

12.03.2009

PRESS RELEASE

A unique, fully-equipped centre to treat Pediatric Arrhythmias in Greece

A unique in Greece, integrated Electrophysiology – Pacemaker Laboratory that treats pediatric arrhythmias was launched in **MITERA Pediatric Clinic** of HYGEIA Group.

Pediatric arrhythmias are a part of Pediatric Cardiology specialty and can be treated safely and efficiently only by professionals with specialized knowledge and long experience.

As Mr. Ioannis Papayiannis, Director of the Pediatric Cardiologic Clinic of MITERA, points out "Doctors and auxiliary staff who carry out these procedures have received long-term training and have gained experience in Greece and abroad. The Pediatric Cardiologic and Cardiosurgical Clinics of MITERA Pediatrics Clinic collaborate closely to provide all children with appropriate antiarrhythmic treatment".

The **Electrophysiology Laboratory** is equipped with state-of-the-art radioscopic devices and electrophysiology equipment that can treat any type of arrhythmias. Even the most seriously ill patients can be monitored and treated in the **sophisticated Intensive Care Unit.** A **regular centre monitoring patients with permanent pacemakers and defibrillators** is also operating. The centre collaborates with other specialized centres in Greece and abroad on molecular diagnosis of rare genetic disorders.

Almost 1 in 250 children has experienced incidents of tachycardia. Several children also suffer from genetic disorders which can make them predisposed to life-threatening arrhythmias (long QT syndrome, cardiomyopathies). Bradycardia is also another disorder that may appear in fetal life or after a heart operation (atrioventricular block).

Today, children who suffer from tachycardia can be treated thoroughly by means of radiowaves or cryoablation, with a success rate of more than 95%. Children with serious bradycardia can be treated with a pacemaker, that can be implanted even in newborn infants, while life-threatening arrhythmias can be treated using a permanent implantable defibrillator.

All these procedures are carried out by specialized, long-experienced doctors of the Pediatric Cardiologic and Cardiosurgical Clinic.

Mr. Ioannis Papayiannis is the Director of Pediatric Cardiologic Clinic, Mr. Georgios Sarris runs the Pediatric Cardiologic Clinic and Mr. Georgios Kyrvassilis is the Head of Intensive Care Unit.