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## Press Release

### **MITERA Children's Hospital announces exclusive collaboration with renowned Professor Afksendiyos Kalangos for pro bono cardiac procedures on children**

MITERA Children's Hospital, a member of HYGEIA Group, has entered into an exclusive partnership with Geneva University Hospital and world-renowned Professor Afksendiyos Kalangos of the University of Geneva for pro bono cardiac surgery on children with congenital heart disease.

Professor Kalangos will be visiting MITERA Children's Hospital every month and will be performing cardiac surgeries in children with congenital heart disease, as part of his charity activities. He has already successfully performed 4 operations in collaboration with the Hospital's Pediatric Cardiac Surgical/ Cardiology teams.

Professor Afksendiyos Kalangos was fully satisfied with the sophisticated infrastructure of the departments and operating rooms, the medical equipment, as well as the specialized medical and nursing staff. He also declared that he was proud of being offered the opportunity to continue his charity work in Greece, performing pro bono surgery on children with congenital heart disease.

MITERA Hospital's CEO, Mr Andreas Kartapanis, noted, "This partnership once again bears witness to the social character of MITERA Children's Hospital. In the almost 10 years it has been operating, the Hospital has been serving children and their families with respect and a high sense of responsibility, fully addressing all their needs, at all times. As part of its extensive Corporate Social Responsibility Program and charitable actions, MITERA Children's Hospital is continuing its partnership with Bodies and Associations, so as to provide free hospitalization to underprivileged children."

MITERA Children's Hospital, the most comprehensive tertiary children's healthcare provider in Greece, has a fully organized Pediatric Cardiology-Pediatric Cardiac Surgery Clinic, which includes state-of-the-art operating rooms, a Cardiology-Cardiac Surgery ICU and a modern catheterization Laboratory, exclusively for children.

#### ***A few words about Professor Afksendiyos Kalangos***

Professor Afksendiyos Kalangos was trained by Dr Alain Carpentier and Sir Magdi Yacoub, and worked closely with the latter during his professional career. He is a Full- Time Professor at the University of Geneva and Head of Cardiovascular Surgery at the University Hospital of Geneva. Being the founder of

the “Hearts for all” Charity institution (1998) and the founder and Chairman of the Kalangos Institution (2002), the Greek physician from Istanbul has been distinguished worldwide for his charity work. In the last 10 years, he has performed pro bono surgery on 14,000 children. His name is synonymous to the selfless provision of healthcare services to a great number of patients with heart disease in Lebanon, Georgia, Serbia, Cyprus, India, Morocco, Algeria, Mauritius, Mozambique, Eritrea, Kyrgyzstan, Madagascar, Venezuela, Ukraine, Botswana, Azerbaijan, Cameroon, Rwanda and Zambia.

Professor Kalangos is also, among others, Chairman of the World Society of Cardiothoracic Surgeons for 2014 and Vice-Chairman of the Orthodox Center in Geneva.