



Professor Christos Kontovounisios **MD, PhD, FACS, FRCS**

Head, 2nd Surgical Department – Colorectal Surgery
HYGEIA Hospital, Athens, Greece

Current Clinical posts:

- Honorary Consultant Colorectal Surgeon, The Royal Marsden Hospital London, UK
- Honorary Consultant Colorectal Surgeon, Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, London, UK

Current Academic posts:

- Adjunct Professor of Surgery, NYU Grossman School of Medicine and Post-Graduate Medical School, USA
- Visiting Reader, Imperial College London, UK
- Visiting Professor of Surgery, School of Medicine, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA)
- Harvard Medical School Postgraduate Medical Education, Surgical Leadership Program, 1-year Certificate Program (2024-2025)

Executive Profile

Professor Kontovounisios is an internationally recognised colorectal surgeon, academic, and surgical leader. He directs a high-volume tertiary colorectal unit in

Athens, collaborating closely with leading European centres. His work focuses on advanced pelvic oncology, robotic and minimally invasive surgery, exenterative surgery and international surgical education. He serves on national and European health councils, contributing to colorectal cancer policy, guideline development, and surgical governance.

Clinical Profile – Five Pillars of Expertise

- 1. Benign Colorectal Disorders:** Comprehensive management of haemorrhoids, fistula-in-ano, pilonidal disease, and complex reoperative benign colorectal surgery.
- 2. Colorectal Cancer:** Specialist in locally advanced and recurrent colorectal malignancy, performing pelvic exenterations, multivisceral resections, and extended pelvic lymphadenectomy. Leads a national and international referral service for complex pelvic oncology.
- 3. Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD):** Tertiary-level expertise in ileal pouch creation, redo pouch reconstruction, and Crohn's disease surgery, in collaboration with multidisciplinary gastroenterology teams.
- 4. Pelvic Floor Disorders:** Manages obstructed defecation, faecal incontinence, rectal prolapse, and obstetric sphincter injuries. Leads a dedicated pelvic floor and physiology clinic focused on restorative outcomes.
- 5. Advanced & Functional Coloproctology:** Integrates robotic and minimally invasive approaches with 3D surgical planning, simulation, and digital innovation to enhance outcomes and education.

Academic and Educational Contributions

- >225 peer-reviewed publications in high-impact international journals
- >300 scientific presentations and abstracts at international and national congresses (EAES, ESCP, SAGES, BSG, UEG, etc.)
- >120 invited lectures and keynote presentations worldwide
- >60 postgraduate and specialist training courses organised or taught (Kuwait, Cyprus, Italy, UK, Greece)
- >25 MD/PhD students supervised at Imperial College London and NKUA
- >30 national and international collaborative research projects (PelvEx,

EuroSurg, REACCT, COVIDSurg, etc.)

- Research funding exceeding £700,000
- Regular faculty in live surgery and simulation-based training programmes

Positions of Responsibility, Leadership & Societies

Professor Kontovounios holds senior positions shaping surgical education, policy, and practice across Europe and Greece.

National and European Governance:

- Board Member, National Public Health Organisation of Greece – Oversight of surgical and oncology policy
- Member, Central Health Council (KESY) – Oncology Division, Ministry of Health, Greece
- Head, Scientific Committee, National Bowel Cancer Screening Programme
- Representative of Greece, European Commission Initiative on Colorectal Cancer (ECICC)
- Examiner, Consultant Surgeon Appointments, Greek Ministry of Health

International and European Societies:

- Assistant Chair & Member, Guideline Committee – European Society of Coloproctology (ESCP), Chair elect for 2026-2029
- Member, Research Committee – European Association for Endoscopic Surgery (EAES)
- EAES Representative – Multi-Society European Guidelines (CME, Endoscopy, GI Function)
- Member, PelvEx, EuroSurg, COVIDSurg, and REACCT Collaboratives
- Treasurer, Greek Chapter – American College of Surgeons (ACS)
- Board Member, Hellenic Society of Coloproctology

Editorial and Educational Leadership:

- International Editor, Surgery (Elsevier)
- Editorial Board: Techniques in Coloproctology, Journal of Clinical Medicine, Frontiers in Surgery, Hellenic Journal of Surgery, International Journal of Colorectal Disease
- Senior Tutor and Supervisor, Postgraduate Programmes, Imperial College London
- Lead, Robotic Colorectal Surgery Programme, Chelsea & Westminster Hospital
- Invited Surgeon and Lecturer, Harvard Surgical Leadership Program; International teaching and operating in Kuwait, Cyprus, and Europe

Selected Awards & Distinctions

- **2024** : 1ST place – Best Video presentation , 16th Greek- Cypriot Surgical conference , Cyprus
- **2022:** Visiting Professor 2021 -2022, Department of Advanced Medical and Surgical Sciences, Università degli Studi della Campania 'Luigi Vanvitelli', Naples, Italy
- **2022** :Service development award at the British Society of Gastroenterology 2022. Title: The one-stop ileoanal pouch surgery clinic: a multidisciplinary patient centred approach
- **2021:** 1st place – Best Oral Presentation 9TH DILEMMAS & DEBATES in Colorectal Surgery , London , UK Title: The role of 3D modelling technology in recognition of colorectal tumor deposits
- **2021:** 1st place – Best Oral Presentation KARL STORZ award , 29th International EAES Congress, November 2021 , Barcelona , Spain. Title: The role of 3D modelling technology in recognition of colorectal tumor deposits
- **2020** : Colorectal Surgery Team winner in The Royal Marsden's Staff Awards for 2020
- **2020** : 1st place – Best oral presentation 28th International EAES Congress | ,Kraków, Poland | 24 - 27 June 2020. Title: New take on N1c – the use of 3D modelling to depict extranodal tumour deposits in rectal cancer
- **2019:** 2nd place abstract presentation at 2019 IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation , Montreal, Canada. Title: Soft Haptics for the Simulation of Physical Examinations: A Case Study for Sphincter Tone Rendering
- **2018:** Best Publication of the year 2018- Colorectal Diseases, ESCP 2018 Title: The effect of adjuvant chemotherapy on survival and recurrence after curative rectal cancer surgery in patients who are histologically node negative after neoadjuvant chemoradiotherapy
- **2018:** Charles M.Balch MD Endowed International Fellowship in Surgical Oncology – Johns Hopkins Department of Surgery
- **2014:** Eugene N.Bricke Award winner at the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Society of Pelvic Surgeons for the best new member presentation. Title: Comparison of technique and long-term outcomes of hand sewn coloanal anastomosis for low rectal cancer
- **2012:** Award of the Hellenic Surgical Society for the best publication published in the Hellenic Journal of Surgery in 2011. Title: Dehiscence, Stenosis and Local Recurrence after Anterior Resection in Relation to the Level of Rectal Cancer. A Systematic Review

- **2008:** Award of the Hellenic Surgical Society for the best scientific announcement at the 26th Panhellenic Congress of Surgery, International Surgical Forum 2008. Title: Early steroid withdrawal in liver transplantation: A Meta-analysis and Meta regression of outcomes