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## **Press Release**

## HYGEIA Hospital Tirana: First kidney transplant performed

The first kidney transplant was successfully performed at HYGEIA Hospital Tirana, a subsidiary of HYGEIA Group in Albania.

The donor was a 45-year-old father and the recipient was his 19-year-old daughter. The patient had been suffering from end-stage renal disease (ESRD) for the last five years. Laparoscopic donor nephrectomy was performed and it is the first time that a surgery of this kind takes place at HYGEIA Hospital Tirana. The procedure was performed by a specialized Kidney Transplant team that has been trained at the Ohio State University, USA.

HYGEIA Group's CEO, Ms Areti Souvatzoglou, issued the following statement, "Our subsidiary in Tirana offers top-quality medical services and has been receiving international recognition. The performance of the first kidney transplant proves that this Group hospital meets the needs of the patients in the best possible manner."

Commenting on the transplant, the CEO of HYGEIA Hospital Tirana, Stavros Krasadakis, noted, "The first successful kidney transplant from a living donor demonstrates once again in practice the high scientific level of our hospital. It is a great pleasure and honor for HYGEIA Hospital Tirana to be able to offer this possibility, applying international safety protocols, which are comparable to the ones implemented in modern US hospitals, so as to ensure the best possible conditions for the citizens of Albania."

The Director of the Hospital's Transplant Clinic, Professor and Surgeon Dr. Baris Akin stated, "A successful kidney transplant improves the quality of life and reduces complications in patients with renal failure. Nowadays, the surgical technique for the recipient is the same throughout the world, but the kidney is removed from the donor using the retroperitoneal laparoscopic nephrectomy method, which is currently the most advanced technique. We are proud to apply this innovative technique and offer this opportunity to our patients."

HYGEIA Hospital Tirana has been officially certified by the Albanian Ministry of Health to perform kidney transplants. The Kidney Transplant Clinic operates within a fully equipped hospital in Tirana, with proper infrastructure and collaboration with a specialized team of doctors who have been trained in the USA.

Corporate Headquarters: 21 Ipokratous & Erythrou Stavrou Str. GR 15123, Marousi, Athens T: 210 686 7020 F: 210 686 7623 www.hygeia.gr