vilnius and Grodno regions
• Consultant for enhancement of minimal invasive total laparoscopic hysterectomy "On-Site Training" during regular scheduled interventions for physicians selected by Medtronic company.

BEST REPORTS DELIVERED AT CONFERENCES ABROAD
Žana Bumbuliene. „Complete XY gonadal dysgenesis – when should the prophylactic gonadectomy be performed“. World Congress of Paediatric and Adolescent Gynaecology, Melbourne, Australia, Nov 30- Dec 3 2019.


Margarita Montrimaitė, Mindaugas Silkunas, Daiva Bartkevičienė, Vilius Rudaitis. „Obturator nerve resection“. ESGE 28th Annual Congress, Thessaloniki, Greece, 6th – 9th October 2019.

Žana Bumbuliene. „Hyperandrogenism and PCOS in adolescents“. III scientific-practical conference “National and international experience in the reproductive health of children and youth“. Moscow, 16-18 April 2019.

Greta Balčiūnienė; Diana Ramašauskaitė; Gražina Stanislava Drąsutiienė; Ingrida Pilypienė; Violeta Gulbinienė; Daiva Bartkevičienė; Aukšė Zinkevičienė; Irutė Girkontaitė; Irena Dziewutienė. „Significance of TNF-α and rantes concentration in vaginally obtained amniotic fluid in predicting fetal inflammatory response syndrome“. ECIC 2019 : 4th European congress on intrapartum care, 14-16 March 2019

MOST IMPORTANT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL AWARDS RECEIVED FOR R&D ACTIVITIES

V. Rudaitis and K. Mačiulienė - Cross of the Knight of the Order of the Lithuanian Grand Duke Gediminas

MOST IMPORTANT PARTICIPATION CASES OF RESEARCHERS IN WORKING GROUPS OR COMMISSIONS SET UP BY STATE AUTHORITIES, STATE AND MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANISATIONS, AND BUSINESS ENTITIES

Prof. D. Ramašauskaitė is a member of Integrated Health Care Management Committee of Perinatology, Ministry of Health, Republic of Lithuania;

Prof. D. Ramašauskaitė is a member of Lithuania Bioethical Committee biomedical research experts group

Assist. V. Rudaitis, Assoc. Prof. of partn. R. Vansevičiūtė-Petkevičienė – members of work group of the Ministry of Health, Republic of Lithuania, on Updating Procedures and Methodology for New Selective Cervical Cancer Program

CONSULTATIONS PROVIDED BY THE UNIT TO THE PUBLIC OR ECONOMIC ENTITIES


MOST IMPORTANT RESEARCH DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

Ž. Bumbulienė – Abstinence - the Best Contraception - This Approach Brings Pregnant Teenagers and Thousands of Abortions to Lithuania Every Year (Conference in the Parliament of Lithuania)

https://m.delfi.lt/sveikata/sveikatos-naujienos/article.php?id=81303998&fbclid=IwAR0SUqas7qdoikOVOyzBw-YKKnVGF-NofjmF3DeTMZEk1o66yfyR7sysyRF8
Ž. Bumbulienė - menopause - what happens in a woman's body

K. Mačiulienė – about hormone storms, birthing postures and the best age to give birth
https://www.15min.lt/gyvenimas/auksta/seima/viena-labiausiai-patyrusiu-ginekologiu-akuseriu-k-maciuliene-apie-hormonu-audras-gimdymo-pozas-ir-geriausia-amziu-gimdyti-1026-1207054?copied&fbclid=IwAR14TUV6ZiAVD7t3jR5X5BRrOqPWgCylGuOf6J1IBM8b1C4V0tF1bawhxMM

D. Ramašauskaitė – Why some people get sick less often: You can look for reasons to remember when your mother gave birth

A.Arlauskienė – interview TV3 „Alcoholic fetal syndrome“, 2019 March.
Clinic of Anaesthesiology and Reanimatology

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Head – Prof. Dr. Jūratė Šipylaitė

STAFF

Professors: Dr. J. Šipylaitė
Senior researcher Dr. A. Andrijauskas.
Associate professors: Dr. D. Činčikas, Dr. A. Klimašauskas, Dr. E. Kontrimavičiūtė, Dr. I. Norkienė, Dr. M. Šerpytis, Dr. S. Vosylius.
Assistant professors: Dr. S. Švedienė, Dr. R. Badaras (part-time), Dr. D. Ringaitienė (part-time),
Lecturers: L. Balčiūnas (part-time), E. Gaižauskas (part-time), V. Kuzminskaitė (part-time), T. Strainys (part-time).

Students` scientific group of Anaesthesiology and Reanimatology: scientific leader – Assoc. Prof. S. Vosylius, coordinator – student I. Kvietinskaitė, 54 members in the group.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Etiopathogenesis, diagnostics, treatment of diseases: fundamental and clinical research, innovative technologies.
Influence of malnutrition on rate of complications and duration of hospital stay in patients after cardiac surgery.
Optimization of low back pain diagnosis and treatment.
Organ dysfunction in critically ill oncohaemathological patients.
Early changes in cognitive functioning in patients undergoing general anesthesia.
Optimal cerebral perfusion pressure target treatment for traumatic brain injury patients.
Intra-operative oxygen administration and adequate organ perfusion maintenance during different methods of anaesthesia.
Spinal bupivacaine baricity and dose in day-case surgery.
Development of new methods of opioid detoxification for illicit and prescription opioid dependent patients.

RESEARCH PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN 2019

Projects Supported by University Budget


The research study „The relationship between malnutrition, rate of complications and duration of hospital stay in patients after cardiac surgery“ was continued in order to determine the relationship between the pre-operative bioelectric impedance phase angle (malnutrition criteria) and late mortality and blood transfusions after cardiac surgery. The effect of blood transfusions during the perioperative period on late mortality was also studied. was studied.
Data collection according to clinical trial „Value of quantitative sensory testing and lumbar sympathetic block for diagnosis and treatment of low back pain“ protocol was finished. Primary analysis of data from the 1st study stage was performed and presented as a poster.

Prospective study “Cerebrovascular autoregulation impairment in severe traumatic brain injury“ was completed including the patients after severe traumatic brain injury. The goal was to find optimal cerebral perfusion pressure for stabilizing cerebrovascular autoregulation in severe traumatic brain injury as well as for improving their outcome.

**Main publications:**


**MAIN R&D&I (RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION) PARTNERS**

Research and Education, Department of Clinical Science and Education, Karolinska Institutet/Södersjukhuset Section of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care (Sweden)

**OTHER SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES**

**Prof. J. Šipylaitė**
- council member of Lithuanian Society of of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care (http://anest-lean.lt/);
- member of the European Society of Anaesthesiology (https://www.esahq.org/);
- member of the Board of Anaesthesiology of Medical Specialists of the European Union (http://www.eba-uems.eu);
- editorial board member of the journal Acta medica Lituanica (https://www.lmaleidykla.lt/ojs/public/journals/1/Redkolegija.pdf)
- chairman of Committee of Residency of Anestíthesiology and Reanimatology Study Programme Vilniaus University Faculty of Medicine

**Assoc. Prof. S. Vosylius –**
- council member of Lithuanian Society of of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care (http://anest-lean.lt/);
- member of the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine (https://www.esicm.org/);
• editorial board member of the Journal *Lietuvos chirurgija* (http://www.zurnalai.vu.lt/lietuvos-chirurgija/pages/view/editorial-board);
• member of Vilnius Regional Biomedical Ethics Committee (http://www.mf.vu.lt/lt/content/vrbtek/vrbtek-sudetis-ir-darbo-nuostatai)

Senior researcher A. Andrijauskas –
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care (http://anest-rean.lt);
• member of the European Society of Anaesthesiology (https://www.esahq.org/);
• member of Western Anaesthesia Society of Ireland https://anaesthesiawest.wordpress.com/.

Assoc. Prof. M. Šerpytis –
• council member of Lithuanian Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care (http://anest-rean.lt);
• treasurer of the Lithuanian Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care (http://anest-rean.lt);

Assoc. Prof. I. Norkienė –
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care (http://anest-rean.lt);
• member of the European Society of Anaesthesiology (https://www.esahq.org/);
• Representative Council member of European Association of Cardiothoracic Anaesthesiology (http://www.eacta.org/about-eacta/organis/representative-council/);

Assoc. Prof. D. Činčikas, Assoc. Prof. E. Kontrimavičiūtė –
• members of the Lithuanian Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care (http://anest-rean.lt).

Assoc. Prof. A. Klimašauskas –
• vicepresident of the Lithuanian Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (www.lpemd.org);
• council member of the Lithuanian Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care (http://anest-rean.lt/).

Assist. Prof. S. Švedienė –
• member of Lithuanian Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care (http://anest-rean.lt/);
• ESRAA member and Baltic ESRA Council member (https://esraeurope.org/).

Assist. Prof. R. Badaras –
• council member of Lithuanian Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care (http://anest-rean.lt/);
• member of the Lithuanian Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (www.lpemd.org);
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Clinical Toxicology https://www.apsinuodijimai.lt/;
• member of European Association of Poisons Centres and Clinical Toxicologists (EAPCCT) https://www.eapcct.org/;
• member of European Society for Clinical Nutrition and Metabolism (ESPEN) https://www.espen.org/;
• member of the pool of experts on *ad hoc* rapid risk assessment of chemical threats under the Scientific Committee on Health, Environmental and Emerging Risks (SCHEER) at European Commission [https://ec.europa.eu/health/scientific_committees/scheer_en](https://ec.europa.eu/health/scientific_committees/scheer_en).

Assist. Prof. D. Ringaitienė –
• member of Lithuanian Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care ([http://anest-ream.lt](http://anest-ream.lt));
• member of European society of Intensive Care Medicine ([https://www.esicm.org/](https://www.esicm.org/));
• member of European society for clinical nutrition and metabolism ([http://www.espen.org/](http://www.espen.org/)).

Teaching Assist. Š. Judickas –
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care ([http://anest-ream.lt](http://anest-ream.lt));
• member of European Society of Intensive Care Medicine ([https://www.esicm.org/](https://www.esicm.org/)).

Teaching Assist. A. Vaitkus –
• council member of Lithuanian Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care ([http://anest-ream.lt](http://anest-ream.lt));
• member of Association of Pain Clinics, Lithuania ([www.skausmoklinika.lt](http://www.skausmoklinika.lt)).

Lect. L. Balčiūnas –
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care ([http://anest-ream.lt](http://anest-ream.lt));
• member of European Society of Intensive Care Medicine ([https://www.esicm.org/](https://www.esicm.org/)).

Lect. E. Gažauskas –
• member of the Difficult Airway Society ([https://das.uk.com/](https://das.uk.com/))
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care ([http://anest-ream.lt](http://anest-ream.lt));
• member of European Society of Intensive Care Medicine ([https://www.esicm.org/](https://www.esicm.org/)).

Lect. V. Kuzminskaitė –
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care ([http://anest-ream.lt](http://anest-ream.lt));
• member of the European Society of Anaesthesiology ([https://www.esahq.org/](https://www.esahq.org/)).

**BEST REPORTS DELIVERED AT CONFERENCES ABROAD**


Clinic of Ear, Nose, Throat and Eye Diseases

2 Santariškių, LT-08661 Vilnius
Tel.: 236 52 70, 250 1867; fax 236 52 70
E-mail: eugenijus.lesinskas@mf.vu.lt

Head – Prof. Dr. Eugenijus Lesinskas

STAFF

Professor: Dr. E. Lesinskas.

Associate professors: Dr. M. Petrulionis, Dr. R. Ašoklis, Dr. A. Cimbalas, Dr. S. Galgauskas.

Assistants Professor: Dr. V. Beleškienė, Dr. D. Rauba, Dr. J. Ivaška, Dr. R. Strupaitė-Šileikienė, A. Kadziauskienė

Lecturers: A. Morozas, A. Matulevičius, K. Malyško, A. Misevičė, D. Pranytė

Students’ scientific groups of:

Ophtalmology: scientific leader – assoc. prof. S. Galgauskas, coordinator – student E. Balsienė; 30 members of the group.

Otorhinolaryngology: scientific leader – prof. E. Lesinskas, coordinator – student N. Stukas; 25 members of the group.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Estimation of the influence of morphology and clinical peculiarities of otorhinolaryngological and ophtalmological diseases to results of application of novel diagnostic methods and treatment

RESEARCH PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN 2019

Projects Supported by University Budget


Study of the patients with the Meniere’s disease was completed. Results of 3T MRI evaluation and testing of peripheral vestibular system were studied for different form of the diseases. Doctoral theses for this study were completed.

National Research Projects


The aim of this study is to evaluate the macro and micro level factors of social integration of children with cochlear implants in Lithuania.

OTHER SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

Prof. E. Lesinskas –

• senior otorhinolaryngologist of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania;
• president of the Lithuanian Society of Otorhinolaryngologists;
• member of the Council of the Faculty of Medicine;
• editorial board member of the journals Medicinos teorija ir praktika (Theory and Practice in Medicine), Journal of Hearing Science.
Assoc. Prof. Dr. R. Ašoklis –
- board member of Lithuanian Society of Ophthalmologists;
- board member of Vilnius County Ophthalmologists Association;
- member of European Board of Ophthalmology;
- national delegate in European Union of Medical Specialists.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. A. Cimbalas –
- board member of Lithuanian Society of Ophthalmologists;
- board member of Vilnius County Ophthalmologists Association;
- member of Lithuanian Glaucoma Society;
- international member of American Academy of Ophthalmology.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. S. Galgauskas –
- board member of Vilnius County Ophthalmologists Association;
- member of Lithuanian Society of Ophthalmologists;
- member of Lithuanian Glaucoma Society;
- member of European Association for Vision and Eye Research;
- member of Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology.

Assist. Dr. D. Rauba –
- board member of Lithuanian Society of Otorhinolaryngologists.

BEST REPORTS DELIVERED AT CONFERENCES ABROAD


MOST IMPORTANT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL AWARDS RECEIVED FOR R&D ACTIVITIES

Eugenijus Lesinskas. Officer's Cross of the Order of the Grand Duke of Lithuania Gediminas

Rasa Strupaitė-Šileikienė. SOE Teacher Grant (European Society of Ophthalmology

MOST IMPORTANT PARTICIPATION CASES OF RESEARCHERS IN WORKING GROUPS OR COMMISSIONS SET UP BY STATE AUTHORITIES, STATE AND MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANISATIONS, AND BUSINESS ENTITIES

E. Lesinskas, D. Rauba. A. Morozas A. Paškonienė currently are the members of the work group for Ministry of Health working on improvement of ENT specialist norm.

MOST IMPORTANT RESEARCH DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES
During the year 2019 an ophthalmologist A. Makselis took part in the series of TV shows “Labadiena, Lietuva”, “Klauskite daktaro”, “Klausimėlis” where he spoke about the dry eye disease, contact lenses and eye infections.
Clinic of Gastroenterology, Nephrourology and Surgery

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Head – Prof. Habil. Dr. Kęstutis Strupas

STAFF

Professors: Habil. Dr. K. Strupas, Dr. E. Poškus, Dr. T. Poškus, Dr. G. Simutis, Dr. A. Šileikis, (HP) Dr. G. Brimas, (HP) Dr. F. Jankevičius, Dr. M. Miglinas, Habil. Dr. J. Valantinas, Dr. P. Schemmer (prof of partnership), (HP) Dr. Beiša (till 2019-09).

Associate professors: A. Ėrniauskienė, Dr. G. Denapienė, Dr. A. Gradauskas, Dr. G. Simutis, Dr. A. Šileikis, (HP) Dr. F. Jankevičius, Dr. G. Brimas, Dr. S. Mikalauskas, Dr. V. Sokolovas Dr. A. Stašinskas, Dr. G. Verkauskas, Dr. A. Želvys, Dr. K. Saniukas (till 2019-11).

Assistant professor: Dr. R. Adomaitis, Dr. G. Bernotavičius, Dr. B. Buckus, A. Ėkauskas, Dr. Ž. Juodeikis, D. Kubilius, Dr. M. Petrulionis, Dr. L. Rimševičius, Dr. I. Stundienė, Dr. K. Trainavičius.

Teaching assistants: A. Bakavičius, E. Mačionienė, D. Sukackienė, R. Vaicekauskas.

Lecturers: Dr. E. Gavelienė, P. Gradauskas, Dr. L. Mašalaitė, G. Pošiūnas, Dr. I. Savlan.

Research fellows: prof. Dr. V. Liakina, Dr. A. Beiša, Dr. G. Denapienė, assist. A. Kielaitė-Gulla, senior Dr. G. Simutis.


RESEARCH INTERESTS

Minimally invasive surgery of abdominal organs, development and improvement of new procedures and devices for the performance of minimally invasive procedures, especially of abdominal malignancies;
Research of liver and pancreas transplantation techniques (listing and preparing of patients for liver, pancreas, kidney transplantation);
Research of liver and pancreas transplantation techniques
Study of dietary treatment of enteropathies.
Minimal hepatic encephalopathy
Gut microbiota in health and disease
Extrahepatic complications of liver cirrhosis
Diagnostic/prognostic markers for prediction of HCC
Novel treatment for the GI bleeding
Contemporary diagnostic analysis of ascite liquid
Epidemiology and novel treatment of viral hepatitis
Patients with chronic hepatitis C quality of life study during DAA therapy.
Urological cancer.
Kidney stone disease.
Urinary incontinence Primary glomerular diseases.
Resistant hypertension.
Peritoneal dialysis.
Medical kidney transplant management.

**RESEARCH PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN 2019**

**Projects Supported by University Budget**


The application of minimally invasive surgical techniques in patients with hepatobiliary, pancreatic, gastrointestinal, colorectal and endocrine pathology were evaluated and outcomes reported. Results of the research were presented in national, regional and international meetings, and published in peer-reviewed journals. The successful organ-tissues transplantations-program in Vilnius University Santaros Hospital is the best fact to take Vilnius University Hospital as the leader Transplantation Center in the Baltic States.

Main publications:


This research is focused on interrelationships of liver diseases and other disorders of digestive tract. On the basis of retrospective case-control study we concluded that additional surgery should be recommended after non-curative endoscopic submucosal dissection whenever treatment-associated risk is acceptable. In prospective single centered follow-up study enrolled 40 patients with mild acute pancreatitis and 16 healthy group subjects we have found that portal blood flow velocities do not change during mild acute pancreatitis in the inflammatory and postinflammatory periods. This observation suggests that mild acute pancreatitis does not increase the risk of portal vein thrombosis.

Main publications:


The Study started in 2016 and is performed in collaboration with the Life Sciences Center. The study focus on identification of molecular biomarkers of kidney transplant rejection. Additional clinical data has been also collected. 70 patients were included into the Study and patient enrolment is continued. This Study is paused in 2020 due to maternity leave of PhD Student E. Macioniene and will be continued the next year.


The project aims to evaluate changes of nutritional status and body composition in patients after kidney transplantation and compare the results with control group. This study is approved by Vilnius Regional Bioethics Committee and State Data Protections Inspectorate. Inclusion process of the patients is ongoing. Final follow-up (after one year) will be completed by December 2020. Early results were presented at the conferences:

2. "Revising bioimpedance-derived ECW/TBW cut-off value for all-cause mortality in hemodialysis patients". August 30-September 2d., 2019. Turku (Finland).

Main publications:
"Risk stratification for patients awaiting kidney transplantation: role of bioimpedance derived Edema Index and nutrition status" just has been accepted for publication in Clinical Nutrition.


The research focuses on effects of pancreatic cancer and immunonutrition on the metabolism and immune system and the use of metabolomic analyses for stratification of patients for nutritional management with the aim to improve postoperative outcomes. We introduced supplementary radiological methods for lumbar skeletal muscle index measurements, bioelectrical impedance analysis in our patients for better evaluation of nutritional status.


Randomized prospective trial was finished, and analysis is being performed and publications prepared. The aim of the study is to compare early and one-year outcomes of two new surgical techniques of treatment of haemorrhoids with traditional excisional hemorrhoidectomy. The study is finished including patients, completed 6 weeks follow-up (early results), by including 120 patients. Initial results were presented at the World Congress of Phlebology in Melbourne, Australia. Korean Society of Coloproctology research meeting in Seoul, Korea. European Society of Coloproctology meeting in Nice, France.


The study was initiated in 2015 and is a part of a large-scale PCa biomarker research started in 2008, performed after approval by the Lithuanian Bioethics Committee (2007-11-23 No. 50 and 2011-09-07 No. 6B-11-275). The objective of the present study was to characterise the rates of
prostate cancer upgrading and upstaging after radical prostatectomy, investigate their role on surgical and oncological outcomes, so established epigenetic biomarkers as a noninvasive tool for more accurate PCa categorization.

Main publications:


8. **Choledocholithiasis management based on individual risk and multidisciplinary approach for patients with cholecystolithiasis and scheduled cholecystectomy.** Prof. G. Simutis, A. Aleknaite. 2016-2020

The research started in 2016. A retrospective analysis of risk assessment of choledocholithiasis and its management was performed to evaluate effectiveness of currently used prognostic index of choledocholithiasis and new threshold values for different risk groups were calculated. A randomized prospective trial on the best management strategy (endoscopic ultrasound before ERCP vs. intraoperative cholangiography) for patients with intermediate risk of choledocholithiasis is carried on, enrolling participants, about 75% of required sample size has been enrolled. A literature review article and trial protocol have been written and submitted for publishing.

Main publications:


9. **Distant Results of the Quality of Life of Patients Operated on for Colorectal Cancer.** G.Valeikaite Tauginiene, Prof. T. Poškūs. 2016-2019

The Study started in 2016. Distant results of the quality of life of patients, operated on for colorectal cancer is a continuation of the prospective study, which was started in 2012 as part of the National Science Foundation grant Colorectal cancer in Lithuania: study of mortality, morbidity and quality of life, LIG01/11. It will try to identify the factors, reducing long-term quality of life in colorectal cancer patients. The study is performed in collaboration with National Cancer Institute and Lithuanian University of Health Sciences. Final publication is planned for 2019.

10. **Diagnosis of Acute Appendicitis.** Prof. T. Poškūs, R. Lukšaitė. 2019-2022
The study started in 2019. It is a randomized trial within prospective cohort of patients with suspected acute appendicitis, randomized for CT or observation in cases when ultrasound examination is inconclusive. 250 patients are set to be included in the trial. Inculsion is planned for two years. Publication of the results is expected in 2022.

National Research Projects


Ongoing study of intake of sodium and iodine by 24 hour urine sample analysis in Lithuanian population. Study started in 2018. Planned sample size is 1000 subjects. Publications, presentations and development of guidelines for public health policy on salt intake reduction and adequate iodine consumption to prevent renal and cardiovascular disease are planned in 2020.

2. The Value of Clinical and Molecular Markers in Preoperative Diagnosis of Prostate Cancer. Arnas Bakavičius, prof. dr. (HP) Felikas Jankevičius. 2015 - 2019

The study was initiated in 2015 and is a part of a large-scale PCa biomarker research started in 2008, performed after approval by the Lithuanian Bioethics Committee (2007-11-23 No. 50 and 2011-09-07 No. 6B-11-275). The objective of the present study was to characterise the rates of prostate cancer upgrading and upstaging after radical prostatectomy, investigate their role on surgical and oncological outcomes, so established epigenetic biomarkers as a noninvasive tool for more accurate PCa categorization.

Main publications:


In 2019 the project was selected by Lithuanian Research Association to be the top among current SMART specialization performed activities in the country. A special TV health report on the disease's burden for society was created and aired (TV Info October 14, 2019). The project activities include: applying artificial intelligence to build acute pancreatitis decision models and prediction models; over 100 samples were analyzed for selecting different clinical and laboratory markers while applying different non-invasive methodology. The results were presented in national and international congresses with a positive feedback and high success. The publication of the most recent results is in progress.

MAIN R&D&A (RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INOVATION) PARTNERS

University of Heidelberg (Germany)
Renal Services at Westmead Hospital, Sydney (Australia)
Academy of Science of Ukraine (Ukraine)
OTHER SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

Prof. Habil. Dr. K. Strupas
- past President of Lithuanian Surgical Oncology society;
- board member of the European Academy of Surgical Sciences (EAcSS);
- member of International Hepato-Pancreato-Biliary Association;
- member of the Scientific Committee of Vilnius University;
- elected president of the Association of Lithuanian Surgeons;
- member of European Association for Endoscopic Surgery (EAES);
- editorial board member of the international journal *Viszeralmedizin*, http://content.karger.com/Journal/EditorialBoard/223970;
- editorial board member of the journal *Medicinos teorija ir praktika (Theory and Practice in Medicine)*, http://www.mtp.lt/lt/redaktoriu-kolegija-8/;
- editorial board member of the journal *Lietuvos chirurgija (Lithuanian Surgery)* http://www.chirurgija.lt;
- editorial board member of the journal *Medicina (Lithuania, ISI)*, http://medicina.kmu.lt.

Prof. Dr. V. Beiša
- chairman of Vilnius Association of Surgeons;
- member of the European Society of Endocrine Surgeons (ESES);
- member of the International Society of Surgery (ISS).

Prof. G. Simutis
- board member of the Lithuanian Minimally Invasive Surgery Society;
- member of Vilnius Association of Surgeons;
- member of Lithuanian Surgical Oncology society;
- member of European Association for Endoscopic Surgery (EAES).

Prof. E. Poškus
- chairman of the Lithuanian Minimally Invasive Surgery Society;
- member of Lithuanian Surgical Oncology society;
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Coloproctologists;
- member of the European Society of Coloproctology;
- member of the International Society of University Colon and Rectal Surgeons;
- member of European Association for Endoscopic Surgery (EAES).

Prof. A. Šileikis
- chairman of Vilnius Association of Surgeons;
- chairman of Lithuanian Surgical Oncology society;
- member of the International HepatoPancreato Biliary Association (IHPB);
- member of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO);
- member of the Lithuanian Minimally Invasive Surgery Society.

Prof. T. Poškus
- Vice-president of the Lithuanian Society of Coloproctologists;
- member of Lithuanian Surgical Oncology society;
- member of Vilnius Association of Surgeons.

**Assoc. Prof. Dr. V. Sokolovas**  
- president Lithuanian Association of Transplantology;  
- member of the Lithuanian Minimally Invasive Surgery Society;  
- member of Vilnius Association of Surgeons;  
- member of Lithuanian Surgical Oncology Society;  
- member of the Lithuanian Enteral and Parenteral Nutrition Society;  
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Gastroenterology.

**Assoc. Prof. Dr. V. Jotautas**  
- member of the Lithuanian Minimally Invasive Surgery Society;  
- member of Vilnius Association of Surgeons;  
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Coloproctologists;  
- member of European Association for Endoscopic Surgery (EAES).

**Assoc. Prof. S. Mikalauskas**  
- board member of the Lithuanian Minimally Invasive Surgery Society;  
- member of Vilnius Association of Surgeons;  
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Coloproctologists;  
- member of European Association for Endoscopic Surgery (EAES);  
- member of Lithuanian Surgical Oncology Society.

**Prof. Habil. Dr. J. Valantinas**  
- editor of the journal *Internistas* supplement *Gastroenterology*;  
- editorial board member of the journal *World Journal of Gastroenterology*;  
- editor board member of the journal *Medicinos teorija ir praktika*;  
- member of the international *Pancreas-2000* scientists group;  
- member of the European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL);  
- member of the World Organization of Gastroenterology (OMGE);  
- president of the Lithuanian Society of Gastroenterology.

**Assoc. Prof. E. Gavelienė**  
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Gastroenterology;  
- member of the European Association of Enteral and Parenteral Nutrition.

**Assoc. Prof. G. Denapienė, Assistant Prof. I. Stundienė, Lect. L. Mašalaitė, Assist. Prof. I. Savlan, Lect. R. Vaicekauskas**  
- members of the Lithuanian Society of Gastroenterology.

**Research Prof. V. Liakina**  
- member of the European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL);  
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Gastroenterology;  
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Immunology.

**Prof. Dr. G. Brimas**  
- deputy editor-in-Chief of the journal *Lietuvos chirurgija*;  
- editorial board member of the journal *Videosurgery and miniinvasive techniques*.

**Assoc. Prof. A. Stašinskas**  
- editorial board member of the journal *Lietuvos chirurgija*;  
- board number of the Association of Lithuanian Surgeons.
Teach. Assist. B. Buckus
- member of Vilnius Society of Surgeons.

Assoc. Prof. G. Verkauskas
- member of the European Paediatric Surgeons’ Association;
- member of the European Society for Paediatric Urology.
- member Lithuanian Society of Pediatric Nephrology

Assist. Prof. K. Trainavičius
- member of the Baltic Association of Pediatric Surgeons (BAOPS);
- member of the Council of Lithuanian Society of Pediatric Surgery;
- editorial board member of the journal *Pediatrija (Paediatrics)*, www.idejugrupe.lt;
- member of the European Paediatric Surgeons Association.

Assist. Prof. Dr. Giedrius Bernotavičius
- member of the Baltic Association of Pediatric Surgeons (BAOPS);
- member of the Council of Lithuanian Society of Pediatric Surgery;
- member of the European Paediatric Surgeons Association.

Assist. Prof. Dr. Gintas Pošiūnas
- Lithuanian Society of Pediatric Surgeons
- Lithuanian Society of Pediatric Surgeons
- European Association of Pediatric Surgeons
- President of Lithuanian Association of Laser Medicine
- International Academy of Laser Medicine and Surgery

Prof. Dr. F. Jankevičius
- chairman of the Lithuanian Early Prostate Cancer Detection Programme;
- member of the European Association of Urology (EAU);
- corresponding Member of Deutschen Gesellschaft fur Urologie;
- member of Lithuanian Urological Association;
- chairman of Lithuanian Society of Oncologists.

Assoc. Prof. A. Želvys
- member of the Lithuanian Urology (LUD) Society;
- member of the European Association of Urology (EAU);
- member of the Lithuanian Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation Association (LNDTA);
- member of the Lithuanian Society for Sexual Medicine (LSSM).

Assoc. Prof. A. Černiauskienė
- member of the Lithuanian Urology (LUD) Society;
- member of the Lithuanian Society for Sexual Medicine (LSSM).

Assist. Prof. A. Čekauskas
- member of the Lithuanian Urology (LUD) Society;
- member of the Lithuanian Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation Association (LNDTA);
- member of the European Association of Urology (EAU).

Assist. Prof. R. Adomaitis
- member of the Lithuanian Urology (LUD) Society;
- member of the Lithuanian Society for Sexual Medicine (LSSM);
- member of the European Society for Sexual Medicine (LSSM).

**Teach. Assist. A. Bakavičius**
- member of the Lithuanian Urology (LUD) Society;
- member of the European Association of Urology (EAU).

**Prof. M. Miglinas**
- member of the European Dialysis Transplantation Association – European Renal Association (EDTA-ERA);
- member of the European Society of Hypertension (ESH);
- member of the International Society of Nephrology (ISN);
- member of the International Society of Hypertension (ISH);
- president of Lithuanian Kidney Foundation;
- president of the Lithuanian Hypertension Society.

**Assist. Prof. L. Rimševičius**
- member of the European Dialysis Transplantation Association – European Renal Association (EDTA-ERA);
- member of Lithuanian Nephrology, Dialysis and Transplantation Association (LNDTA);
- member of Lithuanian Kidney Foundation (LKF).

**Teach. Assist. E. Mačionienė**
- member of the European Dialysis Transplantation Association – European Renal Association (EDTA-ERA);
- member of Lithuanian Nephrology, Dialysis and Transplantation Association (LNDTA);
- member of Lithuanian Kidney Foundation (LKF).

**Teach. Assist. Prof. D. Sukackienė**
- member of the European Dialysis Transplantation Association – European Renal Association (EDTA-ERA);
- member of Lithuanian Nephrology, Dialysis and Transplantation Association (LNDTA);
- member of Lithuanian Kidney Foundation (LKF).
- member of European Society for Clinical Nutrition and Metabolism

**BEST REPORTS DELIVERED AT CONFERENCES ABROAD**


THE LIST OF THE MOST IMPORTANT RECEIVED NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL AWARDS FOR R&D ACTIVITIES

Prof. F. Jankevičius awarded by Lithuanian Science Prize.
Prof. F. Jankevičius awarded by SAPIENT SAT medal.
Prof. Tomas Poškus - successful grant co-applicant with UK, Denmark, Spain researchers - Bowel disease research foundation (UK) - Patient reported outcomes in peristomal hernia treatment study (PROPERH).
Prof. Tomas Poškus - Best paper of the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons Annual Meeting 2019, Cleveland, USA

THE LIST OF THE MOST IMPORTANT CASES OF PARTICIPATION OF RESEARCHERS IN WORKING GROUPS OR COMMISSIONS SET UP BY STATE AUTHORITIES, STATE AND MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANISATIONS, AND BUSINESS ENTITIES

Lithuanian health ministry working groups on prostate hyperplasia; urine incontinence; organ donation in transplantation.
Participation in Residency Training programmes certification by European Board of Urology (EBU). Assoc. prof. A. Želvys became EBU board member, National Representative of Lithuania. Participation in COST Action CA18124 “European Sexual Medicine Network”. R. Adomaitis became a Member of managing committee, National representative of Lithuania nominated by Academy of Sciences of Lithuania. Participation in COST Action
National dialysis guidelines „Network for Research in Vascular Ageing” 2020-2023 m. (I. Rimsevicius)
Endorsement from Lithuanian Ministry of Health obtained for full membership application in “Rare Adult Cancers Network - ERN EURACAN”; final application planned in November 2019 (http://euracan.ern-net.eu/lt/pagrindinis). E. Poškus, M. Petrulionis, K. Strupas

MOST IMPORTANT RESEARCH DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

Seminars on Urology”- conference for wide medical professionals.
Patent application continued (investigators: Prof. K. Strupas, PhD candidate A. Gulla) "Non-invasive approach to early diagnosis and prognosis of acute severe pancreatitis based on heat shock proteins mechanism of action".
Project funded by Lithuanian Research Council „Liver Tissue engineering through 3D hepatocyte organoids and smart biomaterials“.
Established „Center of Visceral Medicine Translational Research“
Clinic of Infectious Diseases and Dermatovenereology

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Head – Prof. Dr. Ligita Jančorienė

Centre of Dermatovenereology
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Head – Dr. Jūratė Grigaitienė

STAFF

Professors: Dr. L. Jančorienė (part-time), Dr. R. Matulionytė, Habil. Dr. A. Ambrozaitis (part-time), Dr. M. Bylaitė-Bučinskinė (part-time).

Associate professors: Dr. R. Gancevičienė (part-time).

Assistants Professor: Dr. J. Grigaitienė (part-time), Dr. D. Radzišauskienė (part-time), B. Zablockienė (part-time).


Research fellows: A. Stiklerytė.

Doctoral students: R. Jurčiukonytė, B. Zablockienė, E. Matulytė, I. Kisielienė.

Students’ scientific groups of:


Dermatovenereology: scientific leader – Assoc. Prof. R. Gancevičienė, coordinator – student A. Timinskaitė; 58 members of the group.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Pathogenesis, diagnostics, treatment and prevention of infectious diseases: assessment of the current diagnostics, treatment and prevention methods; search of a new diagnostics, treatment and prevention methods; study of the mechanisms of infectious diseases pathogenesis; study of a safety and efficacy of a new vaccines and drugs for the treatment and prevention of infectious diseases.

Effectiveness, feasibility and impact of latent tuberculosis treatment for the prevention of active tuberculosis among HIV-positive individuals.
Incidence, etiology and pathogenesis of inflammatory chronic dermatosis (acne, rosacea, psoriasis, dermatitis, eczema, vitiligo): basic and clinical research, implementation of innovative technologies.

Dermatooncology in Lithuania: epidemiology, pathogenesis, diagnostics, treatment and prevention of epithelial skin cancers and melanoma.

RESEARCH PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN 2019

Projects Supported by University Budget

1. **Prevalence of Viral Hepatitis A, B and C Serological Markers in Donor’s Population in Lithuania.** 2012–2020

During this cross-sectional study the prevalence viral hepatitis serologic and virologic markers (such as anti-HAV, HBsAg, HBV-DNR, anti-HBc, anti-HBs, anti-HCV, HCV-RNA), residual risk and main risk factors of viral hepatitis transmission among the blood donors in Lithuania has been estimated. The study is in progress.

2. **Prevention of Influenza Viral Pneumonia Using Zanamivir and Antisense Oligonucleotide against Inducible Nitric Oxide Synthase.** 2013–2019

The aim of the study was to evaluate how zanamivir and iNOS antisense suppress the pulmonary inflammation during influenza infection using mouse model. The weight variations and means of lung histologic scores were compared between the mouse groups. The levels of iNOS RNR, IFN-γ, TNF-α and influenza virus were determined using reverse transcriptase - polymerase chain reaction. The doctoral dissertation was defended in 2019.

3. **Effectiveness, feasibility and impact of latent tuberculosis treatment for the prevention of active tuberculosis among people living with Human Immunodeficiency Virus.** 2018-2023

The objective of this study is to evaluate the effectiveness, feasibility and impact of latent tuberculosis infection (LTBI) treatment for the prevention of active tuberculosis among people living with Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). The prevalence of LTBI among PLHIV and its comparison with the prevalence in the general population, and with international data has been performed with next step to define the characteristics of diagnostic tests (the interferon gamma release assays and the tuberculin skin test) among PLHIV and to optimize the diagnostic strategy for LTBI.


The study is in progress.

International Research Projects

1. **I-MOVE+: Hospital-based test negative case control studies to measure seasonal influenza vaccine effectiveness against influenza laboratory confirmed SARI hospitalisation among the elderly across the European Union and European Economic Area Member States.** Prof. L. Jančorienė, Dr. B. Zablockienė. 2015-2019.

The objective was to measure seasonal influenza vaccine effectiveness (SIVE) against influenza illness in patients admitted to hospital during the 2015–2018 influenza seasons. A test-negative case-control study was being performed in two university hospitals of Lithuania. Influenza and other respiratory pathogens were confirmed by multiplex RT-PCR. In collaboration with the
European hospital influenza vaccine effectiveness network a multicentre test negative case control study was initiated in the hospitals of 8 European countries to measure influenza vaccine effectiveness against laboratory confirmed hospitalised influenza among people aged $\geq 65$ years.

2. **Clinical and Virological Outcome of European Patients Infected With HIV (EuroSIDA).** R. Matulionytė. 2015 - ongoing

The EuroSIDA study is a prospective observational cohort study of more than 23000 patients followed in 100 hospitals in 35 European countries plus Israel and Argentina. The main objective of the study is to follow the long-term clinical prognosis for the general population of HIV-infected patients living in Europe and to assess the impact of antiretroviral drugs on the long-term prognosis for these patients.

**Main publications:**


**MAIN R&D&I (RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION) PARTNERS**

Warren Alpert Medical School at Brown University, Providence, RI (USA)

Ludwig – Maximilians University, Munich (Germany)

Brandenburg Medical School Theodor Fontane, Brandenburg (Germany)

Skåne university hospital, Lund University, Department of occupational and environmental dermatology (Sweden)

Malmo University (Sweden)

**OTHER SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES**

Prof. L. Jančorienė

- member of the European Association of the Study of the Liver, www.easl.ch;
- member of the International Society of Travel Medicine, www.istm.org;
- member of the Central European Vaccination Awareness Group;
- member of the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, www.escmid.org;
- board member of the Lithuanian Society of Infectious Diseases, www.lid.lt;
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Gastroenterology, www.gastroenterologija.lt;
- member of the working group for preparation of Action plan for Viral Hepatitis Prevention and Control 2019–2022, Lithuania.
- member of the Coordination group for the control of national HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections action plan under Lithuanian Ministry of Health;
• member of Independent Experts (advisors, consultants) group for the National Immunoprophylaxis programme for 2019–2023.

Prof. A. Ambrozaitis
• board member of the Lithuanian Society of Infectious Diseases, www.lid.lt;
• country representative and member of the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID), www.escmid.org;
• national representative and board member of the Infectious Diseases Section of European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS), www.uems.net;
• member of Independent Experts (advisors, consultants) group for the National Immunoprophylaxis programme for 2019–2023.

Prof. R. Matulionytė
• chair of the Vilnius Society of Infectious Diseases, www.lid.lt;
• board member of the Lithuanian Society of Infectious Diseases, www.lid.lt;
• member of the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases (ESCMID), www.escmid.org;
• ESCMID Study Group for Antimicrobial Stewardship (ESGAP). A European consensus: ESCMID generic competencies in antimicrobial prescribing and stewardship. Panel member, country coordinator; www.esgap.escmid.org
• member of the European AIDS Clinical Society, www.eacs.ws;
• member of the HIV Euroguidelines in Central and Eastern Europe (ECEE) Network Group;
• steering committee member for 2017–2022 of the multi-centre prospective observational cohort study group EuroSIDA;
• coordinator in the partnership of Vilnius University Hospital Santaros Klinikos in the EU project 761319 – Joint Action on integrating prevention, testing and link to care strategies across HIV, viral hepatitis, TB and STIs in Europe (INTEGRATE);
• member of the Action plan for HIV/AIDS and STI Prevention and Control 2018–2020, Lithuania;
• member of Independent Experts (advisors, consultants) group for the National Immunoprophylaxis programme for 2019–2023.

Prof. M. Bylaitė-Bučinskienė
• president of the Lithuanian Society of Dermatovenereology, www.ldvd.lt;
• board member of the European Association of Dermato Oncology, www.eado.org;
• board member of the Baltic association of Dermatovenereologists, www.badv.org;
• member of the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology (EADV), www.eadv.org;
• member of the European Dermatology Forum, www.euroderm.org;
• member of the European Society for Pediatric Dermatology (ESPD), www.espd.info;
• member of the International Society of Dermatology, www.intsocderm.org;
• editorial board of the *Journal of Health Sciences*;
• editorial board of the *Journal of Lithuanian’s Obstetrics and Gynecology*;
• editorial board member of the journal *Sveikatos mokslai (Health Sciences)*, www.sam.lt/lt/sam/moksliniai/straipsniai/.
Assoc. Prof. R. Gancevičienė
- board member of the Lithuanian Society of Dermatovenereology, www.ldvd.lt;
- member of the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology, www.eadv.org;
- member and board member of the local Euromelanoma Committee;
- editorial board member of the Journal of Dermato-Endocrinology, Landes Biosciences;
- Member of the Scientific Technical Committee Cosmetics of Lithuanian Department for Standardization.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. J. Grigaitienė
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Dermatovenereology, www.ldvd.lt;
- member of the European Academy of Dermatology and Venereology, www.eadv.org;
- member of Lithuanian society of Allergology and clinical immunology, www.alergologudraugija.lt;
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Lasers;
- national representative and board member of the Dermato-Venerology Section of European Union of Medical Specialists (UEMS), www.uems.net.

Assist. Prof. B. Zablockienė
- board member of the Lithuanian Society of Infectious Diseases, www.lid.lt;
- member of the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, www.escmid.org;
- member of Lithuanian Society of Pulmonologists, http://www.chest.lt/;
- member of Lithuanian Ultrasound Association, http://www.ultragarsas.lt

Teaching assistant I. Kisieliienė

Teaching assistant T. Raudonis
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Dermatovenereology, www.ldvd.lt;

Teaching Assist. E. Matulytė
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Infectious Diseases, www.lid.lt;
- member of the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, www.escmid.org;
- member of the European AIDS Clinical Society, www.eacs.org;
- specialist in the EU project 761319 (partner – Vilnius University Hospital Santaros Klinikos) – Joint Action on integrating prevention, testing and link to care strategies across HIV, viral hepatitis, TB and STIs in Europe (INTEGRATE);
- national representative Trainee Association the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases.

Lect. T. Karmazienė
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Dermatovenereology, www.ldvd.lt;

Lect. A. Marcinkutė
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Infectious Diseases, www.lid.lt;
- member of the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, www.escmid.org.

Lect. M. Paulauskas
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Infectious Diseases, www.lid.lt;
• member of the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, www.escmid.org.

Lect. K. Žvirblytė - Skrebutėnienė
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Infectious Diseases, www.lid.lt.

Investigator I. Kubiliūtė
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Infectious Diseases, www.lid.lt;
• member of the European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, www.escmid.org;

Research Assist. S. Grubytė
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Infectious Diseases, www.lid.lt;

BEST REPORTS DELIVERED AT CONFERENCES ABROAD

Ligita Jančorienė State of Art Lecture “Vaccination as a tool of prevention and control of chronic noncommunicable diseases”. 2nd Baltic Young Infectologists Conference, Riga, Latvia, 2019 03 23

Ligita Jančorienė “HIV/HCV coinfection: influence on risk for cancer and cardiovascular events, and impact of successful HCV cure”, 5th CEE Meeting on Viral Hepatitis and HIV, Vilnius, Lithuania 2019 09 19-20

Ligita Jančorienė “A modern approach to the diagnosis and treatment of viral hepatitis and HIV infection. Elimination of HCV infection – is it possible?” scientific-practical conference “Modern blood component transfusion – from donor to recipient”, Vilnius, Lithuania 2019 10 23

THE LIST OF THE MOST IMPORTANT CASES OF PARTICIPATION OF RESEARCHERS IN WORKING GROUPS OR COMMISSIONS SET UP BY STATE AUTHORITIES, STATE AND MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANISATIONS, AND BUSINESS ENTITIES


Raimonda Matulionyte, member of the national Monitoring Network for Drugs and Drug Addiction (NTAKD) under the Lithuanian Drug, Tobacco and Alcohol Control Department, since 2018

Raimonda Matulionytė, member of Experts group under Lithuanian Ministry of Health Expert group on addressing the issues related with the emergence and spread of antimicrobial resistant micro-organisms.

Ligita Jančorienė, Raimonda Matulionytė, members of Expert group under Lithuanian Ministry of Health for the preparation of National guidelines for the rational use of antimicrobials and for the preparation of draft version of guidelines for the selection of the recommended first-line and reserve antimicrobials.
Ligita Jančorienė, Raimonda Matulionytė, members of the working group under Lithuanian Ministry of Health for the revision and update of Lithuanian Medical Norm for Infectious Diseases Specialist

Raimonda Matulionytė, Elżbieta Matulutył, Tadas Raudonis, scientific members of EU project 761319 (partner – Vilnius University Hospital Santaros Klinikos) – Joint Action on integrating prevention, testing and link to care strategies across HIV, viral hepatitis, TB and STIs in Europe (INTEGRATE).

Ligita Jančorienė, Raimonda Matulionytė the members of the Coordination group of the national HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted infections action plan under Lithuanian Ministry of Health.

Ligita Jančorienė members of the working group under Lithuanian Ministry of Health for the preparation of the national action plan for the prevention and control of viral hepatitis.

**MOST IMPORTANT RESEARCH DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES**

Odos akademija / Skin academy
Egzemos mokykla / School of Eczema

Raimonda Matulionytė, participation in the educative project of public institution “Nacionalinis mokymų centras“: „What Healthcare Workers Should Know about Testing for Human Immunodeficiency Virus?“

Ligita Jančorienė participation in educative project of the Coalition of non-governmental organizations and experts “Integration into HIV treatment - case management in municipalities”.

Ligita Jančorienė participation in educative project of Association Demetra on HIV prevention, diagnosis and treatment for primary care physicians, nurses and laboratory medicine specialists.

Ligita Jančorienė participation in preparation of e-learning course for MD postgraduate education “Vaccination of immunosupressed patients” internet platform “Evisit”.

Ieva Kubiliūtė interaction with the media and participation in collaboration with the online platform VakcinABC in preparing material on vaccination issues.

Mindaugas Paulauskas, participation in educative project for pharmacy specialists related to antimicrobial stewardship: “Antibiotic related diarrhea. Clostridiodes difficile”.
Clinic of Chest Diseases, Immunology and Allergology

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Head – Prof. Dr. (HP) Edvardas Danila

STAFF

Professors: Dr. E. Danila (part-time), Dr. L. Malinauskienė (part-time).

Associate professors: Habil. Dr. R. Janilionis (part-time), Dr. A. Blažienė (part-time), Dr. R. Zablockis (part-time), Dr. V. Gruslys (part-time), Dr. A. Chomičienė (part-time).

Assistant professors: Dr. V. Šileikienė (part-time), Dr. Ž. Jagelavičius (part-time).


Research fellows: Habil. Dr. R. Dubakienė (part-time), Dr. V. Kvedarienė (part-time), Dr. L. Malinauskienė (part-time), J. Račkauskienė (part-time).


Students’ scientific groups:

Pulmonology: scientific leader – prof. E. Danila, coordinator – student V. Sudmantaitė; 18 members of the group.

Allergy and clinic immunology: scientific leader – Dr. V. Kvedarienė, coordinator – student G. Rudziūkaitė; 15 members of the group.


RESEARCH INTERESTS

Evaluation of the efficacy of the diagnostic and treatment methods in obstructive, interstitial, neoplastic and allergic lung diseases: diagnosis and management of interstitial lung diseases

Diagnosis and management of COPD and bronchial asthma; sensitivity to various kinds of disinfectants among the medical staff

Development of new technologies, methods of early cancer detection and treatment interventions

Improvement of the quality of life of cancer patients

Pleural disease, diagnostic procedures, pleural biopsy; diagnosis, epidemiological and clinical research of drug hypersensitivity

Allergen immunotherapy: selection of patients, efficacy of different methods and long term treatment results

Drug hypersensitivity diagnostic peculiarities

Study of interactions between allergic rhinitis and bronchial asthma, application of new technologies in allergic and respiratory diseases

Strategy and approaches of the surgical management of patients with different thoracic pathology

RESEARCH PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN 2019

Projects Supported by University Budget
1. **Diagnosis and treatment of interstitial lung diseases.** Prof. E.Danila. 2014-2019

The aim of the study was to evaluate the significance of bronchoalveolar lavage fluid examination in sarcoid patients and patients with rare interstitial disorders (eosinophilic pneumonia, hypersensitivity pneumonitis). Clinical symptoms, cell differentials and distribution of lymphocyte subgroups in BALF, chest X-ray, spirometric indices, blood gases were evaluated.

**Main publications:**


2. **Assessment of pulmonary function of patients with lung diseases.** Prof. E.Danila. 2014-2019

Comparison of different methods for evaluation of bronchial obstruction. Evaluation of lung ventilation reserve with different methods of lung ventilation reserve evaluation.

**Main publication:**


Significance of pleural fluid D-dimer concentration is evaluated in patients with pleural effusion. Pleural D-dimer levels are measured and Prof. compared with D-dimer concentrations in plasma. Pleural fluid LDH, protein, pH, and glucose levels are assessed as well. The study is in process.


The aim of the study was to assess the prevalence and risk factors of pulmonary embolism in advanced lung cancer patients and to evaluate association between the Khorana score and risk of PE development among advanced stage lung cancer inpatients treated with chemotherapy. A retrospective cohort study included 2008-2017 year data of 217 lung cancer inpatients with IIIB and IV clinical stages receiving chemotherapy. The Khorana score was evaluated and patients were divided in two groups: a group of patients with 1 point and a group of patients with 2 or more points of the Khorana score. The study is in process.

**Main publications:**


The aim of the study was to evaluate type of adverse reactions to different type of cytostatic drugs in patients with lung cancer.

Main publications:


The aim of study was to assess the prevalence of self-reported DHRs in adults and in children and to analyze the risk factors in both groups. Cross-sectional survey of a population was made.

Main publication:


The aim of the study was to evaluate the clinical efficacy and adverse reactions in adults with allergic rhinoconjunctivitis with or without asthma. We conclude that treatment with ASIT (allergen-specific immunotherapy) is effective and safe.


The aim of the study was to detect the most common contact allergens in the metal workers, to detect the depth of the penetration of the metals’ (nickel, cobalt and chrome) ions in the skin using pig skin as a human skin model and to evaluate pathophysiological reactions occurring during acute contact reaction to these metals by investigating various inflammatory cytokines. Data was obtained and analyzed from questionnaires of 185 metal workers. Results were presented as a poster in the annual Congress of the European society of Contact dermatitis in Manchester, UK.

Main publication:


New surgical methods using ultrasound intraoperatively and VATS were elaborated for the surgical management of the patients with pleuropulmonary suppurations. The value of videomediastinoscopy and videoassisted thoracoscopic surgery in diagnostics and management of the patients was assessed.

Main publication:

National Research Projects


The goal of the project is to increase the qualifications of healthcare professionals in improving the epidemiological surveillance, prevention and control of tuberculosis, to improve knowledge of tuberculosis diagnostics, treatment management and to improve practical skills.
International Research Projects

1. **Patch Testing with Propolis of Different Origin in Different Countries** in collaboration with Gothenburg University, Sahlgrenska University Hospital, Department of Dermatology, Gothenburg, Sweden. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Laura Malinauskienė. 2017 -2020

   The aim is to compare the frequencies of contact allergy to propolis in the participating countries, and to investigate if there is a difference in frequencies of contact allergy to propolis of different origins. The study is in process.

2. **Presence of Unlabeled Formaldehyde in Cosmetic and Medications** in collaboration with Lund University, Skåne university hospital, Department of occupational and environmental dermatology (Sweden), Assoc. prof. Dr. Laura Malinauskienė. 2016 - 2022

   The aim of the study to analyse various topical medicines and cosmetic products for the presence of free formaldehyde especially if it is not labelled. We already analysed around 30 products using chromotropic acid and HPLC. The study is in process.

   **Main publications:**
   

3. **Textile Dye Allergy and Allergic Contact Dermatitis** in collaboration with Lund University, Skåne university hospital, Department of occupational and environmental dermatology (Sweden). Assoc. prof. Dr. Laura Malinauskienė. 2012 – 2026

   The aim of the study is to detect which dyes used today for textile dyeing can be inducers of the contact allergy and contact allergic dermatitis. Extracts from over 100 textile items are made to test patients already shown to be allergic to the textile dye mix allergen. Another aim is to detect which method of extraction from the textile items is the best retrieving the highest concentration of the dye. Three methods (extraction in ultrasonic bath, in acetone, in ethanol and artificial sweat) has been compared and the samples with HPLC analysed. The study is in process.

4. **Allergic Rhinitis and its Impact on Asthma (ARIA)** in collaboration with the leading French scientists: Prof. Pascal Demoly (Montpellier University, France) and Prof. Jean Bousquet (INSERM 1168, France) and cooperation with 70 science centers worldwide. Dr. Violeta Kvedarienė. 2002 – 2025

   The aim to provide an active and healthy life to rhinitis sufferers and to those with asthma multimorbidity across the life cycle, whatever their gender or socio-economic status, in order to reduce health and social inequities incurred by the disease and to improve the digital transformation of health and care. The ultimate goal is to change the management strategy in chronic diseases. The study is in process.

   **Main publications:**

   
   

5. Integrated care pathways for airway diseases (AIRWAYS-ICPs). Dr. Violeta Kvedarienė. 2014 - 2025

AIRWAYS ICPs was initiated 2014. In collaboration with the leading French scientists: Prof. Pascal Demoly (Montpellier University, France) and Prof. Jean Bousquet (INSERM 1168, France) and 23 collaborating centers.
The objective was to launch a collaboration to develop multi-sectoral care pathways (ICPs) for chronic respiratory diseases in European countries and beyond as a Global Alliance Against Respiratory Diseases (GARD) demonstration project. The study is in process.

Main publications:
Bosnic-Anticevich S, Costa E, Menditto E, ... Kvedariene V, ... Bousquet J. ARIA pharmacy 2018 "Allergic rhinitis care pathways for community pharmacy": AIRWAYS ICPs initiative (European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing, DG CONNECT and DG Santé) POLLAR (Impact of Air POLLution on Asthma and Rhinitis) GARD Demonstration project. Allergy 2019: 1219–1236.

6. European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing (EIP on AHA) in collaboration with the leading French scientists: Prof. Pascal Demoly (Montpellier University, France) and Prof. Jean Bousquet (INSERM 1168, France) and 74 collaborating centers. Dr. Violeta Kvedarienė. 2014 – 2025

The overarching goals of the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing (EIP on AHA) are to enable European citizens to lead healthy, active and independent lives whilst ageing. The EIP on AHA includes 74 Reference Sites. The aim of this study was to transfer innovation from an app developed by the MACVIA-France EIP on AHA reference site (Allergy Diary) to other reference sites. The phenotypic characteristics of rhinitis and asthma multimorbidity in adults and the elderly will be compared using validated information and communication technology (ICT) tools (i.e. the Allergy Diary and CARAT: Control of Allergic Rhinitis and Asthma Test) in 22 Reference Sites or regions across Europe. This will improve the understanding, assessment of burden, diagnosis and management of rhinitis in the elderly by comparison with an adult population. The study is in process.

Main publications:
8. **TWINNING (Transfer of Innovation) research project.** Since 2014 in collaboration with the leading French Prof. Jean Bousquet (INSERM 1168, France) and cooperation – 23 science centers worldwide. Dr. Violeta Kvedarienė. 2014-2025

The aim of this study was to transfer innovation from an app developed by the MACVIA-France EIP on AHA reference site (Allergy Diary) to other reference sites. Specific objectives will be: (i) to assess the percentage of adults and elderly who are able to use the Allergy Diary, (ii) to study the phenotypic characteristics and treatment over a 1-year period of rhinitis and asthma multimorbidity at baseline (cross-sectional study) and (iii) to follow-up using visual analogue scale (VAS). This part of the study may provide some insight into the differences between the elderly and adults in terms of response to treatment and practice. Finally (iv) work productivity will be examined in adults. The study is in process.

**MAIN R&D&I (RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION) PARTNERS**

Skåne university hospital, Sweden

Lund University, Department of occupational and environmental dermatology, Sweden

Gothenburg University Sahlgrenska University Hospital, Department of Dermatology, Gothenburg, Sweden

Prof. Pascal Demoly (Montpellier University, France) and Prof. Jean Bousquet (INSERM 1168, France), prof. Annick barbaud (Hôpital universitaire Est Parisien site Tenon, Paris, France).

**OTHER SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES**

**Prof. E. Danila**
- member of European Respiratory Society (ERS); http://www.ersnet.org/;
- member of Lithuanian Society of Pulmonologists; http://www.chest.lt/;
- editorial board member of the journal Vaikų pulmonologija ir alergologija (Children’s Pulmonology and Allergology).

**Prof. R. Dubakienė**
- member of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences;
- chairman of Allergology Commission of Lithuanian Academy of Sciences;
- expert of the Research Council of Lithuania;
- expert of MITA;
- editor-in-chief of the journal Alergologija ir klinikinė imunologija (Allergology and Clinical Immunology);
- editor-in-chief of the on-line journal Alergologija ir klinikinė imunologija (Allergology and Clinical Immunology);
- editorial board member of the journals: Acta Medica Lithuania, http://www.lmaleidykla.lt/ojs/index.php/actamedicalituanica; Revue of Allergology and Clinical Immunology; Medicinos teorija ir praktika (Theory and Practice in Medicine);
- member of the Lithuanian Immunology Society;
- member of the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology;

**Prof. L. Malinauskienė**
- member of the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology;
- member of the Lithuanian society of Allergology and clinical immunology;
- president of the Vilnius Regional Society of Allergologists and Clinical immunologists;
- national representative of the International Hereditary Angioedema organization;
• editorial board member of the journal *Alergija, astma, imunologija* (*Allergy Asthma Immunology*).

**Assoc. Prof. A. Blažienė**

• editorial board member of the journal *Medicinos teorija ir praktika* (*Theory and Practice in Medicine*), http://www.mtp.lt/;
• editor-in-chief of the journal *Alergija, astma, imunologija* (*Allergy Asthma Immunology*);
• member of the European Respiratory Society (ERS), http://www.ersnet.org/;
• member of the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, http://www.eaaci.org/;
• member of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology, http://www.aaaai.org/home.aspx;
• member of American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology, http://www.acaai.org/Pages/default.aspx;
• member of European Society of Immunodeficiency, http://www.esid.org/;
• member of Lithuanian Society of Immunology, www.imcentras.lt/lid/;
• member of Lithuanian Society of Pulmonologists, http://www.chest.lt/.

**Assoc. Prof. R. Zablockis**

• chairman of Lithuanian Society of Pulmonologists, http://www.chest.lt/;
• member of European Respiratory Society (ERS), http://www.ersnet.org/;
• editor-in-chief of the journal *Pulmonology News*, http://www.chest.lt/;
• editorial board member of the journal *Pulmonology and Allergology*, http://www.pulmoalerg.lt/.

**Assoc. Prof. Habil. Dr. R. Janilionis**

• board member of the Lithuanian Society of Cardiothoracic Surgery, www.lkscd.lt;
• board member of Vilnius Surgical Society;
• member of European Respiratory Society (ERS), www.ersnet.org;
• member of the European Association for Cardio-Thoracic Surgery, www.eacts.org;
• editorial board member of the journal *Medicina*, www.medicina.kmu.lt;
• editorial board member of the journal *Lithuanian Surgery*, http://www.chirurgija.lt0.

**Assoc. Prof. V. Gruslys**

• member of Lithuanian Society of Thoracic and Cardiac Surgeons, www.lkscd.lt;
• member of European Respiratory Society (ERS), www.ersnet.org;
• board member of Lithuanian Society of Minimal Invasive Surgery, http://www.mic.lt;

**Assoc. Prof. A. Chomičienė**

• member of the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, http://www.eaaci.org/;
• member of Lithuanian society of Allergology and clinical immunology, http://www.aai.mf.vu.lt/alerimun/draugija.htm;
• editorial board member of the journal *Alergija, astma, imunologija* (*Allergy Asthma Immunology*)
• member of Vilnius Regional Society of Allergists and Clinical Immunologists http://vaki.lt.

**Senior researcher V. Kvedarienė**

• editorial board member of the journal *Pulmonologija, imunologija ir alergologija* (*Pulmonology, Immunology and Allergolgy*);
• vice-chairman of reviewer board of the journal *Vaikų pulmonologija ir alergologija* (*Children’s Pulmonology and Allergology*);
• chairman of Lithuanian allergy and asthma association
• member of Allergology Commission of Lithuanian Academy of Sciences;
• member of the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology;
• member of UCB Institute of Allergy. http://www.theucbstituteofallergy.com/Home;
• member of Lithuanian Society of Allergology and Clinical Immunology;
• member of Allergic Rhinitis and its Impact on Asthma (ARIA);
• member of European Network on Drug Allergy (ENDA);
• member of Integrated Care Pathways for Airways Diseases (AIRWAYS-ICPs);
• medical advisor of Lithuania Asthma Patient Association.


• members of European Respiratory Society (ERS), http://www.ersnet.org/;
• members of Lithuanian Society of Pulmonologists, http://www.chest.lt/.

**Assist. Prof. Ž. Jagelavičius**

• member of Lithuanian Society of Thoracic and Cardiac Surgeons, www.lkscd.lt;
• member of European Society of Thoracic Surgeons (ESTS), www.estss.org;
• member of European Respiratory Society (ERS), www.ersnet.org.

**Lect. K. Kėvelaitienė**

• member of European Respiratory Society (ERS);
• member of Lithuanian Society of Pulmonologists.

**Lect. R. Gauronskaitė**

• member of European Respiratory Society (ERS), http://www.ersnet.org/;
• member of Lithuanian Society of Pulmonologists, http://www.chest.lt/;
• member of World Sleep Society, http://worldsleepsociety.org/.

**Lect. K. Linauskienė**

• member of Lithuanian society of Allergology and Clinical Immunology (LAKID);
• member of the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology (EAACI);
• member of European Society for Immunodeficiencies (ESID);
• ESID junior country representative.

**Doctoral stud. R. Stankevičiūtė**

• member of the European Academy of Allergy and Clinical Immunology;
• member of Lithuanian Society of Allergology and Clinical Immunology.

**MOST IMPORTANT CASES OF PARTICIPATION OF RESEARCHERS IN WORKING GROUPS OR COMMISSIONS SET UP BY STATE AUTHORITIES, STATE AND MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANISATIONS, AND BUSINESS ENTITIES**

**Rūta Dubakienė** – prepared *Lithuanian names of food allergens* for the Bank of Terms of the Lithuanian State Commission.

**Edvardas Danila** – participation in the Lithuanian State Ministry of Health Tuberculosis Task Force.
Laura Malinauskienė – participation in the working group for revising allergology and clinical immunology speciality medical standart.

CONSULTATIONS PROVIDED BY THE UNIT TO THE PUBLIC OR ECONOMIC ENTITIES

Edvardas Danila – regular consultations for Lithuanian State Ministry of Health.
Edvardas Danila – advisory board for several pharmaceutical companies.
Rolandas Zablockis - regular consultations for Lithuanian State Ministry of Health.
Rolandas Zablockis – advisory board for several pharmaceutical companies.
Laura Malinauskienė – advisory board for several pharmaceutical companies.

MOST IMPORTANT RESEARCH DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

Edvardas Danila – seminar for students of Vilnius gymnasiu about lung diseases in Vilnius University.
Anželika Chomičienė conducted a seminar for 3rd Age Polish University in Vilnius about allergic diseases.
Violeta Kvedarienė as chairman of Lithuanian allergy and asthma association (LAAA) – twice a year conducted seminars for allergic patients, she is also Head of „Allergy school“ for asthma and COPD patients.
Organizer of Educational Activities Created by LAAA: World Allergy Day events take place on the 8th of July each year.
V.Kvedarienė participated in radio and TV interviews with journalists and published articles in the allergy-related periodicals.
Kvedarienė Violeta was Chairman of the Organizing Committee of Scientific-Practical Conferences organized by the Lithuanian Allergy and Asthma Association (LAAA) and the Lithuanian Academy of International Scientific-Practical Conference Allergies or Adverse Reactions: Peculiarities of Diagnosis and Treatment, 2019.10.24-25, Vilnius.
Clinic of Neurology and Neurosurgery

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Head – Prof. Dr. Gintaras Kaubrys

Centre of Neurosurgery
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E-mail: saulius.rocka@mf.vu.lt

Head – Prof. Dr. Saulius Ročka

STAFF

Professors: Dr. G. Kaubrys, Dr. R. Mameniškienė, Dr. S. Ročka.

Associate professors: Dr. R. Kizlaitienė, Dr. J. Valaikienė, Dr. K. Ryliškienė, Dr. A. Vilionskis

Assistants Professor: E. Audronytė, Dr. N. Giedraitienė, A. Jasionis, Dr. R. KaladytėLokominienė, Dr. A. Klimašauskienė, R. Masiliūnas, Dr. A. Vaitkevičius, Dr. R. Kvaščevičius, A. Ekkert

Lecturers: Dr. G. Terbetas, Dr. K. Laurikėnas.

Research Assistants: Ž. Chomanskis, A. Preikšaitis.


Students’ scientific groups of:

Neurology: scientific leader – Dr. K. Ryliškienė, coordinator – student M. Jokubaitis; 40 members of the group.

Neurosurgery: scientific leader – Dr. G. Terbetas, coordinator – L. Šalaševičius; 32 members of the group.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Cognitive disorders in neurodegenerative, cerebrovascular, demyelinating diseases and epilepsy
Diagnostic evaluation and treatment of cerebrovascular disorders, headache, dizziness, traumatic brain injuries degenerative spinal diseases and cerebral neoplasms
Historical research: nervous system diseases in the first half of the nineteenth-century Vilnius

RESEARCH PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN 2019

Projects Supported by University Budget

The aim of this study was to reveal the origins of neurology in the first half of the 19th century in Vilnius: to show how the basic medical systems influenced the perception of nervous system diseases and treatment options, to evaluate the perception of aethiology, pathogenesis, symptoms, prophylaxis and treatment methods of nervous system diseases, to discover the origins of neurosurgery, to reveal the principles of the human cognition research.

**Main publication:**


2. **Diagnostic evaluation and treatment of cerebrovascular disorders, headache, dizziness, traumatic brain injuries degenerative spinal diseases and cerebral neoplasms.** Prof. D.Jatužis. 2014–2019

Clinical research focussed on epidemiological findings, clinical characteristics, diagnostics, treatment and prognostic factors of different neurological and neurosurgical disorders (stroke, migraine, dizziness and vertigo, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson’s disease, epilepsy, traumatic brain injury, cerebral neoplasms) has been continued. New methods of endovascular treatment of cerebrovascular disorders, innovative monitoring devices for traumatic brain injury, new modalities in minimally invasive degenerative spinal diseases management were investigated.

**Main publications:**


3. **Cognitive disorders in neurodegenerative, cerebrovascular, demyelinating diseases and epilepsy.** Prof. G.Kaubrys. 2014–2019

Research in the field of Alzheimer's disease has been continued to evaluate the potential of computerized cognitive tests to predict early response to treatment, the search for new markers of very early Alzheimer's disease was continued in the study of cognitive, olfactory and visuoperceptive functions. In the field of multiple sclerosis, the cognitive features of relapse and their dynamics were investigated, neurofilament light chain and optical coherence tomography have been studied as differential markers for various clinical forms of multiple sclerosis. Investigation of cognitive, clinical and ultrasound features in carotid and vertebrobasilar circulation stroke has been started.

**Main publications:**


**National Research Projects**

In 2019, research and data analysis were continued. The goal of the project is to create an immunochemical ELISA-based method, which could allow testing of all potential polypeptides, encoded by the small open reading frames of the genes related to Alzheimer’s disease. These new methods may help to determine the role of synthesized small polypeptides in the fundamental changes of the protein synthesis in ageing and Alzheimer’s disease. The results of the project may provide new knowledge about the AD-related regulation of protein synthesis and new opportunities for the prevention and early diagnosis of Alzheimer’s disease.


In 2019, further analysis of data was performed. Quantitative assessment of dance therapy influence on upper limb biomechanics and gait for patients with Parkinson's disease was continued.


In 2019, data was collected and analysed. Objective quantitative parameters for more accurate evaluation of coordination in patients with multiple sclerosis were searched by instrumented biomechanical analysis of upper extremity movements.

Presentations at the international conferences:


**International Research Projects**

1. **Collaborative European NeuroTrauma Effectiveness research in TBI: a prospective longitudinal observational study (CENTER-TBI)**, funded by 7BP; www.center-tbi.eu. Participants: Prof. S. Ročka, A. Preikšaitis. 2015-2019

The aim of the project is to collect high quality clinical, epidemiological, radiological and genetic database of traumatic brain injured patients. CENTER-TBI aims to advance the care for patients with traumatic brain injury by better characterization trauma as a disease and indentifying the most effective clinical interventions for managing TBI.

Main publication:

2. **Safe Implementation of Treatment of Stroke (SITS) - EAST Project.** Participants: Assoc. Prof. A. Viliūnaitė, Prof. D. Jatužis, R. Masiliūnas. 2009-ongoing

Collaborative project with other stroke centers from Eastern and Central Europe: prospective international database of all acute stroke patients treated with reperfusion treatment.

The aim of project to collect demographic, clinical, radiological, treatment details of all acute ischemic stroke patients, treated with reperfusion treatment as 3 months follow up as well.

**Presentation at the international conference:**


The aim of this survey was to review and compare the current approaches to epilepsy management in central and eastern EU countries. Experts from Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, and Slovenia participated in the project, focused on the epilepsy treatment of adults. We concluded that the lack of unified procedures pertaining to the evaluation and therapy of epilepsy is reflected by marked differences in access to treatment modalities for patients from CEEU countries.


Collaborative project with other stroke centers from Eastern, Noreth and Central Europe: prospective international database of all acute stroke patients. The aim of project to improve stroke care across Europe, including acute stroke atratment and stroke prevention; to establish the quality registry that will provide a cohesive picture of the implementation of stroke treatments; to disseminate of results to the main stakeholders.

**MAIN R&D&E (RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION) PARTNERS**

Kaunas University of Technology (Lithuania)
National Cancer Institute (Lithuania)
Vilnius Gediminas Technical University (Lithuania)

**OTHER SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES**

**Prof. D. Jatužis**

- president of Lithuanian Stroke Association and Lithuanian Neurological Association;
- executive editor of the journal *Neurologijos seminarai (Seminars in Neurology)*;
- fellow member of European Stroke Organization (FESO);
- national representative and member of Subspecialty Scientific Panel *Stroke* of the European Academy of Neurology (EAN);
- National educational co-ordinator and member of the World Federation of Neurology;
leading investigator in TWIST acute stroke trial.

Prof. S. Ročka –
- president of Lithuanian Neurosurgical Society;
- member of Lithuanian Society for Epileptology;
- member of European Association of Neurosurgical Societies;
- member of World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies;
- member of Lithuanian Neuroscience Association.

Prof. G. Kaubrys
- member of the Council of the Lithuanian Neurological Association.
- member of Subspecialty Scientific Panel Dementia and Cognitive Disorders of the European Academy of Neurology (EAN);
- voting member of the Association for the Scientific Study of Consciousness (ASSC);
- editorial board member of the journal Neurologijos seminarai (Seminars in neurology);
- member of the World Federation of Neurology.

Prof. R. Mameniškienė
- president of Lithuanian Society for Epileptology;
- member of Subspecialty Scientific Panels Epilepsy and Neurooncology of the European Academy of Neurology (EAN);
- member of the Council of the Lithuanian Neurological Association;
- cover art editor of the journal Seizure - European Journal of Epilepsy;
- editor-in-chief of the journals Neurologijos seminarai (Seminars in neurology) and Nervų ir psichikos ligos;
- national coordinator in European Register of Antileptic Drugs and Pregnancy (EURAP) and in the international registry of the treatment of refractory status epilepticus;
- member of the Lithuanian Stroke Association;
- member of the World Federation of Neurology.

Assoc. Prof. J. Valaikienė
- editorial board member of the journal Neurologijos seminarai (Seminars in neurology);
- member of the Council of the Lithuanian Society of Clinical Neurophysiology and Neurosonology;
- member of Subspecialty Scientific Panels Neurosonology and Infectious Diseases of the European Academy of Neurology (EAN);
- member of the Lithuanian Neurological Association and Lithuanian Stroke Association;
- member of the World Federation of Neurology.

Assoc. Prof. R. Kizlaitienė
- member of the Council of the Lithuanian Neurological Association;
- member of Subspecialty Scientific Panel Multiple Sclerosis and Demyelinated Diseases of the European Academy of Neurology (EAN);
- member of the Lithuanian Stroke Association;
- head of the Medical Advisory Board of Lithuanian Multiple Sclerosis Association.

Assoc. Prof. K. Ryliškienė
- member of Subspecialty Scientific Panels Headache and Neuro-ophthalmology and Neuro-otology of the European Academy of Neurology (EAN);
- member of European Board of Neurology in European Union of Medical Specialists;
• Head of Neurology Panel of Students’ Research Network of Vilnius University Faculty of Medicine.

Assoc. Prof. A. Vilionskis –
• member of Council of Lithuanian Stroke Association;
• fellow member of European Stroke Organization;
• member of management committee IRENE COST ACTION;
• member of Lithuanian Neurological Association;
• member of World Stroke Organization;
• member of World Federation of Neurology.

Assist. R. Kvaščevičius –
• member of Lithuanian Neurosurgical Society;
• member of Baltic Neurosurgical Association;
• member of European Association of Neurosurgical Societies;
• member of World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies;
• member of Lithuanian Society of Vertebrology.

Lect. K. Laurikėnas – editorial board member of the journal Chirurgija (Surgery);
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Vascular Surgery.

Lect. G. Terbetas – member of Lithuanian Neurosurgical Society;
• member of Lithuanian Society of Vertebrology;
• AOSpine member.

Assist. R. Kaladytė-Lokominienė
• member of the Council of Lithuanian Neurological Association;
• member of Subspecialty Scientific Panel Movement Disorders of the European Academy of Neurology (EAN);
• member of International Parkinson’s Disease and Movement Disorders Society;
• member of Cochrane Collaboration Neurological Network;
• coordinator of Huntington’s Disease Coordination Centre.

Assist. R. Masiliūnas
• executive board member of the Nordic Stroke Society;
• member of Subspecialty Scientific Panel Stroke of the European Academy of Neurology (EAN).

BEST REPORTS DELIVERED AT CONFERENCES ABROAD

D. Valadkevičienė, R. Kizlaitienė, D. Jatužis. Relationship between the working capacity level and the results of the brief ICF core set for multiple sclerosis. XXIV World Congress of Neurology, 27-31 October 2019, Dubai, United Arab Emirates.


**MOST IMPORTANT PARTICIPATION CASES OF RESEARCHERS IN WORKING GROUPS OR COMMISSIONS SET UP BY STATE AUTHORITIES, STATE AND MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANISATIONS, AND BUSINESS ENTITIES**

Participation in working groups and committees set by Lithuanian Health Ministry:
- Stroke Integrated Healthcare Management Committee (prof. Dalius Jatužis; dr. Aleksandras Vilionskis)
- Working Group on Epilepsy treatment (prof. Rūta Mameniškienė)
- Working Group on Multiple sclerosis treatment (assoc. prof. Rasa Kizlaitienė)

**CONSULTATIONS PROVIDED BY THE UNIT TO THE PUBLIC OR ECONOMIC ENTITIES**

Dalius Jatužis:
- expert of projects in Lithuanian Business Support Agency;
- expertise for State Health Care Accreditation Agency under the Ministry of Health;

**MOST IMPORTANT RESEARCH DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES**


Epilepsy, Parkinson’s disease, Multiple Sclerosis, Stroke, Migraine, Alzheimer’s Day Informative Events for the Public.
Clinic of Psychiatry

29a Geležinio vilko, LT-03101 Vilnius
Tel. 239 8754
E-mail: sigita.lesinskiene@mf.vu.lt

Head – Prof. Dr. Sigita Lesinskienė

STAFF

Professors: Dr. S. Lesinskienė, Dr. D. Pūras, Dr. A. Germanavičius (part-time).

Associate professors: Dr. A. Šiurkutė, Dr. A. Navickas, Dr. R. Viliūnienė, Dr. B. Diomšina (part-time).

Assistants Professor: Dr. G. Bulotienė, Dr. A. Deksnytė, Dr. E. Dlugauskas (part-time).


Doctoral students: M. Misevičė, V. Andrejauskienė.

Students’ scientific groups of:

Child and adolescent psychiatry: scientific leader – Prof. S. Lesinskienė, coordinator – student G. Stonkutė; 9 members of the group.

Psychiatry: scientific leader – Assoc. Prof. A. Navickas, coordinator – student A. Valentukevičiūtė; 79 members of the group.

Psychotherapy: scientific leader – Assoc. Prof. R. Viliūnienė, coordinator – student J. Songailaitė; 70 members of the group.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Evaluation of functioning and quality of life of patients with psychiatric disorders


Different approaches on psychosocial rehabilitation and assertive outreach for comprehensive integrated community care for people with mental disorders in the community settings

Evaluation of services for people with mental illness and their families.

RESEARCH PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN 2019

Projects Supported by University Budget


The importance of patient pharmacogenetics in the choice of individualized treatment has been investigated and scientific articles published. The influence of mental illness on cognitive functions and the association of somatic diseases with mental disorders were investigated.
Main publications:


2. Analysis of self harmful and suicidal behavior and of effective current treatments.

Assoc. Prof. A. Navickas. 2019-2023

The project focused on research on: cardiology and suicidal behavior; oncological diseases and suicidal behavior; clarifying the causes of homeless death; schizophrenia clinic analysis; research on addictions and suicidal and violent behavior; for analysis of dermatological diseases and emotional disorders.

Main publications:


https://doi.org/10.5964/ejop.v15i3.1741 (WoS publikacija)

Benošis A., Navickas A., Palaidotų savivaldybių biudžeto lėšomis mirusių asmenų Lietuvoje kai kurie apžvalgos duomenys mirties priežasčių ir socialinių požiūrių= The review of data on the state/municipal funded burials of the deceased in Lithuania from the causes of death and social perspective//Sveikatos mokslai. Vilnius: Sveikatos mokslai. ISSN 1392-6373. eISSN 2335-867X. 2019, t. 29, nr.1, p.72-85

2. Survey of burning out syndrome and mental health of medical specialists. Project leader: Prof. S. Lesinskienė. 2019-2023

Active involvement of lecturers and medical students in the research and actuality of the topic. Preparations of the survey: first year medical students undergoing of the transitions are planned to be investigated. Specialised digital material covering topic of the Transitions is planned to be prepared as supplementary help for students in cooperation with Turku university, Finland.

Main publications:


Šarskutė A., Gužas J., Andrejauskiene V., Lesinskienė S.Paauglių naudojimosi socialiniu tinkle Instagram ir kūno išvaizdos sąsajos=Using of social network Instagram and body image relations

4. **Attachment, emotional and behavioral disorders in children: investigation of the impact of the therapeutical interventions.** Prof. S. Lesinskienė. 2019-2023,

Background and methodology have been elaborated. Research survey has been organised and in the process of implementation together with doctoral research program of lecturer Monika Misevičė

**Main publications:****

**International Research Project**

1. **The Observation of Children in Lithuanian Care Homes in Preparation for their Trip and Stay in Italian Carers' Families, Cultural Mediation and Psychological Support for Children and Carers.** A. Dervinytė-Bongarzoni. 2018-2020.

The project of the visits is delivered by the not-for-profit organization “Nuovo Cielo” (president Sara Bianci), and is carried out in collaboration with Paolo Sesti (University of Calabria, Italy). The project is ongoing.

**MAIN R&D&I (RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION) PARTNERS**

Institute of Psychiatry Kings College, London (UK)
Viena S. Freud Private University (Austria)
Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry of Heidelberg University (Germany)
Vilnius University, Faculty of Philosophy (Lithuania)
Lithuanian Academy of Music and Theatre, Faculty of Music (Lithuania)
Turku University, Finland

**OTHER SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES**

**Prof. S. Lesinskienė**
- board member of NBO: Nornic Baltic Organisation;
- editorial board member of the journal *Pediatrija (Paediatrics)*, www.medpraktika.lt/leidiniai/leidinys/2/Pediatrija.

**Prof. D. Pūras**
- UN Special rapporteur on the right to physical and mental health; https://www.ohchr.org/en/issues/health/pages/srrighthealthindex.aspx;
- Chair of the Coordination committee of the Special procedures of the United nations;
- University of Essex (UK) visiting professor;
- Georgetown University (USA) distinguished visitor;
- editorial board member of the national journal *Visuomenės sveikata* (Public Health), http://www.hi.lt/content/D2_redkolegija.html;
- editorial board member of the national journal *Medicina*;

Prof. A. Germanavičius
- editorial board member of the journals: Nordic Journal of Psychiatry, Medicina (Medicine), Visuomenės sveikata (Public Health), Biologinė psichiatrija ir psichofarmakologija ( Biological Psychiatry and Psychopharmacology);
- scientific board member of the Neuroscience Institute at Lithuanian University of Health sciences (Kaunas);
- Executive Board member of ENMESH (European Network for Mental Health Service Evaluation: www.enmesh.eu);
- Member of European network on Training, Evaluation and Research (ENTER: www.entermentalhealth.net);
- Representative for Lithuanian Association of Psychiatrist for Nordic Board of World Psychiatric association (WPA).

Assoc. Prof. A. Navickas
- WPA Honorary Membership for excellence in service to the World Psychiatric Association
- President of the Lithuanian Association of Suicidology
- Past president of the Lithuanian Psychiatric Association
- Member of International Association of Suicide Prevention
- Editorial board member of the journal Biologinė psichiatrija ir psichofarmakologija ( Biological Psychiatry and Psychopharmacology), http://www.pri.kmu.lt/biological-psychiatry.htm;
- Editorial board member of the journal Sveikatos mokslai (Health Science), http: https://sm-hs.eu/lt/

Assoc. Prof. A. Šiurkutė
- member of Lithuanian Psychiatric Association.

Assoc. Prof. R. Viliūnienė
- president of Lithuanian Society of Psychoanalysis (LPaD), http://psichoterapija.org;
- member of Lithuanian Psychiatric Association (LPA).

Assist. Dr. G. Bulotienė
- Member of Lithuanian Psychiatric Association (LPA)
- Member of the International Psycho-Oncology Society (IPOS) Federation Task Force
- Board member of Lithuanian Society of Oncologists (LOD)
- Individual member of the International Association for Analytical Psychology (IAAP)
- Member of Lithuanian Society of Psychoanalysis (LPaD)

Assist. Dr. E. Dlugauskas
- member of the Lithuanian Psychiatric Association (LPA)
- member of Lithuanian Society of Psychoanalysis (LPaD)

Lectr. Dr. A. Dervinyte-Bongarzoni
- member of Lithuanian Psychiatry Association;
- member of Children and Adolescents Psychiatry Association.

BEST REPORTS DELIVERED AT CONFERENCES ABROAD
Giedrė Bulotienė Other within us: Analysis of patient with life threatening disease. A clinical case presentation 21st International IAAP Congress, “Encountering the Other: Within Us, Between Us, and in the World” Vienna, Austria, 25-30 August, 2019

Austėja Staniunaitytė, Giedrė Bulotienė, Vilmantė Aleksienė Possibilities of Music Therapist’s Action in Providing Palliative Care “11th European Music Therapy Conference Aalborg, Denmark, 26-30 June, 2019

Dlugauskas, Edgaras; Strumila, Robertas; Lengvenytė, Aistė; Ambrozaitytė, Laima; Dagytė, Evelina; Molytė, Alma; Navickas, Alvudas; Utkus, Algirdas. Analysis of Lithuanian CYP2D6 polymorphism and its relevance to psychiatric care of the local population // Nordic journal of psychiatry. Abingdon : Taylor & Francis Ltd. ISSN 0803-9488. eISSN 1502-4725. 2019, vol. 73, iss. 1, p. 31-35. DOI: 10.1080/08039488.2018.1548648. [DB: PsycInfo, MEDLINE, Scopus, Social Sciences Citation Index (Web of Science), Science Citation Index Expanded (Web of Science)] [M. kr.: M 001]

MOST IMPORTANT PARTICIPATION CASES OF RESEARCHERS IN WORKING GROUPS OR COMMISSIONS SET UP BY STATE AUTHORITIES, STATE AND MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANISATIONS, AND BUSINESS ENTITIES

S. Lesinskienė – Participation in the working groups elaborating National suicide prevention strategy and Improvement of child and adolescent mental health set by Ministry of Health in Lithuania.

CONSULTATIONS PROVIDED BY THE UNIT TO THE PUBLIC OR ECONOMIC ENTITIES

Clinic staff often participates in debates or opinion formation regarding mental health and psychiatry initiated by broad variety public media sorces

MOST IMPORTANT RESEARCH DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES


Clinic of Rheumatology, Orthopedic Trauma and Reconstructive Surgery

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Head - Prof. Dr. Irena Butrimienė

STAFF
Professors: Prof. Dr. I. Butrimienė, Prof. Habil. Dr. N. Porvaneckas, Prof. Habil. Dr. K. Vitkus, Prof. V. Uvarovas.
Associate Professors: Dr. I. Šatkauskas, Dr. R. Rugienė, Dr. S. Stropuviienė, Dr. L. Zabulienė. Dr. S. Ryliskis
Assistant Professors: Dr. D. Miltinienė, Dr. I. Arštikytė, Dr. G. Kvederas
Lecturer: Dr. N. Jakutis.
Research fellows: Dr. R. Rugienė, Dr. D. Miltinienė, G. Stundžaitė–Baršauskienė, I. Sakalauskaitė. G. Šeškutė


Students’ scientific groups of:
Rheumathology: scientific leader – Dr. D. Povilėnaitė, coordinator – student J. Mironova, 6 members of the group.
Orthopaedics and traumatology: scientific leader – Dr. S. Prof. N. Porvaneckas, coordinator – student R. Bradūnaitė; 57 members of the group.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Peculiarities of applying biological therapy to rheumatic patients in Lithuania
Immunogenicity in rheumatic patients with anti-TNF treatment
Outcomes of early undifferentiated arthritis
Associations between genetic, epigenetic factors, rheumatoid arthritis ethiopathogenesis and clinical course
Outcomes of systemic sclerosis

RESEARCH PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN 2019

Projects Supported by University Budget

1. Associations Between Genetic, Epigenetic Factors and Rheumatoid Arthritis Ethiopathogenesis and Clinical Course. Prof. I. Butrimienė, PhD Student E. Puncevičienė. 2015-2020

Aim of study is to investigate the association between genetic, epigenetic factors in pathogenesis of rheumatoid arthritis, disease activity and clinical course. Special attention will be kept on vitamin D concentration and oral health as external risk factors in higher susceptibility for rheumatic diseases and influence in ethiopathogenesis by causing changes in gene function. Accordingly, research of laboratory data of epigenetics (DNA methylation, ect.) and genetics (vitamin D receptor gene polymorphism) that potentially mediates genetic risk for rheumatoid arthritis will be done. This study is approved by Lithuanian Bioethics Committee.
2. The Long Term Prognosis of Rheumatoid Arthritis Patients after Knee Arthroplasty in Lithuania. Prof. A. Venalis, PhD student E. Tertelienė. 2015-2020

Aim of study is to identify factors that influence the patients functional outcome and quality of life after total knee arthroplasty in Lithuania. The main tasks were to evaluate the results of total knee replacement in rheumatic patients 2 years after surgery; to identify factors that influence implant survival, complications rate and risk factors for revision surgery. This study is approved by Lithuanian Bioethics Committee.

3. Lyme's Disease clinical syndrome's Epidemiological and Clinical Interface with a Transmitter of the Disease and Biological Characteristics of the Pathogen. Prof. A. Venalis, PhD student A. Petrušionienė. 2016-2020

The main aim of this study is to elucidate Lyme’s disease clinical syndromes and their frequency in Lithuania, to find out the correlations between clinical disease appearance and biological characteristics of the pathogen in infected ticks. This study is approved by Vilnius Regional Bioethics Committee, and by State Data Protections Inspectorate.

4. EMerging EULAR NETwork (EMEUNET). Coordinator – PhD student Goda Šeškutė, since 2013 by 2021

Goda Šeškutė is a working group member and country liaison of EMEUNET (a working group of young clinicians and researchers in rheumatology). The objectives of the organization are to promote education, perform research, widen collaborations and integrate with EULAR activities. Goda Šeškutė as country liaison is responsible for disseminating and promoting information amongst young clinicians and scientists within the country. G. Šeškutė collected data from Lithuania rheumatology trainees.

5. Access to Social Security Benefits in Case of Work Disability Due to RA. Coordinator: Polina Putrik. Prof. I. Butrimienė. The Research team at Maastricht University initiated the project since 2016-2020

The aim of this study is to compare the differences in access to social security benefits in case of sick leave and work disability and to compare the level on income substitution and lower economic status for patients with rheumatoid arthritis in different countries across Europe. 43 countries take part in the project.


The protocol was approved by the Regional Ethical Committee. A prospective study of functional outcomes after pelvic ring and acetabulum fracture treatment is ongoing.

National Research Projects


The aim of this study was to determine corelation of immunologic, genetic, and epigenetic factors (expression of Toll-like receptors, vitamin D response metabolism genes DNA sequence methylation changes, vitamin D receptors genes polymorphisms) on ethiopathogenesis of autoimmune arthritis. 220 patients with autoimmune arthritis and approximately 180 healthy controls were analysed, and epigenetic vitamin D metabolism genes analysis was carried out for 100 subjects (50 patients/50 control group). Later we will examine synovial tissues and vitamin D levels in blood sera in 30 patients.
International Research Projects


Minimal essential data set (MEDS) Online is an international registry established by the European League against Rheumatism scleroderma trial and research (EUSTAR), which collects data from over 8000 patients from 92 centres worldwide, including 21 European centres and 9 centres outside Europe. Center contribution: clinical patient data input online, updated on an annual basis.


The aim of this study is to evaluate if any single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) alone or in combination can help to predict the outcomes comes of early undifferentiated arthritis. Moreover, we want to see if any of SNP we analyse are related with early joints damage (erosions) that can be detected on ultrasound. All this could help to determine which early undifferentiated arthritis patients should be treated more aggressively to prevent debilitating outcomes of arthritis.


The aim of this study is to analyse certain gene expression dynamics in pathogenesis of chronic inflammatory arthritis. Patients who developed chronic inflammatory arthritis will be compared with patients whose arthritis resolved.

MAIN R&D&I (RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION) PARTNERS

Department of Clinical Science and Education, Karolinska Institutet Södersjukhuset Section of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care, Stockholm (Sweden)
Department of Quantum Electronics of the Faculty of Physics of Vilnius University (Lithuania)
State Research Institute Centre for Innovative Medicine (Lithuania)
The EULAR Scleroderma Trials and Research group (Italy)
The European League against Rheumatism (Switzerland)
Children’s Hospital Okland Research Institute, San Francisco (USA)

OTHER SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

Prof. I. Butrimienè
- board member of Opinion Leaders for Biological Therapy, Europe;
- member of executive committee for clinical trials in European League against Rheumatism;
- president of Lithuanian Arthritis Foundation;
- member of the Lithuanian Rheumatology Association;
- editorial board member of the journals Reumatologijos seminarai (Seminars in Rheumatology) and Skausmo medicina (Pain Medicine);
- co-president of the organizing committee of annual conference Vilnius Rheumatology Seminars.

Prof. N. Porvaneckas
- editorial board member of the journal Medicina;
• editorial board member of the journal *Medicinos teorija ir praktika (Theory and Practice in Medicine)*;
• board member of the Lithuanian Orthopaedic and Trauma Society;
• member of EFFORT, European Hip Society and AO.

Assoc. Prof. S. Stropuvienė –
• board member of the Lithuanian Rheumatology Association.
• acting secretary of the Lithuanian Rheumatology Association.
• organizing committee member of the annual conference *Vilnius Rheumatology Seminars*;
  editorial board member of the journal *Reumatologijos seminarai (Seminars in Rheumatology)*.

Assoc. Prof. R. Rugienė –
• editorial board member of the journals *Reumatologijos seminarai (Seminars in Rheumatology)*;
• organizing committee member of the annual conference *Vilnius Rheumatology Seminars*;
• member of the Lithuanian Rheumatology Association.

Assoc. Prof. M. Kocius –
• editorial board member of the journal *Medicinos teorija ir praktika (Theory and Practice in Medicine)*;
• member of EFFORT.

Assistant professor I. Arštikytė –
• member of Emerging Eular Network (EMEUNET) - The European League Against Rheumatism (EULAR) working group of young clinicians and researchers in rheumatology;
• organizing committee member of the annual conference *Vilnius Rheumatology Seminars*;
• member of the Lithuanian Rheumatology Association.

MOST IMPORTANT RESEARCH DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

Participation in patient’s organisation “Lietuvos Artrito Asociacija” (Lithuanian Arthritis Association), “LUPUS”, and “Judesys” activities.

Articles presented to journals “Internistas”, “Medicinos teorija ir praktika”, patients’ journal “Artritas”, participation in TV and radio programs.
Clinic of Cardiovascular Diseases

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Head

Prof. Habil. Dr., Full Member of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences Aleksandras Laucevičius

STAFF

Professors: Dr. (HP) A.Aidietis, Dr. S. Aidietienė, Dr. J.Čelutkienė, Dr. G.Davidavičius, Dr. A.Kibarskis, Dr. (HP) G. Marinskis, Dr. (HP) Ž.Petrušionienė, Dr. (HP) K.Ručinskas, Dr. P.Šerpytis, Dr. V.Tarutis, Dr. D. Zakarkaitė (part-time).

Associate professors: Dr. J.Barysienė, Dr. J.Badarienė, Dr. S.Glaveckaitė, Dr. G.Kalinauskas, Dr. R.Karalius, Dr. B.Petrauskienė, Dr. A.Rudys.

Lecturers: Dr. J.Misiūra, Dr. R.Vaitkevičius (part-time), R. Sipavičius (part-time), D.Sudavičienė (part-time), G.Vaitėnas (part-time), Dr. G.L.Vilkevičius, Dr. R.Kūgienė (part-time), Dr. B.Vaišnytė.

Assistants Professor: Dr. R.Steponėnienė, Dr., Dr. N.Misonis Dr. V.Janušauskas,

Research fellows: J. Balsytė-Zupkauskienė (part-time), Dr. A. Baranauskas (part-time), Dr. A. Berūkštis (part-time), Dr. L.Bezuška, M.Budra (part–time), Dr. G.Burneikaitė (part-time), Dr. I. Butkuvienė, Dr. A. Čypienė, Dr. R. Čypienė, Dr. V.Grabauskienė, E. Gažauskaitė (part–time), Dr. G. Gumbienė, Dr. V. Janušauskas, Dr. L.Jurčauskienė, dr.A. Laučytė-Cibulskienė (part-time), Dr. V. Lebetkevičius, Dr. D. Liekienė, Dr. A. Lipniavicius (part-time), E. Lycholip (part-time), Dr. R. Malickaitė, Dr. V.V.Maneikienė (part-time), Dr. R. Navickas (part-time), E. Palevičiūtė (part-time), R. Puronaitė (part-time), A. Podkopajev (part-time) Dr. G. Račkauskas (part-time), Dr. E. Šerpytis, Dr. V. Šileikienė, Dr. Balsytė-Zupkauskienė, E. Palevičiūtė, A. Podkopajev, G. Radauskaitė (part-time).


Scientific groups of students:


RESEARCH INTERESTS

Investigation of arterial wall functional and structural disorders in atherosclerosis and metabolic syndrome.


Fundamental and clinical research in cardiac arrhythmias. Improvement of methods of complex treatment of atrial and ventricular tachyarrhythmia.

Complex multi imaging assessment of left and right ventricular function in coronary artery disease, hypertension and heart failure.
Myocardial regeneration therapy by cardiac pulse wave therapy in coronary heart disease.
Congenital heart disease cardiac surgery in infants.
New possibilities of hybrid (interventional and surgical) and minimally invasive technologies in cardiovascular medicine.

RESEARCH PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN 2019

Projects Supported by University Budget


During the 2019, screening and investigation of patients with familial hypercholesterolemia (FH) was continued. A national screening programme for FH patients in Lithuania was established. A paper evaluating high-density lipoprotein cholesterol (HDL-C) efflux capacity in Lithuanian population has been published. One more publication evaluating whether coronary artery calcium scoring can be applied in the algorithm for clinical examination of patients with severe hypercholesterolemia has been published too. Moreover, usefulness of Achilles tendon ultrasonography in identifying people at greater cardiovascular diseases risk among subjects with severe hypercholesterolemia in a high-risk population has been investigated.

Also during the 2019, investigation of patients with resistant hypertension who can't achieve normal blood pressure values after medical treatment correction for renal artery denervation has been continued and follow-up after procedure and investigated predictive biomarkers for the long-term effect and quality of the procedure was performed.

Main publications:


From December 2011 to November 2019, 111 patients underwent mitral valve repair with the DS1000 system (NeoChord, Inc., Eden Prairie, MN) to treat severe degenerative mitral regurgitation at Vilnius University Hospital Santaros Klinikos. During this minimally invasive transapical procedure, artificial chordae (neochords) are implanted into a prolapsing MV leaflet segment on a beating heart conditions through left anterolateral minithoracotomy.

In 2019, there were 13 patients who underwent this procedure. On the basis of the collected data dr.A.Lipnevicius defended doctoral dissertation and one dissertation is being prepared.
Total 50 patients were treated for mitral valve paravalvular leak with this novel catheter based procedure. On the basis of the collected data doctoral dissertation (dr.A.Zorinas) was defended.

**Main publications:**


A review of the heart transplantation in children in Lithuania has been presented in a „30 years for Heart Transplantation in Lithuania” congress of the Lithuanian Society of Thoracic and Heart surgery. Presentation „39 years of experience of treating transposition of the great arteries in a single low-volume center“ was made at the 7th World Congress of Pediatric Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery in Barcelona. An article “30-year experience of Fontan surgery: single-centre’s data” has been published in Journal of Cardiothoracic Surgery. Our experience in a surgical treatment of pulmonary artery valve endocarditis has been summarized and article prepared.

Poster „Treatment difficulties in young adults with residual arterial hypertension after early aortic coarctation repair“ was presented in EUROGUCH 2019 meeting.

**Main publications:**


4. **Optimization of diagnosis and the creation of treatment strategy for type 2 myocardial infarction.** Prof. P. Šerpytis. 2018-2019

The aim of this study is to improve the diagnosis of type 2 MI, to evaluate the benefits of new laboratory and instrumental investigations and to evaluate different patient treatment strategies. The patients with type 2 MI are being screened and randomized into the study.

**Main publications:**


**National Research Projects**

The ongoing scientific project is a prospective, open, case-driven, multicentre study (Lithuania, Denmark). The main goal of the project is to improve qualification of researchers by mastering new imaging technologies for assessing myocardial structural changes. The objective of the project is to identify reliable parameters and biomarkers of non-invasive imaging modalities to assess structural myocardial changes and to evaluate the prognostic significance of myocardial structural changes in patients with severe degenerative AS.

Main publications:


2. The development and application of a toolset for monitoring the effectiveness of personalized physical activity. Prof. A. Laucevičius. 2017-2019

The leading cause of morbidity and mortality is cardiovascular disease, for which the major risk factor is a lack of physical activity. Therefore, the search for methods to increase motivation for long-term physical activity is one of the most important tasks, especially in patients, who already are at high cardiometabolic risk. The main objectives were to identify arterial markers that best reflect cardiovascular risk and its dynamics during personalized exercise interventions in high cardiometabolic risk subjects, to develop an arterial marker-based tool to assess cardiometabolic risk and physical activity levels, and to create a personalized model for monitoring physical activity. Using the data collected, the tools needed to create that personalized model were invented, which improved the motivation for physical activity in high cardiometabolic risk patients by almost 20%.

Main publications:


International Research Project


Emerging e-health technologies for atrial fibrillation detection suggest in-hospital recognition of atrial fibrillation (AF) to be just the tip of the iceberg. A wearable dedicated to provide both long-term heart rhythm monitoring and a 6-lead ECG was created. Authors measured its ability to differentiate between AF and sinus rhythm (SR). The wrist-worn device works as an integrated
diagnostic system of two components: a photoplethysmography-based (PPG) AF detection algorithm and a wireless modified ECG of 6 limb leads. In a single-center prospective study subjects with AF and control groups of SR with/without frequent premature atrial/ventricular complexes (PACs/PVCs) were recruited. In addition, a validated external ECG device recorded a nearly simultaneous 3-lead continuous ECG to monitor the heart rhythm. Once the PPG algorithm detected AF it triggered a vibration alarm. Two independent diagnosis-blinded cardiologists assessed the ECG tracings as “AF”, “SR” or “Cannot be concluded”.


Prospective, randomized, international, multicenter, open-label study to compare immediate-multivessel revascularization by PCI to culprit lesion only PCI with staged non-culprit lesion revascularization in patients with cardiacogenic shock complicating acute myocardial infarction presenting with multivessel disease. During this trial it has been examined if culprit vessel only PCI with potentially subsequent staged revascularization in comparison to immediate multivessel revascularization by PCI in patients with cardiacogenic shock complicating acute myocardial infarction reduces the incidence of 30-day mortality and/or severe renal failure requiring renal replacement therapy.

Main publications:
(In press) Maria Rubini Gimenez; Elliot Miller; Carlos Alviar; Sean van Diepen; Christopher Granger; Giles Montalescot; Stephan Windecker; Lars Maier; Pranas Šerpytis; Rokas Šerpytis; Keith G. Oldroyd; Marco Noc; Georg Furnau; Kurt Huber; Marcus Sandri; Suzanne de Waehle-Thiele; Taoufik Ouarrak; Steffen Schneider; Uwe Zeymer; Steffen Desch; Holger Thiele. Outcomes Associated with Respiratory Failure for Patients with Cardiogenic Shock and Acute Myocardial Infarction: A Substudy of the CULPRIT-SHOCK Trial. Critical care journal. CRIC-D-19-01755, 2019/2020.

MAIN R&D&I (RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION) PARTNERS
Ghent University Hospital, Ghent, Belgium
Cardiovascular Research Institute Maastricht (CARIM), Maastricht University Medical Centre, Maastricht, the Netherlands
Southampton University Hospital, Wessex Cardiothoracic Centre, England
The Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery, University of Pittsburgh Physicians, Pittsburgh

OTHER SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES
Prof. habil. dr. A. Laucevičius
• member of American College of Cardiology (FACC)
• fellow of the European Society of Cardiology (FESC)
• member and fellow of North American Society of Pacing and Electrophysiology (NASPE)
• member of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences (full member)
• member of the Council of the Faculty of Medicine of Vilnius University
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Cardiology
• editorial board member of the journal Medicina (Lithuania)
• managing editor of the journal Seminars in Cardiovascular Medicine
• editorial board member of the journal Internistas (Internist)
• editorial board member of the journal Mediterranean Journal of Pacing and Electrophysiology (MESPE)
• editorial board member of the journal Journal of Human Hypertension
• international editorial board member of the journal Europace (ESC)
• editorial board member of the journal Blood pressure
• editorial board member of the journal Cardiology Management, editorial board member of the journal Cardiology Journal (Folia Cardiologica)
• chair of the Doctoral Committee of the Faculty of Medicine

Prof. dr (HP) A. Aidietis
• board member of Lithuanian Heart Association;
• chairman of Heart Rhythm workgroup at Lithuanian Society of Cardiology
• member of Lithuanian Society of Thoracic and Cardiac Surgeons
• member of Scandinavian Association for Thoracic Surgery
• editorial board member of the journal Seminars in Cardiovascular Medicine

Prof. dr. J. Čelutkienė
• member of Lithuanian Society of Cardiology
• Elect President of Lithuanian Society of Cardiology
• member of Lithuanian Heart Association
• member of European Society of Cardiology
• member of Heart Failure Association of the ESC
• member of European Association of Echocardiography
• Head of Heart Failure working group of Lithuanian Society of Cardiology
• Fellow of the European Society of Cardiology
• Board member of the Heart Failure Association of the ESC
• member of American College of Cardiology (FACC)

Prof. dr. G. Davidavičius
• member of Lithuanian association for interventional cardiology
• European Society of Cardiology TransCatheter Valve treatment (TCVT) Registry Steering Committee member

Prof. dr. V. Grabauskienė –
• National coordinator of Euro Heart Survey Programme (ESC)
• fellow of the European Society of Cardiology (FESC)
• member of the European Association of Echocardiography (EAE) of the ESC
• member of the Heart Failure Association (HFA) of the ESC
• member of the American Society of Echocardiography
• UEMS (European Union of Medical Specialist) Diploma of European Cardiologist Nr.52546
• member of the European Association for Predictive, Preventive and Personalized Medicine (EPMA)
• member of Lithuanian Society of Thoracic and Cardiac Surgeons

Prof. dr. A. Kibarskis –
• vice-president of Baltic Association of Interventional Cardiology
• editorial board member of the journal Gydymo menas (Art of Treatment)
• editorial board member of the journal Medicinos teorija ir prakika (Theory and Practice in Medicine)

Prof. dr. (HP) G. Marinskis –
• editor-in-Chief of the journal Seminars in Cardiovascular Medicine
• member of the Credentials committee
• European Society of Cardiology - Member of Fellowship Committee
• European Heart Rhythm Association - Member of Nomination Committee
• board member of Lithuanian Heart Association
• Chairman of Heart Rhythm workgroup at Lithuanian Society of Cardiology

Prof. dr. (HP) Ž. Petrulionienė
• editorial board member of the journal Seminars in Cardiovascular Medicine
• editor of chapter Cardiologic Seminars of the journal Internistas (Internist)
• member of the European Society of Cardiology
• Chairman of Prevention and Rehabilitation workgroup at Lithuanian Society of Cardiology

Prof. dr. (HP) K. Ručinskas
• member of European Association for Cardio-Thoracic Surgery
• member of Scandinavian Association for Thoracic Surgery
• board member of Lithuanian Society of Thoracic and Cardiac Surgeons
• editorial board member of the journal Lietuvos chirurgija (Lithuanian Surgery)

Prof. dr. P. Šerpytis
• fellow of the European Society of Cardiology
• chairman of Intensive Cardiac Care workgroup at Lithuanian Society of Cardiology
• member of Lithuanian Heart Association
• member of Lithuanian Society of Cardiology
• expert of Lithuanian Research Council
• editorial board member of the journal “Sveikatos mokslai”
• scientific board member of the journal “Emergency Medicine Service”
• editorial board member of the journal “International Heart and Vascular Disease Journal”

Prof. dr. V. Tarutis
• member of Scandinavian Association for Thoracic Surgery
• board member of Lithuanian Society of Thoracic and Cardiac Surgeons
• editorial board member of the journal Lietuvos chirurgija (Lithuanian Surgery)

Prof. dr. A. Aidietienė
• member of the European Society of Cardiology
• board member of Lithuanian Heart Association
• member of Lithuanian Society of Cardiology

Assoc. Prof. dr. S. Glaveckaitė
• Member of European Society of Cardiology for Valvular Heart Diseases and Cardiovascular Magnetic Resonance working groups
- Chairman of imaging workgroup at Lithuanian Society of Cardiology
- members of Lithuanian Heart Association

**Assoc. Prof. dr. G. Kalinauskas**
- member of European Association for Cardio-Thoracic Surgery
- member of Scandinavian Association for Thoracic Surgery
- President of Lithuanian Society of Thoracic and Cardiac Surgeons
- Chairman of Cardiac Surgery workgroup at Lithuanian Society of Cardiology

**Assoc. Prof. dr. R. Karalius**
- member of the European Society for Cardiovascular Surgery
- member of Scandinavian Association for Thoracic Surgery
- member of Lithuanian Society of Thoracic and Cardiac Surgeons
- member of the Society of Lithuanian Surgeons
- member of the Society of Cardiology of Lithuania.

**Researcher dr. L. Jurgauskienė**
- member of European Respiratory Society
- member of European Federation for Immunogenetics
- member of Baltic Sea Society for Immunology
- member of Lithuanian Society for Immunology
- member of Lithuanian Society of Laboratory Medicine
- member of Lithuanian Respiratory Society
- member of Lithuanian Rheumatology Association

**Investigator dr. D. Liekienė**
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Paediatric Cardiology

**Senior Researcher dr. R. Malickaitė**
- member of European Federation for Immunogenetics
- member of International Society for Heart and Lung Transplantation
- board member of Lithuanian Society for Immunology
- board member of Lithuanian Society for Alergology and Clinical Immunology
- members of Lithuanian Society of Thoracic and Cardiac Surgeons
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Laboratory Medicine
- member of Lithuanian Association of Transplantology

**Lect. dr. J. Misiūra**
- member of Lithuanian Society of Thoracic and Cardiac Surgeons
- member of the ESC Working Group of Heart Failure

**Lect. dr. B. Vaišnytė**
- members of Lithuanian Society of Vascular Surgery
- members of Society of Vilnius surgeons
- members of Lithuanian Society of Surgeons

**Researcher dr. A. Valaika**
- board member of Lithuanian Society of Thoracic and Cardiac Surgeons

**Lect. dr. G. Vilkevičius**
- editorial board member of the journal “Flebologija”
• member of European Federation of Societies for Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology;
• member of Lithuanian society for vascular surgery
• vice-president of Lithuanian society for phlebology
• member of Lithuanian Association of Ultrasound Diagnostics.

**Research Assist. dr. G. Račkauskas**
• member of American College of Cardiology (FACC)
• fellow of the European Society of Cardiology (FESC)
• members of Lithuanian Heart Association
• members of Lithuanian Society of Cardiology

Prof. Dr. (HP) A. Aidietis, Prof. Dr. V. Grabauskienė, Prof. Dr. A. Kibarskis, Prof. Dr (HP) G. Marinskis, Prof. Dr. G. Davidavičius, Assoc. Prof. Dr. B. Petrauskienė, Assoc. Prof. Dr. A. Rudys, Assoc.Prof. dr. J.Badarienė, Ass. Prof. Dr. J.Barysienė, Researcher dr. G.Burneikaitė, Researcher dr. I.Butkuvienė, Senior Researcher dr. A. Čypienė, Researcher dr. R. Čypienė, Lect. dr. R.Kūgienė, Investigator dr. D. Liekiškaitė, Researcher dr. V.Maneikienė, Lect. dr. J. Misiūra, Senior Researcher dr. L. Ryliskytė, Senior Researcher dr. E.Rinkūnienė, Researcher dr. P. Semėnienė, Assist. Prof. dr. R. Steponėnienė, Researcher dr. R. Navickas
• members of European Society of Cardiology
• members of Lithuanian Heart Association
• members of Lithuanian Society of Cardiology

• members of Lithuanian Society of Thoracic and Cardiac Surgeons

**THE LIST OF THE MOST IMPORTANT CASES OF PARTICIPATION OF RESEARCHERS IN WORKING GROUPS OR COMMISSIONS SET UP BY STATE AUTHORITIES, STATE AND MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANISATIONS, AND BUSINESS ENTITIES**

Dr. Prof. J. Ėlukienė
• The Heart Failure Association of the ESC (HFA of the ESC)] Board member
• ESC Congress Program Committee member
• ESC Membership Committee member

Dr. Prof. P. Šerpytis
• Working groups of the Lithuanian Ministry of Health:
  • Lithuanian Health Ministry working group of law number V-208 (dated April 8th, 2004) “For ratification of the emergency medicine care and emergency medicine service provision order and extent”;
  • Working group of Emergency medicine service for traumas and other external conditioned injuries (Trauma cluster).
  • Working group of “Formation health supervision administrative comity for integrated pathologies in health supervision control council for cardiology, oncology, stroke and perinathology” (Cardiology cluster).
  • Working group for use of ECMO system in emergency medicine service.
  • The member of the Municipality of Vilnius. The member of the Health Council, since the year- 2019 .
- The member of the Research Council of Lithuania, since the year 2015.

MOST IMPORTANT RESEARCH DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

Heart Failure Awareness Days – 10-12, May 2019

Go Red for Woman (awareness campaign) – 08 June 2019, Vilnius

The World Heart Day (World Heart Federation) – September 29, 2019; Vilnius, Kaunas, Šiauliai, Panevezys, Klaipeda.
Clinic of Children’s Diseases

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Head – Prof. Dr. Augustina Jankauskienė

STAFF

Professors: Dr. R. Ėmužytė, Dr. A. Jankauskienė, Dr. O. Rudzevičienė, Dr. V. Urbonas, habil. Dr. V. Usonis, habil. Dr. A. Valiulis.

Associate Professors: Dr. S. Burokienė, Dr. N. Drazdienė, Dr. J. Grikienė, Dr. A. Liubšys, Dr. G. Kleinotienė, Dr. V. Panavienė, Dr. S. Petraitienė, Dr. J. Rascon, Dr. V. Žilinskaitė

Assistants Professor: Dr. S. Dumčius, Dr. I. Ivaškevičienė, Dr. O. Kinčinienė, Dr. I. Pilypienė, Dr. R. Praninskienė, Dr. S. Rusonienė, Dr. R. Samaitienė, Dr. S. Šaulytė Trakymienė, Dr. G. Vaitkevičienė, Dr. R. Vankevičienė.

Teaching assistants: D. Kalibatienė, I. Paulavičienė, S. Sendžikaitė, D. Ruzgienė

Research Assistants: K. Ažukaitis

Lecturers: Dr. R. Kemežys, L. Kilaitė, V. Radžiūnienė, D. Vaičiūnienė


Students’ scientific groups of: Pediatrics: scientific leader – Dr. S. Burokienė, coordinator – student J. Jankauskaitė, 47 members of the group.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Health care of mother and child: physiological and social aspects and research of natural development of the child
Studies of functional development of organs and systems of newborns and children
Studies of neonatal pathology and perinatal mortality in Lithuania
Studies of chronic inflammation in paediatric pulmonology (asthma, cystic fibrosis, COPD) and elaboration of markers of early diagnostics of chronic diseases in children
Development of the methods of diagnostics, treatment and prophylaxis of acute and chronic infectious, immune, allergic, metabolic
Progression and outcomes of pediatric renal disorders
Studies of immunophrophylaxis and vaccination
Diagnostics and treatment of inherited metabolic diseases
Diagnostics, treatment and prophylaxis of children’s abuse and trauma
Gut microbiota and gut brain axis
Studies on childhood cancer etiology and predisposition, identification of new therapeutical targets and criteria for treatment risk group stratification to further improve treatment individualization and reduce the treatment burden and long-term side effects.
Studies on antimicrobial stewardship in paediatrics
Studies for improving the quality of care for children and young adolescents in health facilities
Etiology and long-term outcomes of pediatric inherited and acquired pediatric kidney diseases (cystic kidney diseases, glomerulopathies, chronic kidney disease, vesicoureteral reflux)
Air pollution and child health
Allergic rhinitis and its impact on bronchial asthma in children
mHealth, shared decision making and other modern technologies for the management of chronic noncommunicable disease (CNDs)
Healthy ageing through the early diagnostics and prevention of CNDs

Human Ecology

RESEARCH PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN 2019

Projects Supported by University Budget


A retrospective analysis of the whole study was completed; interim results were presented in the congresses of European Society for Pediatric Nephrology and International Society of Nephrology; publication with main findings was drafted.

2. Central hemodynamics and arterial stiffness in children with CKD. Prof. Augustina Jankauskiene, Karolis Azukaitis (PhD Student). 2017-2020

Data collection within the 4C Study (Heidelberg University) has been completed and primary analysis of longitudinal changes started.


Results of allergy work-up in children when drug allergy is suspected and peculiarities of drug hypersensitivity reactions in children were analyzed. Knowledge, attitudes and practices related to drug hypersensitivity in children among primary care doctors in Lithuania were assessed.


Metabolomic analysis of human milk samples was performed in collaboration with Italian research partners. Preliminary results of the study were presented at international congresses. Two scientific publications with main findings are under preparation.


The study already enrolled 126 both preterm and full-term newborns of any gestational age. Statistic data analysis was made. Three scientific publications with main findings are under preparation. Four presentations at the international and national conferences.


Early phase of the project. Literature review, implementation of the study methodology. Testing the efficacy of rehabilitation procedures has been impeded by ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, will be resumed when quarantine will be lifted. Project is ongoing.


The results presented at an international conference. The manuscript is prepared for publication.

The results presented at an international conference. The manuscript submitted for publication, pending decision.

9. Early Cardiovascular Aging in Children after Aortic Coarctation Repair. Prof. A. Jankauskiene (PI), Skaiste Sendzikaite (PhD Student). Partners: Children Memorial Health Institute (Warsaw, Poland), Riga Children’s Hospital (Latvia). 2017-2021

Data collection was finalized and the analysis of the findings was started. Interim results were presented in international congresses. A publication on arterial hypertension profiles and left ventricular geometry in the population is under preparation.

10. Retrospective analysis of invasive meningococcal infection. dr. V. Zilinskaite, B. Paskevic. 2019-2021

157 patients have been included so far and the interim analysis is being performed.


Inclusion of patients was completed with 655 patients enrolled in total. Data analysis was started.


Patient enrollment, analysis of medical data, questionnaires, and food diaries is ongoing.


Patient enrollment, analysis of medical data, questionnaires, and food diaries is ongoing.

Main publications:


Machine learning and automated algorithms for EEG data extraction and diagnosis classification were studied in benign childhood epilepsy and structural focal epilepsy. Interim findings were presented in International congresses, summarized in article. Ongoing research data of EpExMo cooperation, an open international research initiative for the study of epilepsies with external modulation (EpExMo) of ictogenesis were summarized in 33rd International Epilepsy Congress.

Main publications:
Misiukas Misiunas AV, Meskauskas T, Samaitiene R. Conference Proceedings 2164, 080005 (2019); https://doi.org/10.1063/1.5130828
National Research Projects


   **Main publications:**
   

2. **Effect of the initial antileukemic treatment and supportive care to early complications and early mortality rates for the patients with acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL) and hyperleukocytosis (≥ 100 x 10⁹/L).** G. Vaitkeviciene with student investigators. Partially funded by the Lithuanian Council of Science. 2013-2019.

   The aim of the study was to monitor the hyperleukocytosis caused early deaths or development of tumor lysis syndrome after introduction of antileukemic therapy for the ALL patients with very high WBC (>100 < 10⁹/L). Clinical and laboratory data as well as data on initial management of the patients were collected from the NOPHO ALL register and through a Questionnaire which was sent out to the relevant Nordic pediatric and adult centers where the patients with ALL and WBC ≥100 x 10⁹/L were treated. Results were accepted as an abstract for NOPHO 2020 Conference.

3. **Virus reactivation and virus infections caused complications during the early post-transplant period in children undergoing allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT).** G. Vaitkeviciene with student investigators. Partially funded by the Lithuanian Council of Science. 2013-2019

   The aim of the study was to collect and analyze the incidence, risk factors and outcomes of viral (Epstein Barr, Cytomegalovirus, adenovirus) reactivation and related complications within 100 days after HSCT in children treated at the Center for Pediatric Oncology and Hematology in Vilnius University Hospital Santaros Klinikos. Data were collected from patients treated during the period from 2012 to 2018. Fifty three patients with at least one virus reactivation were identified. Clinical and lab data as well as risk factors for virus reactivation were analyzed. Algorythm for the virus load monitoring, treatment and prophylaxis was developed.

International Research Projects


   **Main publications:**
   


   **Main publications:**

**Main publications:**


**Main publications:**

5. **4C Study Cardiovascular Comorbidity in Children with Chronic Kidney Disease.** Prof. A. Jankauskiene, Prof. R. Cerkauskiene, Karolis Azukaitis. Financial Sources: ERA-EDTA, German Federal Ministry of Education and Research. 2014-ongoing

The study is continuing into long-term patient-reported online follow-up of main clinical, quality of life and cardiovascular measures as an extended 4C-TRACK study with junior researcher K. Azukaitis taking over the coordination of the study extension.

**Main publications:**

During the 2019 Pilot study initiated to test the diagnostics and logistic as well as registration systems of the main Study. The Pilot Project is performed as an observational study. The main study starts in the Q1 of 2020 with the full scope of PK/PD studies and interventions, including three randomisations

**MAIN R&D&I (RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION) PARTNERS**

- University of Heidelberg (Germany)
- University of Cologne (Germany)
- University of Bologna (Italy)
- Bambino Gesu Hospital, Rome (Italy)
- Karolinska Institutet and Karolinska University Hospital (Swedish)
- Universitätsklinikum Hamburg-Eppendorf (UKE) (Hamburg, Germany)
- Instytut "Pomnik - Centrum Zdrowia Dziecka" (Warsaw, Poland)
- PENTA Foundation (Italy)
- Harvard University, USA (Harvard Medical School) and Boston Children's Hospital (Pediatric Leadership, Pediatric Neurology, Neurophysiological Research).
- Riga Children's Hospital and Riga Stradins University (Latvia)
- Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia (USA)
- Poltava University (Ukraine)
- Kyiv Medical University (Ukraine)
- Montpellier University (France)
- Aberdeen University (UK)
- London Imperial College (UK)
- Great Ormond Street Hospital (UK)
- Leuven University (Belgium)
- Columbia University (USA)

**OTHER SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES**

**Prof. A. Jankauskiene**
- member of European Pediatric Nephrology society council
- leader of Vilnius reference center for European rare kidney disease
- Member of ESCAPE Pediatric Nephrology Research Consortium
- president of Lithuanian Society for Paediatric Nephrology;
- member of Lithuanian Nephrology, Dialysis and Transplantation Association;
- member of International Paediatric Nephrology Association;
- member of Dialysis working group of the European Society for Paediatric Nephrology;
- member of International Paediatric Hypertension Association;
- member of Lithuanian Paediatric Society;
- member of regional bioethical committee.
- Project expert, expert for “Medicina”, Dovepress journals
- editorial board member of the journal *Pediatrija*
Prof. Habil. Dr. V. Usonis
- member of Central European Vaccination Advisory Group (CEVAG);
- expert on vaccine-related issues at the European Disease Control Centre (ECDC);
- expert of Lithuania Science Council;
- member of the European Society of Paediatric Infectious Diseases (ESPID);
- board member of the Lithuanian Paediatric Society;
- chairman of Lithuanian Committee for Poliomyelitis Eradication Certification;
- editorial board member of the *Paediatric Infectious Disease Journal*;
- editorial board member of the journal *Vaikų pulmonologija ir alergologija* (*Paediatric Pulmonology and Allergology*) ;
- editorial board member of the journal *Pediatrija* (*Paediatrics*).

Prof. R. Čerkauskienė
- vice-president of Lithuanian Society for Paediatric Nephrology;
- member of Lithuanian Nephrology, Dialysis and Transplantation Association;
- member of International Paediatric Nephrology Association;
- member of Vilnius Paediatric Society;
- member of International Pediatric PD Biobank;

Prof. N. Drazdienė
- editor-in-chief of the journal *Lietuvos akušerija ir ginekologija* (*Lithuanian Obstetrics and Gynaecology*);
- editorial board member of the journal *Pediatrija* (*Paediatrics*);
- board member of Lithuanian Paediatric Society and Vilnius Pediatric Society;
- representative person of Lithuania on the project EUscreen 2020 (www.euscreen.eu),
- vicepresident of Lithuanian section of German-Baltic Physicians Society (Deutsch- Baltische Arztegesellschaft).

Prof. R. Ėmužytė
- editorial board member of the journals: *Vaikų pulmonologija ir alergologija* (*Paediatric Pulmonology and Allergology*); *Alergologija ir klinikinė imunologija* (*Allergology and Clinical Immunology*); *Medinfo*; *Pediatrija* (*Paediatrics*);
- international editorial board member of the journal *Alergia astma immunologija* (*Allergy Asthma Immunology*) (Poland);
- Lithuanian representative in European Training Committee of Paediatric Allergology;
- national representative of European ARIA (Allergic Rhinitis and its Impact on Asthma) Committee;
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Allergology and Clinical Immunology.

Prof. O. Rudzevičienė
- board member of the Lithuanian Paediatric Society;
- Lithuanian representative in European Training Committee of Paediatric Allergology;
- member of the European Academy of Allergology and Clinical Immunology;
- member of Lithuanian Society of Paediatric Allergology;
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Allergology and Clinical Immunology;
- editorial board member of the journal *Vaikų pulmonologija ir alergologija* (*Paediatric Pulmonology and Allergology*);
- editorial board member of the journal *Pediatrija* (*Paediatrics*).
Prof. Habil. Dr. A. Valiulis –

- Executive Committee member and Treasurer of European Academy of Paediatrics (EAP/UEMS-SP);
- Chairman of the Commission of Mother and Child of the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences;
- Chairman of Commission of Experts of National Programme of Immunoprophylaxis of Lithuanian Ministry of Health;
- President of the Lithuanian Paediatric Respiratory Society;
- Vicepresident of the Lithuanian Paediatric Society;
- Chairman of Vilnius International Paediatric Pulmonology and Allergology Conference-School (26 annual postgraduate courses since 1996);
- Editor-in-chief of the journal Vaikų pulmonologija ir alergologija (Paediatric Pulmonology and Allergology);
- National Coordinator and Planning Committee member of WHO project Global Alliance Against Chronic Respiratory Diseases (WHO-GARD Lithuania);
- National Coordinator and Representative of Lithuania in International Guidelines of Allergic Rhinitis and its Impact on Asthma (ARIA Lithuania);
- Site Coordinator in international research projects MACVIA MASK, MASK-air, AIRWAYS ICPs, QoHproLT, e-QoL ASTHMA, Alfa-1-Qual, RareBestPractice.

Prof. V. Urbonas

- president of the Lithuanian Paediatric Society;
- president of the Lithuanian Society for Paediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition;
- board member of Lithuanian Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition;
- member of the European Society for Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (ESPGHAN);
- member of the European Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (ESPEN);
- editorial board member of the journal Gastroenterologija ir hepatologija;
- editorial board member of the journal Pediatrija
- chairman of the 4 Baltic Paediatric Congress

Assoc. Prof. S. Burokienė

- member of Scientific Paediatric Committee (PDCO) at European Medicines Agency.
- member of the Lithuanian Paediatric Society
- vice president of Vilnius Paediatric Society
- member of the European Society of Paediatric Infectious Diseases (ESPID)
- member of the European Academy of Paediatrics (EAP)
- member of the the Harvard Alumni Association.

Assoc. Prof. J. Grikinienė

- member of Lithuanian Association of Neurology;
- member of Lithuanian Paediatric Neurology Society;
- member of Lithuanian Society of Epileptology;
- member of Lithuanian Paediatric Society.

Assoc. Prof. V. Panavienė

- member of Paediatric Rheumatology European Society (PRES);
- national representative in the PRES Training and Education Committee;
- member of Paediatric Rheumatology International Trial Organisation (PRINTO);
- member of the Council of Lithuanian Rheumatology Association;
- editorial board member of the journal Pediatrija (Paediatrics);
• editorial board member of the journal *Reumatologija (Rheumatology)*.

**Assoc. Prof. S. Petraitienė**
• member of Scientific Committee of Vilnius International Course 2017 (VICO-2017) Update on Paediatric Infectious Diseases, https://www.vilniuscourse.com;
• editorial board member of the journal *Paediatric Pulmonology and Allergology*, http://www.pediatrija.org.
• board member of Lithuanian Children Pulmonologist society

**Assoc. Prof. V. Žilinskaitė**
• board member of the Lithuanian Paediatric Intensive Care Society;
• member of the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine;
• editorial board member of the journal *Pediatrija (Paediatrics)*.

**Assoc. Prof. J. Rascon**
• member of the Mission Assembly for Cancer of the Horizon Europe programme 2021-2027
• board member of the European Reference of Paediatric Oncology (ENR-PaedCan)
• board member of the Lithuanian Society of Haematology (LHD)
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Pediatric Oncology and Haematology (LVOHD)
• member of the National Cancer Prevention and Control Programme 2015-2025 of the Lithuanian Ministry of Health;
• member of the Nordic Society of Pediatric Oncology and Hematology (NOPHO);
• member of the European Society for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (EBMT);
• member of the European Society of Pediatric Oncology (SIOPE)
• member of the European Society for Immune Deficiency (ESID)

**Lect. R. Kemežys** –
• editorial board member of the journal *Baltic Endocrinology*;
• member of Lithuanian Paediatric Endocrinology Association;
• member of the International Growth Hormone Research Society (GRS);
• member of the European Society of Endocrinology (ESE);
• member of International Society for Paediatric and Adolescent Diabetes (ISPAD).

**Assist. Prof. S. Dumčius** –
• member of the European Respiratory Society;
• member of the European Cystic Fibrosis Association;
• editorial board member of the journal *Pediatrija (Paediatrics)*.

**Assist. Prof. I. Ivaškevičienė** –
• member of the Lithuanian Paediatric Society;
• member of the European Society of Paediatric Infectious Diseases (ESPID);
• member of the Young ESPID (European Society of Paediatric Infectious Diseases) Society;
• member of Central European Vaccination Advisory Group (CEVAG)
• member of Lithuanian Committee for Poliomyelitis Eradication Certification
• member of Commission of Experts of National Programme of Immunoprophylaxis of Lithuanian Ministry of Health

**Assist. Prof. O. Kinčinienė** –
• president of the Lithuanian Paediatric Cardiology Society;
• deputy editor of the journal *Pediatrija (Paediatrics)*.
• member of the Council of Lithuanian Paediatric Society;
• member of the Council of Vilnius Paediatric Society.

Assist. Prof. I. Pilypienė
• member of Vilnius Paediatric Society
• member of the Lithuanian Neonatology Association
• expert neonatologist in the State Forensic Medicine, Lithuanian Ministry of Justice

Assist. Prof. R. Samaitienė
• member of Baltic Child Neurology Association;
• member of Lithuanian Paediatric Neurology Society;
• board member of Lithuanian Society of Epileptology;

Assist. Prof. R. Vankevičienė
• president of Vilnius Paediatric Society;
• member of the Council of Lithuanian Paediatric Society;
• member of Lithuanian Paediatric Cardiology Society;

Assist. Prof. G. Vaitkevičienė
• Board member of the Nordic Society of Pediatric Oncology and Hematology (NOPHO);
• Chair of the NOPHO Pharmacology group
• Member of the European Society for Blood and Marrow Transplantation (EBMT);
• Member of the European Society of Pediatric Oncology (SIOPE).

Assist. Prof. S. Šaulytė Trakymienė
• Chair of the Lithuanian Society of Pediatric Hematology and Oncology (LVOHD)
• Board member of the NOPHO Scientific Committee
• Member of the Lithuanian Society of Hematology (LHD)
• Member of the Nordic Society of Pediatric Oncology and Hematology (NOPHO);
• Member of the European Society of Pediatric Oncology (SIOPE).

Teaching Assit. K. Ažukaitis
• Member of the Lithuanian Pediatric Nephrology Society
• Member of the European Society for Pediatric Nephrology
• Member of the International Pediatric Nephrology Association
• Member of the ESCAPE Pediatric Nephrology Research Consortium

BEST REPORTS DELIVERED AT CONFERENCES ABROAD

Rudzevičienė O. How to investigate a child with a possible allergy to vaccine? Congress of European Academy of Allergology and Clinical Immunology, Lisbon, Portugal. June 1-5, 2019.


Nijolė Drazdienė. Respiratory Syncytial Virus Infection Management in the Baltic States./ Growing up healthy after going home from NICU/ 5th Global Summit for Preemies. Vilnius, Lithuania, December 5-6, 2019

MOST IMPORTANT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL AWARDS RECEIVED FOR R&D ACTIVITIES

K. Ažukaitis. Vilnius University Rector’s Scientific Award 2019

MOST IMPORTANT PARTICIPATION CASES OF RESEARCHERS IN WORKING GROUPS OR COMMISSIONS SET UP BY STATE AUTHORITIES, STATE AND MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANISATIONS, AND BUSINESS ENTITIES

V. Urbonas. Participation in Lithuanian Health Ministry working groups:
- On pediatrician practice regulations
- Liver transplantation services
- Viral hepatitis prevention and control
- National immunoprophylaxis program

J. Rascon:
- Member of the National Cancer Prevention and Control Programme 2015-2025 of the Lithuanian Ministry of Health (continued);
- Member of the Working Group of the Ministry of Health for Hematopoietic Stem cell Transplantation (accomplished)

S. Burokienė. Participation in working groups of the Ministry of Health:
- on optimizing child health care services
- on optimizing services of emergency departments.

R. Čerkauskienė:
- Commission on Reimbursement of Treatment for Very Rare Diseases of Lithuanian Ministry of Health, WG Member
- National activities related to rare diseases Plan of Lithuanian Ministry of Health, WG Member
CONSULTATIONS PROVIDED BY THE UNIT TO THE PUBLIC OR ECONOMIC ENTITIES

1. European Union Investment Project "Improving the Efficiency and Capacity of Public Health Institutions through Evidence Based Management”, leader of expert group (Prof. R. Čerkauskienė)

2. European Union Investment Project and Funds from the State Budget of the Republic of Lithuania - Medical Management Projects 2017-2020: Investment Project to Improve Quality and Availability of Diagnostic, Treatment and Monitoring Services for Rare Pediatric Diseases at Santariškės Clinics, Vilnius University Hospital, project leader (Prof. R. Čerkauskienė)

MOST IMPORTANT RESEARCH DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

V. Urbonas. Participation in TV and radio shows, press interviews.

N. Drazdienė. TV interviews on fetal alcohol syndrome

Clinic of Internal Medicine, Family Practice and Oncology

2 Santariškių, LT-08661 Vilnius
Tel. / fax 236 5075
E-mail: virginijus.sapoka@mf.vu.lt

Head – Prof. Dr. Virginijus Šapoka

STAFF

Professors: Dr. V. Šapoka, Dr. V. Kasiulevičius, Dr. V. Alekna, Dr. L. Griškevičius, Dr. N. Samalavičius, Habil. Dr. D. Kalibatienė, Habil. Dr. V. Gaigalaitė, Dr. V. Ostapenko (part-time)

Associate Professors: Dr. V. Urbanavičius, Dr. (HP) E. Mišeikytė Kaubrienė, Dr. V. Dženkevičiūtė, Dr. Ž. Visockienė, Dr. V. Ožeraitienė, Dr. L. Vencevičienė (part-time)

Research Professor: Dr. S. Cicėnas

Assistants professor: Dr. A. Abraitienė, Dr. V. Pečeliūnas, Dr. A. Marcijonienė (part-time), Dr. K. Simanauskas (part-time), N. Burokienė (part-time), V. Andrejevaitė (part-time), Dr. S. Varvuolytė, Dr. R. Staigis (part-time), Dr. V. Karpavičienė (part-time), Dr. O. Nečajauskaitė (part-time).

Teaching assistant: R. Laukienė (part-time), K. Švaikevičienė (part-time).


Scientific groups of students:

Oncohematology: scientific leader – dr. Ž. Gudlevičienė, coordinator – student V. Vaitekėnaitė; 28 members of students.

Endocrinology: scientific leader – dr. A. Abraitienė, coordinator – student G. Labul; 26 members of students.

Family medicine: scientific leader – dr. V. Andrejevaitė, coordinator – student M. Burneikaitė; 38 members of students.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Etiopathogenesis, Diagnostics, Treatment of Diseases: Fundamental and Clinical Research, Innovative Technologies

Early Diagnostics and Prevention of Non-infection Diseases in Family Practice and in Gerontology

Biomarker Research in Hematology and Oncology

Investigation of Etiopathogenetic Risk Factors and Quality Of Patients’ Life With Internal Diseases

RESEARCH PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN 2019
Projects Supported by University Budget


The research evaluating the dependence of the quality of life of elderly persons on the manifestation of sarcopenia has been started and Lithuanian version of sarcopenia-specific quality of life questionnaire has been validated.


The research aiming to determine the long-term effects of gastric bypass surgery on metabolism and cardiovascular changes has been started.

National Research Projects


The latest literature was collected and analyzed. Data is being collected. First report of study was delivered at the International Conference „Medical Physics in the Baltic States“.

Main publications:


The aim of the study is to evaluate tumour associated macrophages (TAM) and tumour infiltrated lymphocites (TIL) and PD-L1 interaction in patients with non-small lung cancer (NSCLC), who underwent surgery and correlation these indicators with patients' overall survival and treatment results.

During this work the research aiming to determine how TAM micro localisation in tumour can influence NSCLC patients survival and results of treatment has been started.

Main publications:

International Research Projects

1. Implementation of good practices for chronic diseases. CHRODIS-PLUS. L. Vencevičienė. 2017-2020

Currently, there is a lack of evidence-based guidelines for comprehensive care for patients with multiple illnesses. For this reason it is necessary to develop a specific healthcare model for these patients and thus improve their medical care. The aim of this project is to optimize the treatment and care of patients with multiple illnesses. The study is performed by LSMU Family Medicine Center and VUL SK Family Medical Center. The team of investigators from VUL SK Family Medicine Center, led by L. Vencevičienė, already enrolled 200 patients with multiple illnesses.
2. European platform for outcomes research into perioperative interventions during surgery for cancer. COST International scientific project. Saulius Cicėnas. 2018 – 2019

Analyzing the use of intravenous versus inhaled anesthetic agents in patients undergoing breast cancer resection. The team found that when breast cancer cell lines were incubated with sevoflurane there was a significant increase in proliferation, migration, and invasion in some breast cancer cell lines. In another study the team found that xenon inhibited migration in both adenocarcinoma cells and decreased release of a pro-angiogenic factor RANTES from one of the breast cancer cell lines. Based on the current evidence, this combination of anesthetic and analgesic agents has the best chance of improving cancer-related outcomes and postoperative recovery.

MAIN R&D&I (RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION) PARTNERS

Dramemen Hospital, Norway
Oslo University Hospital, Norway
Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Department of Cancer Research and Molecular Medicine, Norway
The Oncoplastic Breast Consortium, Switzerland
Academic Clinical Study Scientific Group (SAKK), Senologic International Society /International School of Senology

OTHER SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

Prof. V. Šapoka
- board member of International and European Society of Internal Medicine and president of Lithuanian Society of Internal Medicine;
- editor-in-chief of journal Internistas (Internist);
- president of Lithuanian Evidence-Based Medicine Society;
- board member of journals Medicinos teorija ir praktika (Theory and Practice in Medicine), Geriatrija (Geriatrics) and Lietuvos bendrosios praktikos gydytojas (General Practitioner of Lithuania);
- Head of department of Internal Diseases of Vilnius University Hospital Santaros Clinics

Assoc. prof. V. Urbanavičius
- member of Eurodiabetes index 2015 committee;
- editorial board member of journals Lietuvos endokrinologija (Endocrinology of Lithuania), Medicinos teorija ir praktika (Theory and Practice in Medicine), Diabetes Review and Internistas (Internist);
- member of the organizing committees of endocrinological conferences;
- member of European Association of the Study of Diabete.

Prof. V. Alekna
- president of Lithuanian Osteoporosis Foundation;
- editor-in-Chief of journal Gerontologija (Lithuania);
- president Lithuanian Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics;
- board member of European Geriatric medicine Society;
- board member of European union of medical specialists Geriatric medicine section.

Assoc. prof. Dr. Zydrune Visockiene
- President of Vilnius Society of Endocrinology;
- member of Lithuanian Society of Endocrinology;
- board member of Lithuanian Bioethics Committee;
• member of European Association for the Study of Diabetes;
• editorial board member of the journal *Lietuvos endokrinologija*.

**Prof. D. Kalibatienė**
• head of the Department of Internal Diseases at Vilnius Clinical Hospital;
• member of the Council of the Faculty of Medicine of Vilnius University;
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Gastroenterology, http://www.gastroenterologija.lt/;
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Internists;
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Palliative Medicine, http://www.paliatyvipagalba.lt/;
• board member of the Society of Lithuanian Nurses with university education, http://www.lusd.lt/;
• head of the self-assessment work group of Nursing Studies programmes;
• head of the Nursing Bachelor’s degree final thesis Defending Committee.

**Prof. V. Gaigalaitė**
• member of Lithuanian Society of Neurology;
• member of Lithuanian Society of Stroke;

**Prof. S. Cicėnas**
• member of the ESTS (European Society of Thoracic Surgeons)
• member of the IASLC (International Association for study of lung cancer)
• member of the Lung Cancer Study Group EORTC (European organization for research and treatment of cancer)
• board member of the Lithuanian Society of Cardiothoracic Surgeons.
• editorial board member and of the journal (Lithuanian Surgery)
• editorial board member of the journal BSM (Biological Science Monitor) expert of malignant pleural mesothelioma issues
• member of Lithuanian Society of Pulmonology and Allergy
• board member of Lithuanian Society of Oncology

**Prof. Narimantas Evaldas Samalavicius**
• President of the Lithuanian Society of Coloiproctologists;
• President-elect of International Society of University Colon and Rectal Surgeons;
• Editor-in-chief of the journal *Lithuanian Surgery*;
• editorial boards member of the *World Journal of Coloproctology*, *Annal of Coloproctology*;
• co-chairman at the Health Ministry of Lithuania of the steering committe of the National Colorectal cancer Screening Porgram.

**Assoc. prof. Dr. V. Ožeraitienė**
• member of the world Society of Gastroenterology;
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Gastroenterology, http://www.gastroenterologija.lt/;
• member of the Lithuanian Society of General Practitioners, http://gydytojas.blogspot.com/;
• member of Nursing Bachelor’s degree final thesis Defending Committee;

**Assist. Prof. Dr. S. Varvuolytė**
- president of Lithuanian Society of General Practitioners;
- country delegate of UEMO (European Union of General Practitioners/Family Physicians);
- board member and country delegate of EURACT (European Academy of Teachers in GP/FM);
- member of BARN (Baltic Antibiotic Resistance Collaborative Network);
- independent expert consultant of The National Immunoprophylaxis Programme 2014-2018;
- expert consultant family physician of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania;
- expert consultant of Experts Group for Prevention of Microorganisms Resistance for Antimicrobial Treatment Development and Prevalence;
- expert of Vilnius region’s Antimicrobial Resistance Inter Institutional Management Group;
- expert consultant family physician of European Medical Agency;
- member of Medications Reimbursement Commission.

**BEST REPORTS DELIVERED AT CONFERENCES ABROAD**

2. „T4 Surgery for Lung Cancer“ was delivered on 25-th of October 2019 at International Conference on Thoracic Oncopathology in Republican Scientific and Practical Center of Oncology and Medical Radiology in Minsk, Republic of Belarus.
3. „Combination of novel pathogenic variants in sarcomeric proteins genes and GLA gene in relatives with hypertrophic cardiomyopathy“, 2019.05.25 ESC Heart Failure 2019 (Europe Society of Cardiology). Athens, Greece.

**MOST IMPORTANT PARTICIPATION CASES OF RESEARCHERS IN WORKING GROUPS OR COMMISSIONS SET UP BY STATE AUTHORITIES, STATE AND MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANISATIONS, AND BUSINESS ENTITIES**

Participation in Lithuanian Health Ministry Committee on criteria for assessment of health technologies. Dr. V. Pečeliūnas, prof. V. Kasiulevičius

Participation in Lithuanian Health Ministry working group for Health technology reimbursement strategy. Dr. V. Pečeliūnas, prof. L. Griškevičius


**CONSULTATIONS PROVIDED BY THE UNIT TO THE PUBLIC OR ECONOMIC ENTITIES**
EMA- Ad Hoc Expert Group meeting in Amsterdam on 3rd of September 2019

MOST IMPORTANT RESEARCH DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

Regularly (5-6 times in a year) lectures and reports delivered on Lung Cancer item at Lithuanian television, radio stations and local newspapers

Participation in TV, radio brodcasts, popularizing the achievements of medical science

Regularly (8 times in a year) participation and organization of National and International conferences in Lithuania

Research dissemination project NCI with the National Breast Cancer Association (patients) “And life goes on”

Clinics of Emergency Medicine (from 2018-03-01)

2 Santariškių, LT-08661 Vilnius
Tel. +370 5 2365 204
E-mail: rasel.seraite@mf.vu.lt; pranas.serpytis@santa.lt
Head – Dr. Prof. Pranas Šerpytis

STAFF

Professor: Dr. P. Šerpytis.
Associate professors: Dr. I. Norkienė, Dr. S. Vosylius, Dr. R. Samalavičius
Teaching Assistants: Dr. R. Badaras, Dr. V. Žilinskaitė, P. Uksas.
Senior Researcher: Dr. R. Samalavičius.
Doctoral students: P. Uksas, A. Briedis.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Emergency Medicine
Acute Cardiac Care
Resuscitation
Politrauma
Triage
Acute coronary syndromes
Sudden death
Acute heart failure

RESEARCH PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN 2019

National Research Projects


Acute myocardial infarction (AMI) is one of the most common diseases among the elderly. Patients older than 75 years are often underrepresented in clinical trials and often do not receive treatment according to current guidelines.

Results: The highest incidence was of NSTEMI (51,50%) among all patients and invasive treatment was used in 1487 (74,35%) cases. A total of 267 (13,35%) patients have died. In survivors group, invasive treatment methods (1319 (76,1%) vs. 168 (62,9%), p<0,05) were used more common. Among the patients that died, there was a more common STEMI (162 (60,7%) vs. 808 (46,6%), p<0,05), cardiogenic shock (194 (78,2%) vs. 132 (9,2%), p<0,05) and bleeding in hospital (59 (22,1%) vs. 130 (7,5%), p<0,05). General health, physical functioning and emotional well-being scores were lowest (54, 55,85 and 56 points respectively. Physical functioning was better assessed in the invasive treatment group (60,95 (27%) vs. 40,80 (20,5%), p=0,003).

Main publications:


OTHER SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

Prof. P. Šerpytis

- Editorial board member of the journal Sveikatos mokslai;
- Editorial board member of the journal Santara;
- Scientific board member of the journal Emergency Medicine Service;
- Editorial board member of the journal International Heart and Vascular Disease Journal;
- Editorial board member of the journal Annals of Medical Case Reports;
- Editorial board member of the journal Emergency Medicine and Critical care Journal;

MOST IMPORTANT PARTICIPATION CASES OF RESEARCHERS IN WORKING GROUPS OR COMMISSIONS SET UP BY STATE AUTHORITIES, STATE AND MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANISATIONS, AND BUSINESS ENTITIES

Working groups of the Lithuanian Ministry of Health (P. Šerpytis):

- Lithuanian Health Ministry working group of law number V-208 (dated April 8th, 2004) “For ratification of the emergency medicine care and emergency medicine service provision order and extent”;
- Working group of Emergency medicine service for traumas and other external conditioned injuries (Trauma cluster).
- Working group for use of ECMO system in emergency medicine service.
- The member of the Health Council, since the year- 2019.
- The member of the Research Council of Lithuania, since the year- 2015.

CONSULTATIONS PROVIDED BY THE UNIT TO THE PUBLIC OR ECONOMIC ENTITIES

Lecture provided in municipality of Neringa. Topic: “How to prevent acute heart stroke?” P. Šerpytis, July 29, Nida;

Lecture provided in municipality of Šilalė. Topic: “How to recognise acute miocard infarction?” P. Šerpytis, August 5, 2019, Šilalė;

Open lecture provided in Medical Faculty. Topic: “How to recognise acute miocard infarction?” P. Šerpytis, April 18, 2019, Vilnius.
Open lecture provided in Medical Faculty. Topic: “Resuscitation and automated external Defibrillator” P. Uksas. April 18, 2019, Vilnius.

Open lecture-“Resuscitation and automated external Defibrillator“, provided in project “Student for one day”, P. Šerpytis, October 22, 2019, Vilnius.

MOST IMPORTANT RESEARCH DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES


INSTITUTE OF DENTISTRY

117 Žalgirio, LT-08217 Vilnius
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Head – Prof. Dr. Vytautė Pečiulienė

STAFF

Professors: Dr. V. Peciulienė, Dr. A. Pūrienė, Dr. T. Linkevicius, Dr. V. Rutkūnas

Associate professors: Dr. R. Manelienė, Dr. L. Zaleckas, Dr. S. Drukteinis, Dr. V. Brukienė, Dr. L. Linkevičienė, Dr. R. Bendinskaitė.

Assistants Prof.: Dr. V. Berlin (part-time), E. Nedzinskenė (part-time), A. Rimkevičius (part-time), Dr. R. Žaliūnienė (part-time), E. Vindašiūtė-Narbutė (part-time)

Teaching Assists.: A. Gedrimienė (part-time), R. Trumpaitė-Vanagienė (part-time), V. Zaleckiene (part-time), S.K. Žukauskas (part-time).


Students’ scientific group of Odontology: scientific leader – Assoc. Prof. Dr. V. Brukienė, Coordinator – Student G. Vitosytė; 61 Members of the group.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Etiopathogenesis, diagnostics, treatment, rehabilitation and prevention of stomatognatic system disease: fundamental and clinical research.

RESEARCH PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN 2019

Projects Supported by University Budget


The holistic aim of the project is to evaluate the prevalence of congenital and acquired stomatognathic system diseases in order to select the most effective methods of treatment and prevention with novelty approach.

Regeneration therapy could open new perspectives in dentistry. Bone regeneration enhancement and development of synthesis methods to produce composite materials (CM) with applications for bone regeneration. Creation of new technology for pulp-dentin complex regeneration using tissue engineering principles by implementing newly created 3D scaffolds and bioactive flowable endodontic cements.
Research of the emerging importance of epigenetic regulation in the etiopathology of aims to assess micro-RNA role in inflammation related to chronic periodontitis for patients diagnosed with CP and RA. To understand xerostomia, autoimmune and non-autoimmune sicca syndrome epidemiology, epigenetics and neuroimmune axis relation with oral health is started.


Rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and chronic periodontitis (CP) are similar in terms of pathogenesis as both diseases involve chronic inflammation fuelled by pro-inflammatory cytokines, connective tissue breakdown and bone erosion. Researches aimed at revealing associations between the diseases, including clinical, epidemiological and other aspects have been initiated. The emerging importance of epigenetic regulation in the etiopathology of various diseases was the rationale for current research which aims to assess micro-RNA role in inflammation related to chronic periodontitis for patients diagnosed with CP and RA.

Main publications:
Adomas Rovas, Benita Buragaitė-Staponkienė, Kristina Stuopelytė, Eglė Puncevičienė, Irena Butrimienė, Sonata Jarmalaitė, Alina Pūrienė. Circulating MiRNAs as Biomarkers for Non-invasive Diagnostics of Chronic Periodontitis The Continental European Division (CED-IADR), Scandinavian Division (NOF) - The International Association for Dental Research Oral Health Research“, Madrid, Spain; 2019, October.


The aim of this project is to develop new periodontitis therapies. To our knowledge, such research has been carried out for the first time. Our data collected during the research demonstrates that PDLSCs produce biologically active extracellular vesicles (EVs), that have been shown to display anti-inflammatory properties.

4. **Xerostomia, autoimmune and non-autoimmune sicca syndrome epidemiology, epigenetics and neuroimmune axis relation with oral health.** Prof. A. Puriene, dokt. Indre Stankeviciene. 2019-2023

This project aim is to understand xerostomia, autoimmune and non-autoimmune sicca syndrome epidemiology, epigenetics and neuroimmune axis relation with oral health.

5. **Theory-Based Interventions for Improving Oral Self-Care Ii 15-16 Years Old Schoolchildren.** Prof. V. Pečiulienë, Assoc. Prof. V. Brukienë, PhD St. L. Džiaugytė-Eyberdiyev. 2016-2020.

Medical interventions guided by psychological theories have been effective in reducing risk behaviours and disease levels in different settings and population groups. Targeting adolescent cohorts for health promotion is important due to the fact that adults who maintained their oral health lifestyle from adolescence through adulthood presented with better oral health than the ones who had a poorer health-related lifestyle in their adolescence. Main hypothesis of research done so far is the theory guided interventions are superior to a one-time conventional dental instruction for improving and sustaining oral self-care in adolescents.

6. **Salivary Factors and Caries in Family Members. Preparation of Patients with Childhood Autism for Dental Procedures: Assessment of Possibilities.** Oral Health

Evaluation of the possibilities to prepare patients diagnosed with childhood autism for dental procedures is important. The research has been made to reveal and to assess the prognostic criteria for possibilities of the child with autism to cooperate during dental procedures according to clinics of autism, evaluating patient developmental abilities and skills and the effectiveness of behavioural management methods based on accomplishment of repeated tasks.

Main publications:


Epidemiological oral health survey aims to collect data regarding the distribution of different oral conditions and their determinants in key age groups in different regions of Lithuania and to compare present findings with the results of the adult Lithuanian survey done in 1997/1998. National oral health survey is a cross-sectional study, which take place in 15 geographic locations. Now we have data from 1300 children and adolescence and 1400 adults.


The study is aiming to explore the effectiveness of interactive training in addressing dietary and oral care oral health problems among different dental risk groups, to find out the level of dental anxiety experienced by Lithuanian residents and the effectiveness of interactive training in solving the problems caused by this anxiety, to explore the effectiveness of interactive training in solving oral health problems among high-risk dental populations.


Numerous studies reported a high prevalence of physical and psychological health problems among dental students all over the world. The mapping of physical and psychological problems among undergraduate dental students with a focus on different time points in clinical work in seven Eastern European and Scandinavian countries has been done. This will help to evaluate students’ knowledge of ergonomics and its use in daily work. The study will show whether there is a need to investigate dysfunctions in clinical learning environments qualitatively country-wise in order to design tailor-made supportive strategies.

Main publications:


The research aimed at creating new technology for pulp-dentin complex regeneration using tissue engineering principles by implementing newly created 3D scaffolds and bioactive flowable
endodontic cements has been initiated. The aims of the studies performed are to develop flowable bioceramic material mta flow, using scanning electron microscopy (sem), energy dispersive spectroscopy (eds) and x-ray diffractometry; to evaluate and compare the root canal sealing quality by mta flow and bioroot rcs/single-cone technique in artificially perforated roots of mandibular molars, using micro computed tomography (μct) and to evaluate and compare the effect of ultrasound agitation on the porosity of the flowable bioceramic materials, using micro computed tomography (μct).

Main publications:


Shaping ability of BioRace, ProTaper NEXT and Genius nickel-titanium instruments in curved canals of mandibular molars: a MicroCT study. By: Drukteinis, S.; Peciuliene, V.; Dummer, P. M. H.; et al. INTERNATIONAL ENDODONTIC JOURNAL Volume: 52 Issue: 1 Pages: 86-93 Published: JAN 2019


Successful root canal treatment is determined by many factors. Inappropriate root canal treatment procedures result in endodontic treatment errors. It is precisely they that become the main thrills that can determine not only the course of the treatment, but also the further prediction of the treatment. The aim of this study is to evaluate the incidence of endodontic treatment errors, the impact of endodontic treatment outcomes, the prognosis and the possibility of correcting these procedural errors.


The aim of this study was to identify the prevalence and determinants of dental trauma in permanent anterior teeth among 11- to 13-year-old schoolchildren, to compare self-reported dental trauma rates with clinical examination trauma rates, and to examine mouth guard use among children engaged in contact sports. A probability sampling scheme was used to recruit schools, with all sixth grade children in the selected schools invited to participate.


The work objective is to study in vitro model the wear and tear of cementitious substances used in dentistry practice and their bioavailability with periodontium. We have investigated the resistance of wearing teeth cementing materials to the wear and the effect of the edge precision of the protrusion on wear intensity and carried out a quantitative analysis of the cytotoxicity of dental cementation agents in human gum fibroblasts. A qualitative analysis of the cytotoxicity of dental cementation in human gum fibroblasts has been done aimed to determine the primary mechanism of cement cell death.
15. **In Vivo and in Vitro Accuracy Evaluation of Digitally Made Impressions and Restorations on Dental Implants.** Assoc. Prof. V. Rutkūnas, PhD St. A. Gečiauskaitė. 2016-2020.

Evaluation of factors influencing accuracy of digital implant impressions and restorations has been done. Digital technologies have revolutionised clinical prosthodontics, extending diagnostic, treatment and follow – up possibilities. Digital workflow is still susceptible to errors, therefore we aimed to improve the accuracy of digital workflow and to achieve aesthetic and functional restorations with minimal effort. Due to constant changes in intraoral scanners hardware and software, reliable methodology and clinical guidelines will be provided.

**Main publications:**


The aim is to evaluate implant-supported restoration misfits occurring during the digital workflow and to investigate methods aimed at detection of the misfit. The separate steps of the digital workflow have been analysed trying to identify the steps most susceptible to the errors. This will help to identify better the clinical indications of fully digital and combined digital/analogue workflows. Based on the findings, the solutions helping to increase potential of digital technologies in prosthodontics will be offered.

**Main publications:**


The aim of our study was to investigate if implant placement depth in relation with soft tissue thickness has influence on crestal bone stability around dental implants. The research hypothesis was that bone level implants with platform switching, placed subcrestally when surrounding gingiva is thin would have similar bone resorption with bone level implants without platform switching, placed in thick soft tissue supracrestally.

**Main publication:**


18. **Enamel Changes after Removal of Metal and Ceramic Braces.** Assoc. Prof. L. Linkevičiene. 2016-2020

The aim of the study was to evaluate and compare emcs characteristics (severity, direction, location, length, and width) before and after removal metal and ceramic brackets from the teeth of the
younger and older age groups. Extracted human maxillary premolars were included in the study. The teeth were extracted for orthodontic reasons or periodontal pathology from two groups of patients: younger age group (age range, 18–34 years), and older age group (age range, 35–54 years).

Main publications:


The aim of this study was to compare long term results of three different cleft treatment protocols treating patients with unilateral complete clefts of lip, alveolus and palate. The standardized clinical photographs of patients had been taken according to one and the same protocol in that centre where the patient had been treated. The treatment protocols varied among these centres regarding techniques and timing. Photographies were taken before surgery and at the age of 5 and 10 years. The evaluation of function and aesthetics of the lip as well as of symmetry and harmony of the nose in 5-year-old and 10-years old consecutive patients was done. Evaluation was done two times according to the protocol by experienced maxillofacial surgeons on two consecutive days. The results of this evaluation will analysed statistically for significant differences.

National Research Projects


The aim was to evaluate effectiveness of innovative 3D printed composite scaffolds in vitro and in vivo studies on bone regeneration. Bone regeneration is a complex, well-orchestrated physiological process of bone formation, which can be seen during normal fracture healing, and is involved in continuous remodelling throughout adult life. However, there are complex clinical conditions in which bone regeneration is required in large quantity, such as for skeletal reconstruction of large bone defects created by trauma, infection, tumour resection and skeletal abnormalities, or cases in which the regenerative process is compromised, including avascular necrosis, atrophic non-unions and osteoporosis. Biology, material science and regenerative medicine, searching for a new bone graft material to change the autogenous bone.

Main publications:


The aim was to evaluate accuracy of guided implant placement and possibilities to produce digital immediate restorations. Digital treatment planing and 3D technologies are becoming routine in dental practice. Cone beam computed tomography (cbct), intraoral scanners, computer-aided design and manufacturing (cad/cam), 3D printing has changed dental practice/dentistry. Prosthetic and
Implant dentistry employs these innovations to improve treatment accuracy, outcomes and patient satisfaction. Novel dental implantation standards require evaluation of various aspects, such as hard and soft tissue condition, prosthesis position. All these aspects have to be taken into account when planning the position of dental implants. The aim of this doctoral thesis is to evaluate the accuracy as well as biological, technical and clinical aspects of digitally planned dental implantation and immediate prosthodontics rehabilitation.

**MAIN R&D&I (RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION) PARTNERS**

University of Birmingham, England
Center for Physical Sciences and Technology, Lithuania
University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada
Institute of Biotechnology, Vilnius University, Lithuania
Institute of Biochemistry, Vilnius University, Lithuania
Laser Research Center, Vilnius University, Lithuania
UiT The Arctic University of Norway, Norway
University College London and University of Kent, United Kingdom
SPOH ARTS – International Oral Health Psychology, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Medical University of Lublin, Poland
University of Medicine, Albania
Medical University, Bulgaria
University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Romania
Malmo University, Sweden
Zurich University, Switzerland
University of Medicine, Albania
Medical University, Bulgaria
University Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Faculty of Dental Medicine, University of Sts Cyril and Methodius, Macedonia
Faculty of Dentistry, State University of Medicine and Pharmacy “Nicolae Testemițanu”, Republic of Moldova
Dental Faculty, Belarussian State Medical University, Belarus
Center for Innovative Medicine, Lithuania

**OTHER SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES**

Prof. V. Pečiulienė

- board member of the International Association of Dental Research, NOF section;
- member of the Council of the Faculty of Medicine;
- member of the Scientific Committee of the Faculty of Medicine;
- chair of the Doctoral Committee of Odontology the Faculty of Medicine;
- member of Study Committee in the Institute of Odontology, Faculty of Medicine, Vilnius University;
- member of study committee of European Society of Endodontists;
- member of postgraduates Study Committee in the Institute of Odontology, Faculty of Medicine, Vilnius University;
- editorial board member of the journal Stomatologija (Dentistry);
- editorial board member of the European Journal of General Dentistry;
• editorial board member of the journal *Acta Medica Lituanica*;
• editorial board member of the journal *Health Sciences*;
• expert of the Lithuanian Business Support Agency (LVPA).
• reviewer in: Journal of Dental Traumatology, International endodontic journal, Biomaterials, Stomatologija. Baltic Dental and Maxillofacial Journal

**Prof. A. Pūrienė**
• editorial board member of the journal Stomatologija (Dentistry);
• editorial board member of the journal Dental and Medical Problems, Poland;
• editorial board member of the journal Health Sciences;
• member board member of the Stomatology Edu Journal
• president of Lithuanian society of Ergonomics;
• member of Lithuanian society of Periodontology;
• expert of the Lithuanian Business Support Agency (LVPA), 2015-2017
• member of ESDE European Society of Dental Ergonomics;
• member of EADPH European association of dental public health;
• member of Academy of Osseointegration;
• member of the Doctoral Committee of Odontology of the Faculty of Medicine;

**Prof. V. Rutkūnas**
• president of Lithuanian Society of Prosthodontics;
• international relation committee member of European Prosthodontic Association;
• council member of European Prosthodontic Association;
• digital Dentistry Society, Ambassador to Lithuania;
• editorial board member of the European Journal of Prosthodontics and Restorative Dentistry;
• editorial board member of Stomatologija, Baltic Maxillofacial and Dental Journal;
• expert of the Agency for Science, Innovation and Technology (MITA);
• member of Study Committee in the Institute of Odontology, Faculty of Medicine, Vilnius University;
• member of postgraduates Study Committee in the Institute of Odontology, Faculty of Medicine, Vilnius University;
• reviewer in: Clinical Implant Dentistry and Related Research; Journal of Prosthodontics
• participation of the organizing committees of international meetings: The annual meeting of Lithuanian Society of Prosthodontics 2019; International students and residents conference REST 2019.

**Prof. T. Linkevičius**
• editorial board member of the journal Stomatologija (Dentistry)
• Visiting Professor in Ghent University, Belgium

**Assoc. Prof. Rūta Bendinskaitė**
• Member of Study Committee in the Institute of Dentistry Faculty of Medicine Vilnius University
• Member of Vilnius Regional Bioethics Committee
• Lithuanian Health Ministry, expert in working groups

Assoc. Prof. V. Brukienė
• board member of the International Association of Dental Research, NOF section;
• member of the Association of Dental Education in Europe;
• editorial board member of the journal Stomatologija (Dentistry), Baltic Dental and Maxillofacial Journal, http://www.sbdmj.com/editors.html;
• editorial board member of the journal Slauga. Mokslas ir praktika (Nursing. Science and Practice);
• Lithuanian Dental Chamber, Vice-president;
• chair of the Study Committee in the Institute of Odontology, Faculty of Medicine, Vilnius University;

Assoc. Prof. L. Zaleckas
• member of Association of Oral and Maxillofacial surgeons of Lithuania, member of council;
• member of Baltic Association of Maxillofacial and Plastic Surgeons;
• member of European Association for Cranio-Maxillo-Facial Surgery;
• editorial board member of the journal Baltic Dental and Maxillofacial Journal;
• member of Study Committee in the Institute of Odontology, Faculty of Medicine, Vilnius University;
• member of postgraduates Study Committee in the Institute of Odontology, Faculty of Medicine, Vilnius University.

Assoc. Prof. S. Drukteinis
• member of the Research Committee of the European Society of Endodontology;
• president of the Lithuanian Endodontic Society;
• member of Study Committee in the Institute of Odontology, Faculty of Medicine, Vilnius University;
• chair of postgraduates Study Committee in the Institute of Odontology, Faculty of Medicine, Vilnius University;
• agency for Science, Innovation and Technology (MITA);
• expert of research projects in dentistry and medicine.

Assoc. Prof. L. Linkevičienė
• editorial board member of the journal Stomatologija (Dentistry), Baltic Dental and Maxillofacial Journal, http://www.sbdmj.com/editors.html;
• member Lithuanian Dental Chamber;
• member of Study Committee in the Institute of Odontology, Faculty of Medicine, Vilnius University;
• member of postgraduates Study Committee in the Institute of Odontology, Faculty of Medicine, Vilnius University.
• member of Lithuanian Orthodontics Association, member of council;
• member of European Cleft organization.

MOST IMPORTANT RESEARCH DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES
Prof. dr. Vygandas Rutkūnas:
Presentation of 3D printed bone scaffold research results in TV3 news channel. April 28, 2019.
Short interview about 3D printed bone scaffold research in PowerHit Radio. October, 2019
Presentation of 3D printed bone scaffold research results in TV3 news channel. November 26, 2019.
https://www.tv3.lt/naujiena/verslas/1020616/auganti-gyvybes-mokslu-industrija-ilgai-inovacijoms?fbclid=IwAR2tF4VqmhxfJY8cxMPxLkRaDikGHWPMZjvgvLzk4HrjUwV68IP8Z
OtrYIY#.Xfioieq-mLg.messenger

prof. dr. (HP) Alina Pūrienė:
Lrytas.lt website published an article „The most visible cancers are usually detected at an advanced stage: do not ignore the symptoms“. December 19, 2019.
panorama.lt website published the article „A service designed to take care of the disabled - a dentist to take home“. September 21, 2019.
panorama.lt website published an article „Dentists are worried about the condition of their teeth: some of them have no healthy teeth“. August 12, 2019.
panorama.lt website published an article „Persons with severe disabilities will receive dental services at home“. May 21, 2019.

Asist. Prof. dr. Rūta Žaliūnienė
Interview for TV3 evening news regarding children’s teeth treatment under general anesthesia. August, 2019
INSTITUTE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Department of Rehabilitation, Physical and Sports Medicine

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E-mail: juozas.raistenskis@vuvl.lt

Head – Prof. Dr. Juozas Raistenskis

Professors: Dr. J. Raistenskis, Dr. V. Alekna, Dr. R. Dadelienė, Dr. M. Tamulaitienė, Dr. J. Grisklevičius

Associate professors: Dr. A. Adomavičienė, Dr. L. Samsonienė, Dr. A. Šidlauskienė, Dr. R. Žilinskienė, Dr. J. Armonienė

Assistants Professors: Dr. J. Indriūnienė, Dr. I. E. Jamontaitė, Dr. A. Mastavičiūtė, Dr. I. Muntianaitė,

Research Assistants: A. Grigonytė, J. Blaževičius, R. Sinkevičius, A. Černovas, V. Radzevič


Students’ scientific group of Rehabilitation, physical and sports medicine: scientific leader – Lect. T. Palšytė, coordinators – Student R. Gerdaitytė, Student M. Gaušytė; 19 members of the group.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Biopsychosocial model
Effectiveness of rehabilitation, physical and sport medicine
Components of physical capacity
Prevention of disease and injury

RESEARCH PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN 2018

Projects Supported by University Budget


The aim of this research is to search comprehensive rehabilitation effectiveness prognostication parameters; to prepare methodology of comprehensive rehabilitation prognosis in patients with movement disturbances; to perform comparable examination of comprehensive rehabilitation prognostication, using functional status evaluation. The staff of the Department continued performance of comparable examination and methodology development of comprehensive rehabilitation effectiveness prognostication. On the base of these data, six articles were published in Clarivate Analytics database, one doctor theses were defending, and research workers took part
at international and in Lithuanian scientific meetings, total 66 presentations. Students participated at international students’ conferences.

Main publications:
Alekna, Vidmantas; Kilaitė, Justina; Tamulaitienė, Marija; Geerinck, Anton; Mastavičiūtė, Asta; Bruyère, Olivier; Reginster, Jean Yves; Beaudart, Charlotte. Validation of the Lithuanian version of sarcopenia specific quality of life questionnaire (SarQoL®) // European geriatric medicine. New York: Springer. ISSN 1878-7649. eISSN 1878-7657. 2019, vol. 10, iss. 5, p. 761-767

Marozik, Pavel; Alekna, Vidmantas; Rudenko, Ema; Tamulaitienė, Marija; Rudenka, Alena; Mastavičiūtė, Asta; Samokhover, Volha; Černovas, Andrejus; Kobets, Katsiaryna; Mosse, Irma. Bone metabolism genes variation and response to bisphosphonate treatment in women with postmenopausal osteoporosis // Plos One. San Francisco: Public Library of Science. eISSN 1932-6203. 2019, vol. 14, iss. 8, art. no. e0221511, p. 1-14


**MAIN RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION PARTNERS**

Rīga Stradiņš University, Faculty of Rehabilitation, Latvia
Haapsalu Neurological Rehabilitation Centre, Estonia
Karolinska Institute, Sweden
Notwill Rehabilitation Centre, Switzerland
Hannover medical school, Germany

**OTHER SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES**

**Prof. J. Raistenskis**

- head of the Rehabilitation studies programme committee at the Faculty of Medicine of Vilnius University;
- editorial board member of the journals *Gerontologija (Gerontology)*, *Polish Annals of Medicine*;
- board member of Association of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Physicians;
- member of the Association of Acupuncture, Manual and Traditional Medicine Physicians;
- board member of scientific and organizing committee of the 21st European Congress of Physical & Rehabilitation Medicine, May 1–6, 2018, Vilnius, Lithuania.

**Prof. V. Alekna**

- editor-in-chief of the journal *Gerontologija (Gerontology)*
- president of Lithuanian Association of Gerontology and Geriatrics
- president of Lithuanian Osteoporosis Foundation
- board member of UEMS Geriatric Section
- board member of European Geriatric Medicine Society (EUGMS)

**Prof. M. Tamulaitienė**

- editorial board member of the journal *Gerontologija (Gerontology)*
Prof. R. Dadelienė
- editorial boards member of the journals: *Biology of Exercises; Journal of Physical Education and Human Movement; Sporto mokslas (Sport Science)*
- member of study comity, coordinator of the Rehabilitation study program
- member of European Sport Science College
- member of Lithuanian Olympic Academy
- member of LNOC group (scientist, consultant) for preparation sportsmen for 2020

Prof. J. Griškevičius
- editorial board member of the journal *Technology & Health Care*, the Netherlands
- member of study committee, coordinator of the Biomechanics and Biomedical Engineering study programs at VGTU
- scientific council member of the Faculty of Mechanics, VGTU
- member of European Society of Biomechanics
- president of Lithuanian Society of Biomechanics
- general secretary of non-profit association Educating Students in Engineering and Medicine ([www.esem.eu](http://www.esem.eu))
- chairman of organizing committee of International conference BIOMDLORE ([http://biomdlore.vgtu.lt](http://biomdlore.vgtu.lt))

Assoc. Prof. A. Adomavičienė
- chairman of the Occupational Therapy Undergraduate studies programme committee;
- member of ENOTHE
- member of Lithuanian Occupational Therapy Association

Assoc. Prof. A. Šidlauskienė
- the invited reviewer of the international journal *Polish Annals of Medicine*;
- board member of Lithuanian Physiotherapy Association.

Assoc. Prof. R. Žilinskienė
- co-opted member of Executive Committee of European Network of Academic Sport ([www.enas-sport.net](http://www.enas-sport.net))
- member of the Executive Committee of Lithuanian Student Sport Association

Assoc. Prof. L. Samsonienė
- member of the Team Publons: Public Health and Health services;
- member of International Council for Physical Activity and Fitness Research (ICPA);
- member of Lithuanian Association for Adapted Physical Activity.

Assoc. Prof. J. Armonienė
- member of Lithuanian Athletic Federation
- member of Lithuanian Physical Education Teachers’ Association

Assist. I. E. Jamontaitė
- chairman of the Physiotherapy Undergraduate studies programme committee
- board member of Lithuanian Physiotherapy Association

Assist. A. Mastavičiūtė
- member of the board of Lithuanian Gerontologists and Geriatrics association
- member of European Academy for Medicine of Ageing
- editorial board member and managing editor of the journal *Gerontologija*, [http://www.gerontologija.lt](http://www.gerontologija.lt)
Assist. J. Petruytė
  • chairman of Society of Social Pediatrics of Lithuania

Assist. I. Muntianaitė, Assist. J. Indriūnienė
  • members of study programs committee
Department of Public Health

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Head – Prof. Dr. Rimantas Stukas

STAFF

Professors: Dr. R. Stukas, Dr. J. Dadonienė.

Associate professors: Dr. M. Jakubauskienė, Dr. L. Murauskienė, Dr. R. Buckus (part-time), Dr. Oresta Katakiniene (part-time).

Assistants Professor: Dr. M. Butikis, Dr. S. Vainauskas, Dr. J. Kairys (part-time), Dr. L. Ašokliene (part-time), Dr. R. Bartkevičiūtė (part-time), A. Barzda (part-time), Dr. A. Beržanskytė, Dr. N. Kuprevičienė (part-time), Dr. R. Sketerskienė (part-time), Dr. A. Juodaitė – Račkauskienė (part-time), Dr. R. Jankauskas (part-time), Dr. G. Smailytė (part-time), Dr. V. Taminskienė, Dr. V. Dobrovolskij (part-time), Dr. D. Austys, Rūta Maceinaitė (part-time), Justina Račaitė (part-time).

Research fellows: Dr. A. Valiulis, Dr. Rolandas Zuoza, Dr. A. Emeljjanovas.

Lecturers: Dr. A. Austruskienė (part-time), Dr. D. Brogienė (part-time), Dr. J. Stanislavovienė, R. Baranauskienė, V. Jaeck (part-time), Dr. R. Vaitkienė Vaitkienė (part-time), Rimonda Kungytė (part-time), Mindaugas Pauliukas (par-time)


Public health scientific group of students: scientific leader – Dr. Valerij Dobrovolskij, coordinator – student Erika Jansonas; 31 members of the group.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Environmental and social factors and public health
History of medicine
Epidemiology of non-infectious and infectious diseases
Scientific basis of health care management
Assessment of health care activities and biostatistics
Health and quality of life
Medical ethics

RESEARCH PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN 2019

Projects Supported by University Budget

The collected data was analysed according to the dissertation theme and scientific publications from the obtained research data were prepared (two research articles were submitted and accepted).

**Main publications:**


**MAIN R&D&I (RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION) PARTNERS**
Lancaster University, United Kingdom
Universidad de Deusto, Spain
University of Verona, Italy
Corvinus University of Budapest, Hungary
Ministry of Health of The Republic of Lithuania, Lithuania

**OTHER SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES**

**Prof. R. Stukas**
- editorial college member of the journal *Visuomenės sveikata (Public Health)*
- editorial board member of the journal *Sveikatos mokslai (Health Sciences)*
- member of the Board of the Faculty of Medicine
- head of study programmes Committee for Bachelor and Master degree and PhD in Public Health
- board member of the Lithuanian Society of Hygienists and Epidemiologists

**Prof. J. Dadonienė**
- President of Lithuanian Rheumatologist Association
- board member of Lithuanian Arthritis Association (patient organization)
- member of European Network for Vasculitis Research (EUVAS)
- member of organizing committee for the annual conference *Vilnius Seminars in Rheumatology*

**Assoc. Prof. Dr. M. Jakubauskienė**
- vice president of the Public Mental Health Section of the European Public Health Association (EUPHA)
- member of the International Scientific Committee of the European Public Health Association (EUPHA)
- member of the review board of the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies (USA)
- member of the Lithuanian Association for Trauma Psychology
- member of the Lithuanian Bioethics Society
- member of the Board of Federation Global Initiative on Psychiatry;
- co-leader of the International Research in Public Mental Health course
Prof. A. Valiulis

- president of Lithuanian Paediatric Respiratory Society
- vice president of Lithuanian Paediatric Society
- chairman of Lithuanian Alliance Against Chronic Lung Diseases (WHO-GARD Lithuania)
- vice chairman of Mother and Child Health Commission of Lithuanian Academy of Sciences
- national coordinator in Strategic Pediatric Alliance for the Child Health in Europe
- national delegate at Global Asthma Initiative (GINA) and Global Allergic Rhinitis Initiative (ARIA)
- chairman of Advisory Board of Lithuanian Council of Asthma Clubs
- chief executive of IPOKRaTES Lithuania Fund
- editor-in-Chief of the journal *Paediatric Pulmonology and Allergology* (Index Copernicus)
- editor-in-Chief of the journal *Lithuanian Paediatric Chronicle*
- editorial board member of the journals *Paediatric Respiratory Reviews, Pneumonologia i Alergologia Polska, Pediatria Polska, Russian Paediatric Journal*
- chairman of Vilnius International Paediatric Pulmonology Conference – School (20th annual international conferences of Paediatric Asthma, Pneumonia, CF, TB and Orphan Lung Diseases; more than 8000 trained doctors)
- chairman of 4 Lithuanian National Asthma Congresses
- chairman of 3 Lithuanian Congresses on Paediatric Pulmonology
- chairman of 2 international conferences on Human Ecology
- honorary fellow of British Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health
- member of Commissions of Rare Diseases, TB, Immunoprophylaxis, Mother & Child, Suckling, Human Resources, Accessibility of Health Service of Lithuanian Ministry of Health
- chief Vilnius Paediatrician of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania

Assoc. prof. J. Kairys

- editorial board member of the journal *Sveikatos mokslai* (*Health Sciences*)

Assoc. Prof. L. Murauskienė

- associate editor for *BMC Health Services Research*
- member of the *Health Systems and Policies Monitoring Network*, European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies

Assist. R. Vaitkienė

- deputy member of the Administrative Commission for the Coordination of Social Security Systems, European Commission, since 2009, Brussels, Belgium
- member of the intersectoral working party on implementation of United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Lithuania

Assist. R. Jankauskas

- editorial board chair of the journal *Visuomenės sveikata* (*Public Health*)

Assist. R. Bartkevičiūtė

- member of Lithuanian Breastfeeding Committee.
- alternate representative of European Food Safety Authority Food Consumption Data Network

Assist. R. Barzda

- representative of Republic of Lithuania in Codex Alimentarius Commision
- representative of European Food Safety Authority Food Consumption Data Network
Assist. D. Brogienė
- executive director of the Foundation for Patient Safety, Innovations and Quality
- member of Lithuanian Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. Chair of Legal, Ethics and Competence Evaluation Commission
- member of the Board of Lithuanian Doctors Association. Chair of the Legal Commission
- Board member of Lithuanian Bioethics Committee under the Ministry of Health
- Vice-president of CPME (The Standing Committee of European Doctors)

Assist. Audrone Juodaitė-Račkauskienė
- Member of „European palliative care association “Toekomststraat 36, 1800 Vilvoorde, Belgium
- Presentation: „Challenges Affecting Family Caregivers in Lithuania“, Brussels, Belgium, 25th October 2018; Conference: „Public Health Research in Palliative Care: Shifting the Paradigm
- Shortening Waiting Times for Palliative Care Patients: Methods and Challenges “, Palliative Medicine Journal, Volume 32 Issue 1_suppl, May 2018, Bern, Switzerland

R. Baranauskienė
- member of European Health management association

THE LIST OF THE MOST IMPORTANT RECEIVED NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL AWARDS FOR R&D ACTIVITIES
- Prof.Arūnas Valiulis. Professor Honoris Causa of Poltava Medical and Stomatological University, Ukraine (October 31, 2019)

THE LIST OF THE MOST IMPORTANT CASES OF PARTICIPATION OF RESEARCHERS IN WORKING GROUPS OR COMMISSIONS SET UP BY STATE AUTHORITIES, STATE AND MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANISATIONS, AND BUSINESS ENTITIES


Rima Vaitkienė. The member of the Compulsory Health Insurance Board (Resolution No 710 of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania, 2017) and chair person of Compulsory Health Insurantce Board since 15 th of September 2017 till 11 of October 2018;

Rima Vaitkienė. Chair person of the group for the management improvement at the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania (Order of the Minister of Health of the Republic of Lithuania No V-880, 26 of July 2017) (till 11 of October 2018);


Jolanta Dadoniene. Research council expert since 2014 with focus on doctoral studies activities; research group projects evaluation; research nad experimenal activities of state research institutions;

MOST IMPORTANT RESEARCH DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

Prof. Rimantas Stukas. Delfi Portal Interview on Healthy Eating (12 issues).
Prof. Rimantas Stukas. LRT, Consumer Control Interview about Healthy Eating (4 issues).
Prof. Rimantas Stukas. TV 3 News Interview about Healthy Eating (5 issues).

BEST REPORTS DELIVERED AT CONFERENCES ABROAD


6. Dr. Liubovė Murauskienė. Presentation at Third Forum of the Scientific Panel for Health “Enabling health equality in Europe – the role of health research” Brussels, Beligija (2019/06/05)


8. 4th Baltic Paediatric Congress & Annual Conference of European Academy of Paediatrics EAP/UEMS-SP (Vilnius, Lithuania, May 16-18, 2019), invited lectures „Vilnius declaration on chronic respiratory diseases control: from mHealth to guided self management“, „Rational antibioticotherapy in paediatrics: model of community acquired pneumonia“ (Prof. habil. dr. Arūnas Valiulis).

10. 35th Annual Congress of Polish Paediatric Society (Rzeszow, Poland, September 5-7, 2019), invited lecture „Vilnius Declaration on prevention and management of chronic respiratory diseases“ (Prof. habil. dr. Arūnas Valiulis).

11. 13th General Assembly of WHO Global Alliance against Chronic Respiratory Diseases (Beijing, China, October 24-26, 2019), invited lecture „Vilnius declaration: Political action for clean air“ (Prof. habil. dr. Arūnas Valiulis).


Department of Nursing

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Head – Prof. Dr. Natalja Fatkulina

STAFF

Professor: Dr. N. Fatkulina.
Associate professor: Dr. A. Gradauskas.
Assistants Professor: Dr. A. Mikaliūkštienė, Dr. R. Stundžienė (part-time), Dr. Z. Gierasimovič (part-time), Dr. A. Kurienė (part-time), Dr. J. Kutkauskienė (part-time), Dr. R. Šturienė (part-time).
Teaching Assistants: V. Kielė, L. Gedrimė (part-time), J. Stirblienė (part-time), I. Ėrgelytė-Podgrušienė (part-time).
Doctoral students: V. Kielė, L. Gedrimė, J. Stirblienė, I. Ėrgelytė-Podgrušienė.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Innovation in nursing science, research and studies;
Nursing policy;
Quality of nursing care
Nurse professional competence;
Nursing and patient education;
Research of nurses’ working environment;
Needs and features of perioperative nursing care;
Patient safety and the role of nurse;
Physical activity and nursing care
Advanced nursing practice

RESEARCH PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN 2019

Projects Supported by University Budget


Analyze innovation and applicability of nursing research, with emphasis on nurse educational capabilities and competencies, patient education, nursing need and quality aspects.
Main publications:


Main publications:


Skarbalienė, Aelita; Skarbalius, Egidijus; Gedrimė, Lina. Effective communication in the healthcare settings: are the graduates ready for it? = Učinkovita komunikacija u zdravstvenoj djelatnosti: jesu li diplomirani studenti pripravni? // Management: journal of contemporary management issues. Split: University of Split. ISSN 1331-0194. eISSN 1331-0194. 2019, vol. 24, no. SI, p. 137-147. DOI: 10.30924/mjcmi.24.si.9. [DB: Business Source Complete, DOAJ, IndexCopernicus, Emerging Sources Citation Index (Web of Science)]


The investigatation of the quality of life and nursing needs of patients with chronic somatic (therapeutic, surgical, pediatric, neurological) diseases has been initiated. One of the aims – to prepare basic guidelines for improving long-term care and nursing by examining the psychosocial risk factors of nurses in the work environment and the social reflections of teamwork and to evaluate future perspectives and organization of practical training process in health care institutions.

Main publications:

Rapolienė, Lolita; Gedrimė, Lina; Mockevičienė, Daiva; Razbadauskas, Artūras. Relation of health status with distress and job-related risk factors // Family medicine & primary care review. Poznan: Termedia Publishing House. ISSN 1734-3402. eISSN 2449-8580. 2019, vol. 21, iss. 2, p. 130-137. DOI: 10.5114/fmpcr.2019.84549. [DB: Emerging Sources Citation Index (Web of Science), Scopus, Academic Search Complete, IndexCopernicus]

project aiming to produce and evaluate instruments for assessment of competence and factors connected, both self-assessment and objective tests and to establish a cohort for follow-up studies in future, responding to the need for longitudinal studies.

**Nursing Leaders** earch Complete, DOI: 10.12680/balneo.2019.255. [DB: Emerging Sources Citation Index (Web of Science), Academic S

**International Research Projects**


The project aims to direct doctoral nursing students and postdoctoral nurses into an academic career in nursing by providing them with opportunities to expand their educational, research and leadership competencies. Thus the project will attune nursing education into emerging labor market’s needs.


CHRODIS PLUS aims to contribute to the reduction of this burden by promoting the implementation of policies and practices that have been demonstrated to be successful. The development and sharing of these tested policies and projects across EU countries is the core idea behind this action.


The Action aims to exchange research results produced by different disciplines in order to find commonalities in concepts and approaches to sexual medicine. This serves as the foundation for identifying shared concepts and definitions, and the start of joint interdisciplinary research, with a particular focus on including young researchers.


**Contractual Research**

Contract with The Department for the Affairs of Disabled under the Ministry of Social Security and Labor. 2019

**MAIN R&D&I (RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INOVATION) PARTNERS**

Klaipėda University, Lithuania

University of Turku, Department of Nursing Science, Turku, Finland

Health Science Research Centre, University College Lillebaelt and Southern Denmark University, Denmark

Karolinska Institutet, Department of Neurobiology, Care Sciences and Society, Stockholm, Sweden

University of Utrecht, Utrecht, Netherlands

University of Island, Reykjavik, Island
Stavropol State Medical University, Russia
Karaganda State Medical University, Kazakhstan
Astana Medical University, Kazakhstan
International University of Catalonia, Spain
University Hospital of Barcelona, Spain

OTHER SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

Prof. N. Fatkulina
• elected member of Board of European Academy of Nursing Science, https://european-academy-of-nursing-science.com/
• board member of the European Academy of Nursing science
• member of Anesthesia and Intensive Care Nurses’ Society
• chair of Medicine program final thesis Defending Committee
• member of Association Institute of Bute
• member of the Nursing Bachelor’s Degree Program;
• member of the Nursing Master’s Degree Program;
• editorial board member of the journal Slauga: mokslas ir praktika (Nursing. Science and Practice)

Publications:
• Emeljanovas, Arūnas; Gruodytė-Račienė, Rita; Šukys, Saulius; Miežienė, Brigita; Rutkaukaitė, Renata; Trinkūnienė, Laima; Fatkulina, Natalja; Gerulskienė, Inga; Balsytė, Vita; Zabolotnaja, Tatjana; Daukantas, Tomas. The Lithuanian physical activity report card for children and youth 2018. Kaunas : LSU, 2019. 46 p. ISBN 9786098200218. <http://dspace.lsu.lt/handle/123456789/56>. [M. kr.: S 007]

Assoc. Prof. A. Gradauskas
• head of the Clinic of Surgery at Vilnius city Clinical Hospital
• vice-president of Vilnius Association of Surgeons
• board member of the Lithuanian Association of Minimally Invasive Surgery, http://www.mich.lt/

Assist. A. Mikaliūkštienė
• chair of the Lithuanian University Education Nursing Society Board, http://www.lusd.lt/
• member of the Lithuanian Society of Palliative Medicine, http://www.paliatyvipagalba.lt/
• member of the Nursing Bachelor’s Degree Program
• member of the Nursing Master’s Degree Program
• member of Medicine program degree final thesis Defending Committee
• editorial board member of the journal Sveikatos mokslai (Health Sciences)
• editorial board member of the journal Slauga: mokslas ir praktika (Nursing. Science and Practice)

Presentations at conferences:
• Jerdiakova N, Mikaliūkštenė A, Gimžauskaitė S. Teamwork and safety climate from the operational point of view of the operational team members. International Conference "Current Issues in Nursing Science and Practice 2019" June 7, 2019, Klaipėdos university.

Publications:
• Jerdiakova N, Mikaliūkštenė A, Juliya Rabkovskaja J. Dažniausi pirminės asmens sveikatos priežiūros paslaugų kokybę lemiantys veiksni. Pacientų požiūris. The Most Common Factors That Determine the Quality of Primary Health Care. Patients Attitude
• Gierasimovič Z, Mikaliūkštenė A, Kuzborska Z, Skunčikienė D. Padidintos rizikos skyrių slaugos personalo žinių apie hospitalines infekcijas įvertinimas. On Assessing Nursing Staff Exposure to High Risk Infections

Assist. R. Stundžienė
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Palliative Medicine, http://www.paliatyvipagalba.lt/
- member of the Nursing Bachelor’s Degree Program
- member of the Lithuanian University Education Nursing Society Board, http://www.lusd.lt/
- member of Lithuanian Nursing Specialists Organization, http://www.lsso.lt/

Assist. Z. Gierasimovič
- member of the Lithuanian Society of Palliative Medicine, http://www.paliatyvipagalba.lt/
- member of the Nursing Bachelor’s Degree Program
- member of the Lithuanian University Education Nursing Society Board, http://www.lusd.lt/
- editorial board member of the journal Slauga: mokslas ir praktika (Nursing. Science and Practice)
- member of Nursing Bachelors’ degree final thesis Defending Committee

Publications:

Presentations at conferences:
• Gierasimovič Z., Mikaliūkštienė A. Importance of training in correct hand hygiene skills. International Conference "Nursing Science and Practice Topics 2019", Klaipėda.
• Gierasimovič Z., Mikaliūkštienė A. Relationships of nurses’ knowledge of nosocomial infections with applications in nursing practice. International Conference "Nursing Science and Practice Topics 2019", Klaipėda.
• Skunčikienė D., Gierasimovič Z. Peculiarities of nursing in the perioperative period. Case study. Professional challenges for operating nurses. 4th International Scientific Practical Conference. Trakai.
• Gierasimovič Z., Karpovič A. Peculiarities of postoperative wound care in the outpatient setting. Professional challenges for operating nurses. 4th International Scientific Practical Conference. Trakai.
• Surgunt N., Gierasimovič Z. Importance of positioning of patients undergoing surgery and its applicability during surgery. Professional challenges for operating nurses. 4th International Scientific Practical Conference. Trakai.
• Beperšaitė E., Gierasimovič Z. Safe procedures for beauty services. The Roots of Science 2019, 2019, Panevezys.
• Stankevič J., Gierasimovič Z. Interacting with a client to provide beauty services. The Roots of Science 2019, 2019, Panevezys.
• Gierasimovič Z., Mikaliūkštienė A. The significance of hand hygiene training of medical staff in the formation of proper hand hygiene skills. International Scientific Conference on Medicine at the University of Latvia, 2019, Riga.

Teaching Assist. J. Stīrblienē
Publications:
• Sinkevičius, Vytautas; Birmontienė, Toma; Miliuvienė, Jolita; Vilkelis, Gintautas; Novikovas, Andrejus; Bilevičiūtė, Eglė; Juškevičius, Jonas; Stīrblienē, Jurgita; Kaminskiienė, Natalija; Tvaronavičienė, Agnė; Kavalnė, Salvija; Pakutinskas, Paulius; Čekanavičius, Ažuolas; Girdenis, Tomas; Marcinauskaitė, Renata; Jurka, Raimundas; Ažubalytė, Rima; Žilinskas, Justinas; Jocienė, Danutė; Katuokas, Saulius; Liauksinė, Arnas; Šaltinytė, Loreta. Lithuanian Law, 2018: Substantial Changes. Vilnius: Mykolas Romeris University, 2019. 74 p. ISBN 9789955199397. eISBN 9789955199380. <https://repository.mruni.eu/handle/007/15678>.

Teaching Assist. L Gedrimė –
Publications:
• Zavackienė, Andželika; Gedrimė, Lina; Didvalė, Daiva; Skarbalienė, Aelita. Survey of the Prestige Opinion of the Nursing Profession in Lithuania // Towards a Healthy Life and Transparent Being on the Vydūnas Road: Vydūnas International Scientific Conference to

- Rapolienė, Lolita; Skarbalienė, Aelita; Gedrimė, Lina; Mockevičienė, Daiva; Razbadauskas, Artūras. The influence of psychosocial factors on distress expression // Family medicine & primary care review. Poznan: Termedia Publishing House. ISSN 1734-3402. eISSN 2449-8580. 2019, vol. 21, iss. 1, p. 41-46. DOI: 10.5114/fmpcr.2019.82978. [DB: Emerging Sources Citation Index (Web of Science), Scopus, Academic Search Complete, IndexCopernicus]


Teaching Assist. V. Kielė

Teaching Assist. I. Čergelytė-Podgrušienė
- Phd student of educology, main thesis – Children with diabetes education.

Lect. M. Ėiurlionis
- board member of the Lithuanian Society of Palliative Medicine, http://www.paliatyvipagalba.lt/
- chair of the Baltic Palliative Care association https://balticpca.com/
- steering committee board member of the Last Aid International. https://www.letztehilfe.info/
• member of Nursing Bachelors’ degree final thesis Defending Committee;
• mentor European Palliative Care Academy Mentoring Program https://www.eupca.eu/

Publications:
• presentation: „Restricted palliative care“, Ghent, Belgium, 8th of March 2019, ICEL3 Third International Conference on End of Life Law, Ethics, Policy, and Practice.
• poster: „Challenges Affecting Family Caregivers in Lithuania“, Brussels, Belgium, 25th October 2018, Conference „Public Health Research in Palliative Care: Shifting the Paradigm“.
• abstract: „Shortening Waiting Times for Palliative Care Patients: Methods and Challenges“, Palliative Medicine Journal, Volume 32 Issue 1_suppl, May 2018, Bern, Switzerland.
• presentation: „Evaluating the Impact of Health Information Technology on Efficiency and Costs of Home Care“. Oxford, UK 30th June 2017, „International Health Conference“.
• poster: „Innovative Model and Solutions for Delivering Home-based Palliative Care and Nursing“, Madrid, Spain 18th May 2017, „15th World Congress of the European Association for Palliative Care“.

Lect. R. Urbanavičė

Publications:
• R. Urbanavičė, R. Rozenbergaite, J. Kairys, A. Kuriene, J. Kutkauskienė, N. Fatkulina. Formation and implementation of nursing policy in Lithuania. Health Sciences, 2020 No. 1

Presentations at conferences:
• “Development of Lithuanian Nursing Policy: Importance of Nursing Engagement”. Republican Practical Conference "Leadership in Nursing Practice“. October 24, 2019 Faculty of Health Care, Vilnius College, Vilnius.
• “Development of Nursing Policy in Lithuania”. Scientific-Practical Conference "Strengthening Nursing Leadership Through Awareness Raising". December 6, 2019, Children's Hospital, Vilnius University Hospital Santara Clinic Branch, Vilnius.

Lect. J. Gimžauskienė

• member of the Nursing Bachelor’s Degree Program;
• member of the Lithuanian University Education Nursing Society Board, http://www.lusd.lt/;
• member of the Anaesthesia and Intensive Care Nurses Association;
• member of Lithuanian Nursing Specialists Organization, http://www.lsso.lt/.

MOST IMPORTANT PARTICIPATION CASES OF RESEARCHERS IN WORKING GROUPS OR COMMISSIONS SET UP BY STATE AUTHORITIES, STATE AND MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS, ORGANISATIONS, BUSINESS ENTITIES

Natalja Fatkulina is board member of the European Academy of Nursing Science (EANS) and member of Strategical development group of EANS
Marius Čiurlionis is board and of the Lithuanian Society of Palliative Medicine, (http://www.paliatyvipagalba.lt/) and chair of the Baltic Palliative Care association https://balticpca.com/

CONSULTATIONS PROVIDED BY THE UNIT TO THE PUBLIC OR ECONOMIC ENTITIES

Prof. N.Fatkulina. Political discussions with Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania
Prof. N.Fatkulina. Consultations provided for the Department for the Affairs of Disabled under the Ministry of Social Security and Labor

MOST IMPORTANT RESEARCH DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES

Department of Nursing is collaborating partner of CHRODIS+ project.
Center for Health Ethics, Law and History

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Head – Prof. dr. Eugenijus Gefenas

STAFF

Professors: dr. Eugenijus Gefenas
Assistants Professor: dr. Aistė Bartkienė (part-time), dr. Eglė Sakalauskaitė-Juodeikienė, dr. Aistis Žalnora


RESEARCH INTERESTS

History of medicine
Medical ethics

RESEARCH PROJECTS CARRIED OUT IN 2019

Projects Supported by University Budget


Researches of Centre for Health Ethics, Law and History collected and analysed data on IR and RE training programmes and their efficiency. The team of the Centre have analyzed ethical and legal issues emerging in research on human biological material, biobanks and Big Data. Prof. Eugenijus Gefenas and Jūratė Lekstutienė presented the data of the analysis at 33rd European Conference on Philosophy of Medicine and Health care „Philosophy and Ethics at the Edge of Medicine“, 7-10 August, 2019, in Oslo (Norway).


In 2019 archival materials were collected and systemized. Data on hygiene education at the Stephen Bathory University was analysed in this stage. Dr. Aistis Žalnora presented he collected data at the international conference „XVII Biannual Conference of the German-Polish Society for the History of Medicine Circulation of Medical Knowledge and Skills, from Early Modern Times to Nowadays“, the 31st May, 2019, in Szczecin (Poland).

International Research Projects

The aim of the project is to strengthen activities of education and training in research ethics and research integrity, promote a culture of integrity, and foster the development of and compliance with joint rules and norms. In 2019 researchers of Vilnius University has been prepared on-line training resource on RI and RE.

2. **INTEGRITY: empowering students through evidence-based, scaffolded learning of Responsible Conduct in Research (RCR).** Prof. E. Gefenas. 2019-2021

The aim of the project is to empower students in responsible research. The main strategy of INTEGRITY’s team is to build knowledge and set up tools aimed at supporting high school teachers and university professors, very often required to impart professional ethics and integrity training. In 2019 researchers of Vilnius University translated a pilot questionnaire on RI and distributed it in Lithuania. The VU team has been prepared for the annual project meeting.


Recently in combination with patient/personal derived data such as electronic health records, patient registries and databases, as well as life style information this Big Data holds an immense potential for clinical applications, especially for in silico personalized medicine approaches. A Pan-European Expert forum has the overarching aim to bundle transnational standardization guidelines for in silico methodologies in transnational and clinical research to unfold the potential of PM. In 2019 the researches of Vilnius University conducted an analysis of legal documents and ethical guidelines related to in silico model for personalized medicine.

**OTHER SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES**

Prof. E. Gefenas
- member of European Group on Ethics in Science and New Technologies (EGE)
- member of the bureau of the European Society for Philosophy of Medicine and Health Care (ESPMH)
- member of the advisory editorial board of the journals *Medicine, Health Care and Philosophy: A European Journal*, (Springer)

Dr. A. Čekanauskaitė
- member of the Council of Europe Steering Committee on Bioethics (CDBI)
- member of the Lithuanian Bioethics Society
- member of the Board of the Foundation for Patient Safety, Innovations and Quality

Dr. Eglė Sakalauskaitė-Juodeikiienė –

Dr. A. Žalnora
- member of Lithuanian Morphological Society
- member of Lithuanian Association of the History and Philosophy of Science
- editorial board member of the “Acta medico-historica Rigensia”.

R. Baranauskienė
- member of European Health management association.

**BEST REPORTS DELIVERED AT CONFERENCES ABROAD**


Žalnora Aistis. „The Occupational poisoning issues in the works of Vilnius Stephen Bathory University doctors and hygienists“, the 10th International Pharmaceutical Conference „Science and Practice 2019“, 15 November, 2019, Kaunas, Lithuania.

Žalnora Aistis. A lesson for higher shool studens on medical history, Riešė Gymnasium, Vilnius district, 4 October, 2019.

Žalnora Aistis. TV interview on unusual treatment methods, TV show „History Detectives“ (LRT), 13 October, 2019.

Žalnora Aistis, Poškutė Margarita. Participation in the project „Student for one day“ (lectures „The Old Medical Paradigm: from Ancient Greece to the Islamic World“ and „The Ethical Issues Related to the Beginning of Human Life“), 23, 25 October, 2019.

Poškutė Margarita. Open lecture „Ethical Issues related to Genome Editing“, University of the Third Age, Alytus, 29 November, 2019.

Ramonaitė Monika. An interview in the newspaper: Miškinytė Rūta. „Raupai ir kitos bėdos: kuo sirgo ir kaip gydėsi Lietuvos Didžiosios Kunigaikštystės gyventojai?“ 15min.lt, published 9