

# Newsletter 43

| September 2018 |

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## Welcome note

We are pleased to present to you issue 43 of Remedica's Newsletter.

Summer is slowly drifting away, but activity is flowing at Remedica! This edition highlights some of the many activities and events that have taken place between June and September as Remedica now prepares for the busyness of fall. Important highlights of this issue are the hosting of a high-level meeting with the Minister of Commerce, Industry and Tourism at Remedica's premises and the abundance of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities that the company has undertaken such as Remedica's partaking in IMH's CSR Conference and the 3on3 corporate tournament, the sponsoring of the fashion show "Secret Garden" organised by Cyprus Association of Cancer Patients and Friends (PASYKAF), and the funding of and participation in an event featuring a unique performance of a Bolshoi ballet led by the world-renowned ballet dancer, Ivan Vasiliev.

On the occasion of the World Environment Day, special articles in this edition of the newsletter are also dedicated to important environmental matters. We are also delighted to share with you that Remedica's new product, Trinistem® has received its first regulatory approval.

We are anticipating a new start and look forward to sharing new opportunities and accomplishments with you!

Keep reading to find out more about all these exciting news!

Charalambos Pattihis  
Group Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

## Remedica Worldwide

### Tonus-Les LLC, Republic of Armenia



Armenia is an independent country which was previously part of the former Soviet Union, in the mountainous

Caucasus region between Asia and Europe. It is home to one of the earliest Christian civilisations, as evidenced by religious sites such as the Greco-Roman Temple of Garni and the 4<sup>th</sup> century Etchmiadzin Cathedral, headquarters of the Armenian Church. Khor Virap Monastery is a pilgrimage site near Mount Ararat, a dormant volcano just across the border in Turkey.

Remedica's local agent in the Republic of Armenia is Tonus-Les Limited Liability Company (LLC) who started trading with Remedica in 2012. It was founded in 2000 and since then it has been conducting its activity in Armenia for about 18 years. Due to its dynamic development, it is now one of the major leaders in this field. Today, the Company operates a whole chain from drug manufacturing to wholesale and retail, and is the official and exclusive representative of various outstanding pharmaceutical companies in Armenia, as well as in Georgia. It has established itself as one of the most reputable companies engaged in active representation activities such as:

- Market Monitoring
- Market Promotion and Development
- Developing new ideas and projects

Due to the professional work of its highly qualified pharmacists and marketing specialists, the company has become an indispensable intermediary between drug consumers and manufacturers. In 2010, Tonus-Les LLC established the "FDA Laboratory" LLC, which is a complex structure consisting of 4 departments: the Food Safety

Analysis Department, the Drug Quality and Bioequivalence Analysis Department, the Tobacco and Tobacco Products Analysis Department, and the Microbiological Department. The FDA Laboratory is included in the analytical laboratories list of the Eurasian Customs Union and has received international accreditation by the American National Accreditation Body (ANAB) in accordance with the standard ISO 17025-2005. Test reports issued by the "FDA Laboratory" are valid internationally. "Tonus-Les" also offers CRO services, which include bioequivalence studies, clinical research, regulatory affairs, and medical writing for the pharmaceutical and medical device industries. In 2016 "Tonus-Les" founded the Drug Bioequivalence study clinic.

Throughout its history, the company has been awarded with numerous prizes, awards and diplomas. In 2010 it received the honourable prize "European Quality" at the European Business Summit in Oxford, UK. In 2017, within the framework of the 6<sup>th</sup> annual national award ceremony, "Tonus-Les" was declared as the "Pharmaceutical Company of the Year". The company is always guided by the following principle: "What can be done today should have been done a day before."



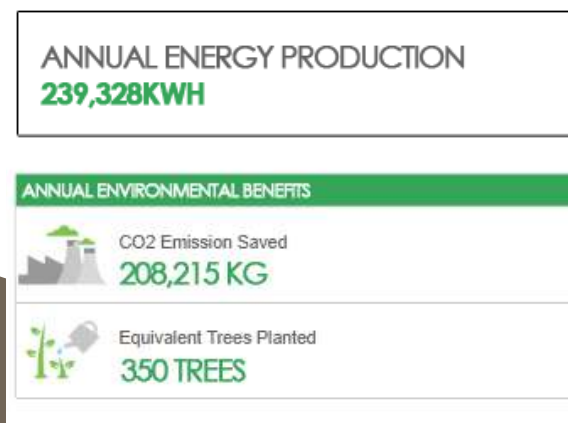
# Environmental Issues

## Staying Green: Remedica installs a Photovoltaic System in Building 10



The installation of a photovoltaic system has been completed in the company's Building 10 with a total power capacity of 149.58KW. This system aims to save energy by taking advantage of the high levels of solar energy that exist in Cyprus throughout the year, thereby reducing the Island's consumption, since the net energy produced by the Photovoltaic System (PV) will flow directly to Remedica's premises with any additional needs covered by the network of the Electricity Authority of Cyprus (EAC). The proper design of systems which fall under the auto-production plan, plays a very important role because normally any surplus energy flows into the EAC network with no benefit accruing to the production source. This is not the case for Remedica since the consumption needs are matched to the amount of electricity produced by the PV. The main components of the system are the PV modules which convert the solar rays into direct current electrical energy

that the voltage converters change to alternating current. In total, the system consists of 554 boxes capable of producing 270 watts (W) each and 6 voltage converters and is expected to generate 239,328 kilowatt hours (KWh) annually with a value of €31,150.00 at current KWh prices. Below are some graphs and tables that can be accessed in the surveillance system gateway.



Apart from the evident economic benefits, the PV system also offers some other significant benefits which occur from the production of renewable electric energy, such as the prevention of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions into the atmosphere. For each KWh produced from a pure energy source, the emission of 0.87 kilograms (kg) of CO<sub>2</sub> is avoided, so in Remedica's case, the overall benefit is much greater if we consider the total amount of energy produced by the PV system each year (239328 KWh × 0.87 = 208215kg of CO<sub>2</sub>). In order to optimise the system's performance, a production monitoring device has been installed providing information on the amount of energy produced (per day, week, year and in total from the day it was put into operation), storage and other useful parameters, thus enabling the identification of possible malfunctions, problems or factors that might contribute to energy losses if not detected promptly. Finally, the investment in this green energy source by Remedica will not only benefit the planet and the island but also the company's customers by reducing the cost of Remedica's products with no impact on their quality.

Remedica's annual energy production and environmental benefits

## Pollution by the Waste of Domestic Animals

Since the dawn of human civilisation, the exploitation of domesticated animal resources has played a vital role in sustaining the growth and well-being of the human population. This was achieved through the continuous provision of animal protein for consumption, the supply of skin and wool for clothing, the use of manure as an agricultural fertiliser, and the utilisation of bones for the manufacture of tools. Nowadays, industrialisation of animal production has increased both the availability of animal commodities as well as the benefits that these provide to mankind. However, this industrialisation has also been accompanied by the increase of domestic animal by-products which pose an emerging environmental concern.



It should be noted that according to the Statistical Office of the European Communities (Eurostat), 130 million livestock units existed in the European Union (EU) in 2013 and of these about 48% were cattle, 26% were pigs and 15% were poultry. France had the biggest number of total livestock units with 21.8 million, followed by Germany with 18.4 million and Spain with 14.5 million. Eurostat also reported that in 2013, Cyprus, Spain and Malta were the countries where pigs formed the largest category of their national livestock, reaching 41%, 40% and 36% respectively. As the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) suggests, pollution generated by intensive and often crowded livestock operations poses a threat to the quality of soil, water, air, biodiversity and ultimately to public health. This is mainly due to



the concentrated production of massive quantities of manure which result from the large numbers of livestock in any given area.

According to the FAO, much of the risk of pollution due to livestock is relevant to the relationship between manure use and agricultural crop production. In traditional mixed farming sites, manure and other domestic animal waste are utilised as fertilisers by farmers for cultivation of their own crops. Both farmers and the environment benefit from this approach since it both conserves financial resources and avoids the introduction of chemical substances. On the other hand, livestock production on an industrial scale leads to an accumulation of large quantities of waste which are more likely to be produced in locations too remote from arable lands where they could have been utilised for beneficial purposes.

Consequently, particularly during periods of rainfall, large amounts of nutrient-containing effluent are likely to flow over into streams or soils. In effect, the accumulation of nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorous into water bodies is likely

to produce eutrophication, the phenomenon where oxygen in the water is depleted as a result of a population explosion of algae on its surface. As a result, fish either die or abandon the affected area, increasing the ecological disturbance of the aquatic ecosystem. In addition to this, the unbalanced ecosystem is no longer suitable for human activities, such as irrigation, fishing or leisure.

Furthermore, according to the European Environment Agency, high concentrations of nitrates in drinking water can cause ill health due to the fact that nitrates in humans are converted rapidly to nitrite which leads to a reduction in oxygen circulating in the blood.

Moreover, the storage of large quantities of accumulated manure resulting from the concentration of livestock production results in the release of ammonia, methane and other gases into the atmosphere. According to the FAO, ammonia emissions contribute to the production of acid rain and nitrogen deposition, which negatively impact agricultural and other terrestrial ecosystems. Methane emissions also contribute to climate change: the United States Environmental Protection Agency claims that, with a global warming potential of 28-36, it is almost 40 times more damaging to the environment than carbon dioxide.

Despite the fact that the FAO has raised the matter of pollution by the waste from domestic animals, as it admits, yet more effective policies are required to control the handling of the waste produced by intensive livestock operations on a global level.



## Our Products

**Trinistem®**

**(Efavirenz 600mg, Emtricitabine 200mg, Tenofovir Disoproxil Succinate 245mg)**



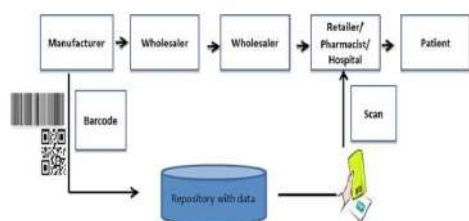
Recently, the medicinal product Trinistem® has received its first regulatory approval. Trinistem® contains the active substances Efavirenz, Emtricitabine and Tenofovir Disoproxil Succinate and it is indicated for the treatment of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV-1) for adults aged 18 years and over.

Trinistem® is available containing 600mg, 200mg and 245mg of the active ingredients in each film-coated tablet.

# Regulations

## Implementation of Falsified Medicines Directive (FMD)

For several years, the Member States of the EU and the pharmaceutical companies have been concerned about the increasing threat of counterfeit or 'falsified' medicinal products to public health and safety. In 2011, the European Commission (EC) amended the Directive 2001/83/EC to address these concerns under the Falsified Medicines Directive (FMD) - Directive 2011/62/EC - and in February 2016 the EU Delegated Regulation 2016/161 was adopted which supplemented Directive 2001/83/EC by laying down detailed rules for the safety features that will need to appear on the packaging of medicinal products for human use. It will come into force on the 9<sup>th</sup> of February 2019. The FMD is designed to protect patients by minimising the chances of counterfeit medicinal products entering into the established medicines supply chains across the European Economic Area (plus Switzerland). It will enable manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors and everyone who supplies patients to verify the authenticity of a medicinal product, identify individual packs, and check whether the outer packaging of medicines has been tampered with.



### How the Medicines Verification System works

It is the responsibility of the Marketing Authorisation Holders (e.g. Remedica) to print a Unique Identifier (UI) on each saleable unit (for Prescription Only Medicines) and then upload the data of that UI on the centralised European Medicines Verification System (EMVS – EU Hub), when the marketable units are released for sale. A number of national repositories called 'National Medicines Verification Systems (NMVS)' will be connected together via the centralised EMVS-EU Hub which will be responsible for distributing the UI data to the appropriate (NMVS). At the point of dispensing, the pharmacy system will then verify the UI against the NMVS for its market.

### Remedica's achievements

In line with the EU Falsified Medicines Directive 2011/62/EU (FMD) and the EU Commission Delegated Regulation 2016/161, Remedica is proud to announce that as a compliant organisation it has successfully implemented the European Directive requirements for Marketing Authorisation Holders, 6 months before the timelines set by the European Competent Authorities. Furthermore, Remedica as a member of the Cyprus Association of Generic Manufacturers (PASYPAGEF) was one of the founding members of the Cyprus Medicines Verification Organisation (KOEf) - a non-profit organisation, responsible for the setup and maintenance of the Cyprus Medicines Verification System. The involvement of Remedica's employees, whose contribution concerning equipment, software and the implementation of regulations, was crucial for the successful outcome of the FMD project.

### Remedica's vision

By implementing the EU Delegated Regulation requirements, Remedica aims to raise awareness about the dangers of fake medicines, provide a voice for those who have been personally impacted and thereby protect public health. The main purpose of this initiative is to build a global movement of organisations and individuals aiming to eliminate the negative impact that fake medicines have on people around the globe.

## Major Changes regarding the General Data Protection Regulation



The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) - officially named Directive 2016/679 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data - is a directive that lays down rules relating to the protection of EU nationals with regard to the processing of personal data. It became effective as of the 25<sup>th</sup> of May 2018. Remedica duly complied with the aforementioned regulation and strives to provide its staff, partners and customers with the reassurance that the company operates in a secure environment, protecting their personal data, delivering high-quality Information Technology (IT) services. As part of its ongoing process of reviewing, documenting, updating and revising the company's internal processes with regards to the GDPR, some of the recent major actions and changes are given below:

1. A Data Protection Officer (DPO) was appointed by the company whose contact details have been shared with the Office of the Commissioner for Personal Data Protection and with company's employees
2. A GDPR team consisting of the DPO and a Legal Advisor was assigned the main objective to discuss improvements or changes related to the GDPR and to handle personal data issues if and when they occur
3. A risk assessment was performed to evaluate the privacy and personal data protection risks of the company's processing operations with the view of taking appropriate actions to prevent or at least minimise any related risks
4. Internal audits were performed in all departments in order to identify and define the activities that each one needs to undertake with regards to the GDPR, and to identify the type of information which is to be collected
5. Physical and electronic security measures were enhanced, such as creating secured and locked filing cabinets, regulating access to buildings and offices, controlling access to electronic systems and folders, implementing computerised systems such as the Data Loss Prevention, Data Insight, Bluecoat, etc.
6. Internal procedures were documented to comply with the GDPR including a Privacy Policy document
7. Legal documents have been revised to comply with the GDPR
8. The Company's website was assessed and designed to comply with the GDPR for the processing of candidate employees resume uploads, general and safety enquiries and consent forms were added to ensure that the Company's communication with external stakeholders is compliant with GDPR
9. Following approval by the Cyprus Office of the Commissioner for Personal Data Protection, Remedica implemented a new web-based Human Resources System providing a self-service portal access for the company's employees

# Corporate Social Responsibility: Remedica Cares

## 1) Remedica makes a Financial Contribution to the Fire-Struck Victims of Greece (photo 1)

Remedica expresses its sincere condolences to the families of the victims of the fires in Greece. Soon after being made aware of the fires, staff employed by Remedica offered a large number of essential items as well as a cash sum of € 2,500. Additionally, the company's management provided € 20,000 through the Hope for Children Foundation in order to replace facilities that were lost in the fire-struck areas of Greece. The Managing Director of Remedica, Dr Michael Neoptolemos, offered the money to the Commissioner for Volunteerism and Non-Governmental Organisations, Mr Yiannis Yiannakis. The donation was made during a concert given by the popular singers Antonis Remos and Anna Vissi which took place at the Nicosia Municipal Gardens next to the Cyprus House of Representatives.



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## 2) Financial support for the Organisation of the Annual World Conference of Overseas Cypriots (photo 2)

In the context of the Remedica's support for issues of expatriate Cypriots, the company provided financial contribution to the Youth Section of the World Federation of Overseas Cypriots for the organisation of the Annual World Conference of Overseas Cypriots, which took place in Nicosia between the 25<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> July 2018. Dr Michael Neoptolemos, Managing Director, participated in the Conference on behalf of the company. The Conference, like every year, was attended by representatives of the Federations of Overseas Cypriots from all over the world, making it one of the most important events in the country for expatriates. It represents a unique opportunity for the Cypriot expatriates to discuss important issues that concern them, to connect with Cypriot state and party officials, and to be informed about the current developments in the Cypriot political scene and about issues that concern Cyprus. The President of the Republic of Cyprus inaugurated the World Conference, as an indication of the importance granted to this event by the Cyprus Government. The conference was considered to be a resounding success and received significant coverage by the Cypriot media as well as the Cypriot communities around the world.



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## 3) Cyprus Red Cross Society's Event in Honour of the Financial Supporters of the 2018 Pancyprian Fundraiser, among which Remedica was one (photo 3)

The President of the Cyprus Red Cross Society, Mrs Fotini Papadopoulou and members of its Council organised an event on the 12<sup>th</sup> of July 2018, to honour and thank all those who contributed to the success of the organisation's 2018 Pancyprian fundraiser. Mrs Papadopoulou expressed her great appreciation to the supporters and volunteers, who tirelessly support the work of the Cyprus Red Cross Society, aiming to strengthen its programmes and the humanitarian services it offers to those in need. As an indication of gratitude and appreciation, the President of the Cyprus Red Cross Society presented Remedica with an honorary plaque, for financially supporting the fundraiser and the ongoing work of the organisation. The event was attended by distinguished guests, business executives, a large number of volunteers and staff of the Cyprus Red Cross Society.



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## 4) Participation in IMH's 11<sup>th</sup> Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Conference (photo 4)

All major stakeholders in the field of business in Cyprus came together at the 11<sup>th</sup> Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Conference, held on the 6<sup>th</sup> of July 2018, at the Hilton Park Hotel, Nicosia, Cyprus. The emphasis of the Conference was sustainable development, which focused not only on the needs of today's generation but also those that follow. The main pillars of CSR presented at the Conference were society, environment and economy. CSR specialists and market professionals shared their experiences using tangible examples and analysed the 17 Sustainable Development Goals while touching upon responsible investment and funding, CSR implementation in the supply chain, and the engagement of employees, consumers, and suppliers in CSR. By way of example, the CSR program implemented by Remedica is founded on the pillars of the environment, human resources, health and society and is based on transparent and ethical practices. More information is available on <https://tinyurl.com/ycphdwfy>.



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## 5) The Biggest Cultural Event of the Summer Sponsored by Remedica with one of the Top Dancers of All Time (photo 5)

Remedica sponsored the biggest cultural event of the summer which was undoubtedly the performance of the amazing Ivan Vasiliev in Cyprus, who is considered to be one of the leading dancers of all time. Twelve soloists from the Bolshoi ballet accompanied Ivan Vasiliev, who is feted as the "new Nureyev", for a performance that took place on the 6<sup>th</sup> of July at the Limassol Municipal Gardens. The event was organised by the Theotokos Foundation, which launched a series of events which will culminate in 2019 in conjunction with the Foundation's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Dr Michael Neoptolemos, Managing Director, and Mr Andreas Hadjipanayis, Marketing Manager and National Sales Manager, attended this event on behalf of the company. Ivan Vasiliev's performances with the famous Bolshoi Ballet are considered to be unique on all levels and the evening's program was truly captivating.

## 6) Go Team Remedica: Participation in the Limassol 3on3 Corporate Basketball Tournament (photo 6)

We are delighted to inform you that Remedica's basketball team participated in the Limassol 3on3 Corporate Basketball Tournament held at Molos in Limassol, Cyprus between the 8<sup>th</sup> and the 10<sup>th</sup> of June 2018. The team managed to qualify as one of the top 16 teams in the tournament and consisted of colleagues Andreas Vasiliou, Kyriakos Drakos, Andreas Pieris, and Pantelis Vafeas. The team was coached by Dinos Economides. The proceeds of this tournament were donated to the Cypriot wheelchair basketball teams and to the Social Grocery of the Limassol Municipality.



6

## 7) Funding of the "Secret Garden" Fashion Show of the Cyprus Association of Cancer Patients and Friends (PASYKAF) (photo 7)

Remedica sponsored and participated in a charity fashion show entitled the "Secret Garden", organised by the Cyprus Association of Cancer Patients and Friends (PASYKAF) and held in the Spyros Kyprianou Athletic Center in Limassol, on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2018. Mr Andreas Hadjipanayis, who participated on behalf of the company, gave an inaugurating address, emphasising the significance of supporting important social causes such as helping cancer patients. Taking part in the show were the boutiques Eres+ and Carlitos, who presented their creations. The show was held under the auspices of Mrs Andri Anastasiades, the First Lady of the Republic of Cyprus who was present at the event. It was also attended by members of the socialite scene of Cyprus as well as well-known fashion and business personalities. All the proceeds were given to PASYKAF in order to continue to provide its free services and programs. PASYKAF thanked its financial supporters, among which was Remedica, who was a platinum sponsor for this event. After the completion of the fashion show, a cocktail party followed which offered the ideal networking opportunity for guests.



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## Remedica People



### Mr Antros Yiasemi, Human Resources Manager

Mr Yiasemi completed his Bachelors and Master's degrees in Surveying Engineering at the National Technical University of Athens (Metsovio), in Greece with a scholarship from the Cyprus Ministry of Finance. Following his graduation, he completed his Master's in Business Administration (MBA) where he had the opportunity to expand his knowledge in human resources through an internship. His professional experience in the human resources sector started in a financial services company where he was responsible for more than 200 employees in four countries. After 5 years in this role he joined Remedica in 2017. Over the past few years, he has completed a Master's degree in Human Resources and Organisational Behaviour and has become certified as a Labour Relations Officer. Mr Yiasemi invests in his personal development through his commitment to continuous education, evidence of which is the award of an Investment Foundations Certificate by the Chartered Financial Analyst Institute and an advanced certificate in Financial Services Legal Framework by the Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission. Mr Yiasemi is a full member of the Cyprus Human Resource Management Association.

## Health Matters

### World Heart Day recognised and celebrated on the 29<sup>th</sup> of September 2018

In May 2012, global leaders made a commitment to lower death rates from any non-communicable disease (NCD) by 25% at an international level by 2025. Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is responsible for virtually fifty per cent of all NCD fatalities making it the leading cause of death worldwide. The World Heart Day provides an excellent opportunity for the CVD community to join hands in the battle against CVD and also decrease the worldwide disease burden. Introduced by the World Heart Federation, the World Heart Day raises awareness regarding CVD, which includes stroke and which is the globe's leading reason of fatality with 17.5 million lives lost annually. The campaign emphasises the actions required to reduce and prevent CVD. It aims to inform individuals that by managing risk factors such as smoking, poor diet and also lack of exercise, a minimum of 80% of deaths from cardiovascular disease and stroke could be prevented. World Heart Day is an international campaign by means of which members of the public, families, communities, as well as governments all over the world, join hands to control their heart health and safeguard the wellness of others. Through this campaign, the World Heart Federation unites individuals from various countries and cultures in the battle against CVD and motivates and leads the efforts towards worldwide action urging heart-healthy living throughout the world. The campaign's slogan is the following:

### *For my heart, for your heart ... for all our hearts*

To honour World Heart Day on the 29<sup>th</sup> of September, participants as well as partners of the World Heart Federation, and also people throughout the globe will be planning events and activities.



### References

<https://www.world-heart-federation.org/world-heart-day/>

# Remedica News

## 1) The Sad Passing of Mr Antonis Pierides, a Respected Collaborator of Remedica (photo 1)

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of Mr Antonis Pierides, a respected collaborator of Remedica. Mr Pierides was born in Evrichou village in 1943. He studied Mechanical and Electrical Engineering at the National Technical University of Athens (Metsovio). In 1977, Mr Pierides founded Pierpack Plastics Ltd, becoming a pioneer in plastics manufacturing for the pharmaceutical, food and cosmetics industries. At some point during 1978, Mr Pierides met Mr Chris Pattichis, the late founder of Remedica and a fruitful business co-operation started to flourish, first with T. Pattichis Chemical Co Ltd for the manufacture of aerosol caps and later with Remedica for the production of pharmaceutical containers. Both businessmen were genuine and humble with tremendous vision, able to identify and exploit the right opportunities at the right time. This business cooperation developed into a personal and warm friendship based on mutual respect which continues today between their successors Mr Charalambos Pattihis, Remedica CEO, and Mr Telis and Mrs Polina Pieridou.



1

## 2) Remedica Sponsors the 2<sup>nd</sup> Cyprus Healthcare Conference Gala (photo 2)

Remedica sponsored and participated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Cyprus Healthcare Conference Gala, organised by IMH, which took place on the 27<sup>th</sup> of September 2018, in Nicosia, Cyprus. The aim of this event was to bring together all the major stakeholders in the Cypriot healthcare system and to present and discuss the latest developments in the field. The Cyprus Healthcare Conference Gala combined entertainment with an informative experience, making it a unique evening for the attendees. The event accommodated keynote speakers from the international arena who addressed the role of technology in the modern world of medicine as well as the latest trends and developments within the healthcare industry. The event was attended by Dr Michael Neoptolemos, Managing Director, and Mr Andreas Hadjipanayi, Marketing Manager and National Sales Manager.



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## 3) Visit of the Minister of Energy, Commerce, Industry and Tourism to the Industrial Areas of Limassol (photo 3)

During his visit to Limassol, Mr George Lakkotrypis, Minister of Energy, Commerce, Industry and Tourism attended a scheduled meeting with the Boards of Association of the three Industrial Areas of Limassol at Remedica's premises on the 28<sup>th</sup> June 2018. The purpose of the visit was to exchange views and allow the industrialists to share their concerns about the challenges and the prospects in the implementation of a new industrial policy. During the meeting, Dr Michael Neoptolemos, Managing Director of Remedica, in his capacity as President of the Industrialist's Association of the First Limassol Industrial Estate, coordinated the discussion. In addition to the Minister and representatives of the Ministry, a large number of industrialists from other Limassol industrial Estates and Zones as well as the President and the Secretary-General of the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry participated in the meeting. At the end of the meeting, the Minister of Energy, Industry, Industry and Tourism departed and went on to visit the Agios Silas and the Agios Athanasios Industrial Estates.



3

## The interview of Dr Michael Neoptolemos, Remedica's Managing Director, Featured on Pharmaboardroom's Website

We are proud to share with you that Remedica's Managing Director, Dr Michael Neoptolemos's interview has been published online on the website of Pharmaboardroom. In the interview, Dr Neoptolemos, takes us through the evolution of Remedica, one of the leading pharmaceutical companies in Cyprus, and outlines this successful business model. Dr Neoptolemos also highlights the key opportunities the recent acquisition by Ascendis Health in 2016 has brought to Remedica and describes how it will further enhance the organisation's global presence. More information is available on: <https://bit.ly/2N9DLUW>



# A Glimpse of Cyprus: cypriot mosaics

The art of mosaic creation flourished independently from the rest of the arts on the island of Cyprus and for many years artists recorded scenes from everyday life and expressed their feelings in the form of mosaics, making use of stones, pebbles, and glass. This art form became very popular throughout the years. The first known mosaics were found in the Middle East, in Mesopotamia and date around 3000 BC and the Greeks were known to create mosaics before the Alexandrian era began in 330 BC. Cyprus, at least from the middle Roman era, was considered one of the most important centres for mosaic art in the Eastern Mediterranean region, incorporating elements from the Hellenistic, Roman, early Christian and early Byzantine periods until the 7<sup>th</sup> century AD. When the invasion by the Arabs eventually brought about the decline of this art form in the Island. Surprisingly, the first reference to the discovery of mosaics in Cyprus only dates back to 1563, when a visitor's commentary appeared on a mosaic floor at the Salamina palace. The continual excavations that were carried out up until the 19<sup>th</sup> century revealed several other mosaics, but no other commentary was found on these sites. However, the excavations that took place after the 1960s revealed the remarkable mosaics of Paphos, Kourio, and Salamina.

The mosaics that were unearthed at Panagia Kanakaria are considered to be of major importance and some were preserved until 1979. Although a big portion of the mosaics were destroyed, the remaining segments decorated temples until the period of the Byzantine Iconoclasm (War on icons) and presented unique and striking characteristics. The mosaics of Kanakaria in the synthesis titled "Theotokos" depicted the Virgin Mary "Theotokos" on a throne surrounded by a bright glow while holding Christ and the Archangels next to her. This is a visual element characteristic of the early Byzantine period and is not found in later samples. These mosaics were a source of inspiration for the artists

and the creators of mosaics of the Byzantine era, especially those of Constantinople. Unfortunately, because of their forceful removal during the Turkish invasion of Cyprus, these mosaics were destroyed, and those that were in a relatively good condition were stolen and were illegally exported and sold.

A few years later some of these mosaics were discovered in Indiana, United States of America (USA) and the Republic of Cyprus along with the Church of Cyprus opened legal proceedings against their possessors. The mosaics were returned in 1991 but they were in a poor condition. The Byzantine Museum of the Cultural Centre of the Archbishop Makarios III Foundation in collaboration with the Cyprus Institute launched an awareness campaign making the general public aware of the history of the important mosaics of Panagia Kanakaria that represented rare examples of the 6<sup>th</sup> century AD art as well as their destruction. It is pleasing to note that these mosaics are now exhibited in the Byzantine Museum of the Cultural Centre of the Archbishop Makarios III Foundation in Nicosia, Cyprus. Some of the most stunning floor mosaics which are outstanding for their beauty and magnificence are situated in Lamaca and Akaki and constitute extraordinary samples of historic craftsmanship. The mosaics of Akaki consist of impressive floors in extremely good condition dating back to the 4<sup>th</sup> century AD. Part of these mosaics were discovered in 1938 but were not completely unearthed until recently. The "Ippodromos" scene (horse race) which dates back to the Roman period is considered to be a rare find as only seven examples have been found at archaeological sites in the whole world. The mosaics of Lamaca are of immense archaeological value and of rare beauty and derive from the Roman and the Hellenistic era. The Department of Antiquities of the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Works conducted research that showed

that this site consists of an enormous mosaic that extends over 90 square meters. It was in really good condition and according to an initial assessment; it appears to be divided into smaller segments each of which portrays the labours of Hercules. In the house of Leda, a Roman house situated in Alonia northwest of the Sanctuary of Aphrodite in Kouklia, there is an extraordinary mosaic floor. The only room salvaged from this house - the central one (containing three beds - "triklinio" in Greek), which is covered by a mosaic floor depicting the myth of Leda and Kyknos dating back to the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD. Today it is exhibited at the Local Archaeological Museum of Palaipafos (Kouklia), which is located in the Medieval Agrepavlis. Kourio is not only known for its theatre and Roman market but also for the archaeological area where some remarkable mosaics can be found inside the Houses of Achilles and Efstolios. The most interesting mosaic tile among these is the one representing the mythological scene of Achilles revealing his identity to Odysseus who is dressed as a merchant, in the yard of Lycomidis, the King of Skyros. The excavators presumed that this area would have been used to welcome the nobility of the era. Currently, the Cyprus Handicrafts Centre endeavours to promote the use of mosaic art forms to cover floors and walls on inside and outside buildings, giving a unique aesthetic character with charm and individuality. The mosaics of Cyprus are a timeless art form with a longstanding tradition, which makes use of natural materials that enrich the Cypriot cultural wealth and knowledge of the subject. Therefore, the only thing that remains is to put the craftsman's hand to good use.

## References

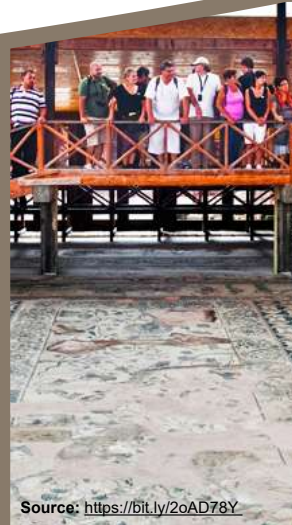
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