

Cyprus

DESPO PIERIDOU

Name: Despo Pieridou

Title/Position: Director of the Microbiology Department

Organization: Nicosia General Hospital

Short biography: Despo Pieridou is a medical microbiologist and Director of the Microbiology Department of the Nicosia General Hospital. She had her specialist training in Microbiology and Infectious Disease Epidemiology at the University Institute of Microbiology and Hygiene in Würzburg, Germany where she also obtained her PhD. She has been actively involved in upgrading the services provided by the Microbiology Department of the Nicosia General Hospital right up from the beginning of her appointment. Her efforts to meet the needs of a Public Health Laboratory enabled her to set up within the routine Microbiology Department the National Reference Laboratory for Mycobacteria and the National Reference Laboratory for *Salmonella* and other Enteric Pathogens. She is an active member of several national committees dealing with infectious diseases. She represents Cyprus in several European forums.