

***Annals of Translational Medicine* is endorsed by the Hellenic Cooperative Oncology Group (HeCOG): new horizons for strong academic collaboration in medical oncology boost the academic development**

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We are glad to share with you the good news that *Annals of Translational Medicine (ATM)* is officially endorsed by the Hellenic Cooperative Oncology Group (HeCOG) (Figure 1) from Oct 13, 2016. This is a meaningful milestone for *ATM* as an acknowledgement of its expansion and dedication to medical oncology and will tremendously advance its continued exploration in this field.

Since its first launch in Apr 2013, *ATM* aims to provide practical up-to-date information in significant research from all subspecialties of medicine and to broaden the readers' vision and horizon from bench to bed and bed to bench. It is indexed in PubMed in Sept 2014 and is accepted for inclusion in Scopus in Aug 2016.

Early in Jul 2016, *ATM* published a focused issue on "*Immunotherapy in cancer: the clinical impact of immune response and targeting*" guest-edited by Prof. Vassiliki Kotoula, and Prof. George Fountzilias, which includes great contributions from some members of the HeCOG (<http://atm.amegroups.com/issue/view/455>). The successful launch of the special issues lays a foundation for further collaboration between *ATM* and the HeCOG.

By endorsing *ATM*, the HeCOG aims to boost the academic development at home and abroad. We believe this collaboration with HeCOG is going to be win-win for both parties. On the road to better service for physicians and patients, we expect to collaborate ever more closely with the international authorities in the field, such as the HeCOG, to provide the most up-to-date knowledge and advances to our readers.



Figure 1 The Hellenic Cooperative Oncology Group.

About the Hellenic Cooperative Oncology Group

The HeCOG (<http://hecog.gr/en/homepage-en>) is a non-profit scientific organization that consists of leading physicians and other scientists, members of the Medical Oncologic community.

The main objectives of the organization are:

- The study and development of novel antineoplastic therapies;
- The promotion of clinical and basic research both in Greece and internationally, in collaboration with respective scientific organizations;
- The organization of scientific seminars and symposia with the aim of informing and educating physicians and other scientists dealing with a field of interest, as well as medical students;
- The organization of scientific fora, libraries and other

related activities.

HeCOG Data Office which is the Group's headquarters, is located in Athens and coordinates all trial related activities such as clinical data management, monitoring, programming, biostatistical analyses, collection of biologic material as well as translational research projects integrated into the clinical trials.

HeCOG is a major research group in Greece with significant scientific impact, international recognition and ambitious future plans for optimized cancer care and research.

In 2001, HeCOG was awarded an honorary distinction from the Academy of Athens for its work and contribution to the management of cancer patients in our country.

As an internationally established collaborative research group, HeCOG has the willingness and potential to assume an even more important role in the field of cancer research and therapeutic management. Moreover, it can substantially help doctors and patients in the battle against an illness that can and must be defeated.

About ATM & AME Group

ATM is an international peer-review journal published by AME Group.

Founded in Jul 2009, AME Group has now established branch offices in Hong Kong, Guangzhou, Shanghai, Nanjing and Changsha and is going to set up offices in Beijing, Chengdu, Sydney and San Francisco. 'AME' is an acronym for "Academic Made Easy, Excellent and Enthusiastic..." and contains AME Publication platform, AME Network for International Healthcare (ANIH) and AME College.

AME has published 25 journals, with 2 journals (*Journal of Thoracic Disease* and *Translational Cancer Research*) indexed by Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE) and 16 journals (e.g., *ATM*) indexed by PubMed. AME has also published 10 books in English, 15 books in Chinese and 60 e-books, categorized into four series—Medical

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Zhong. *Annals of Translational Medicine* is endorsed by HeCOG

Monograph, Medical Review (Key opinion of medical experts), Book of Excellence worldwide and Interview with experts. In addition, AME has held more than 100 conferences in a variety of forms.

In general, AME Group dedicates effort to creating Content, Network and System (CNS), each representing:

- Content is the king. The publication of journals and books accumulates a wealth of outstanding medical works;
- In the process of publication and communication of journals and books, an extensive collaborative network for physicians in multiple disciplines, at home and abroad is built;
- System denotes an academic ecosystem of innovation and pleasure. For instance, AME Group has launched the 'AME Academic System' (<http://rlxt.amegroups.cn>), which connects the reviewers and journal editors like Uber. In the system, the editor uploads the manuscripts pending for review and then the reviewer who has been certified within the editorial office could selectively review the manuscript within his research interests. When the review is completed, the reviewer will be rewarded with a certain number of e-tokens (K coin), which can be used to purchase books and journals in the system. The system is also used to complete the translation of the books. It is common that within 48 hours after upload of the table of contents of a book, all chapters will be claimed for translation by the registered user in the system.

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Footnote

Conflicts of Interest: The author has no conflicts of interest to declare.