Human New Genetics

A.Athanassiadou PhD Associate Professor in Molecular Genetics

> Dept of Biology Faculty of Medicine University of Patras

Human New Genetics

derives from the use of Genetic Engineering tools

(Gene Cloning, Gene Transfer, And Genomics)

>> Tasks

- Localization of Disease Genes
- Determination of Molecular Pathology
- •Developing of Molecular Strategies for:

Prognosis

Diagnosis

Therapy

>> Means

Mutation Detection for:
 Prenatal Diagnosis
 Postnatal Diagnosis

•Gene Transfer for : Gene Therapy

1st Major Scope:

Prevention

The Greek Paradigm:

The National Program for the Molecular Diagnosis of β-Thalassaemia

A Successful Story

1st Major Scope:

The *Prevention* of β-Thalassaemia

>> The Role of:

the Academia
the State
the Media
the Church

In the development and the implementation of the Program

>> The Role of :

→ the Academia

- 1. Technology transfer and development
- 2. Actions towards the Government

>> The Role of:

→ the State

- 1. Development of Infrastructure for
 - > Heterozygote detection
 - > Prevention
- 2. School Education

>> The Role of :

_the Media

- Organizing Discussions, Interviews ect
- Actively promoting information on
 - 1. State actions
 - 2. Reports of Learned Bodies

>> The Role of:

→ the Church

Cooperation with state authorities on Wedding papers

>> The Effect of the Program on the activities of :

Parent and Patient associations

- 1. Organization of Meetings of Experts
- 2. Funding research (small scale)
- 3. Facilitation of Clinical Functions
- 4. Free Entrance to Higher Education

>> The Effect of the Program on the activities of :

The Thalassaemia International Federation (TIF)

- 1. Creation of International network
- 2. Dissemination of Information
- 3. Support for Clinical Functions
- 4. Support for Education and Research

2nd Major Scope:

The *Treatment* of β-Thalassaemia

Bone Marrow Transplantations

Gene Therapy for \beta-Thalassaemia

Gene Therapy for β-Thalassaemia

The Scientific issue (International)

- 1. Availability and suitability of Transfer Systems
- 2. Complex regulation of β -gene expression

Gene Therapy for **\beta-Thalassaemia**

The Moral issue

More acceptable than Prenatal diagnosis

Gene Therapy for β-Thalassaemia

The Medical Care issue

- 1. Unknown requirements
- 2.Lack of expert personnel

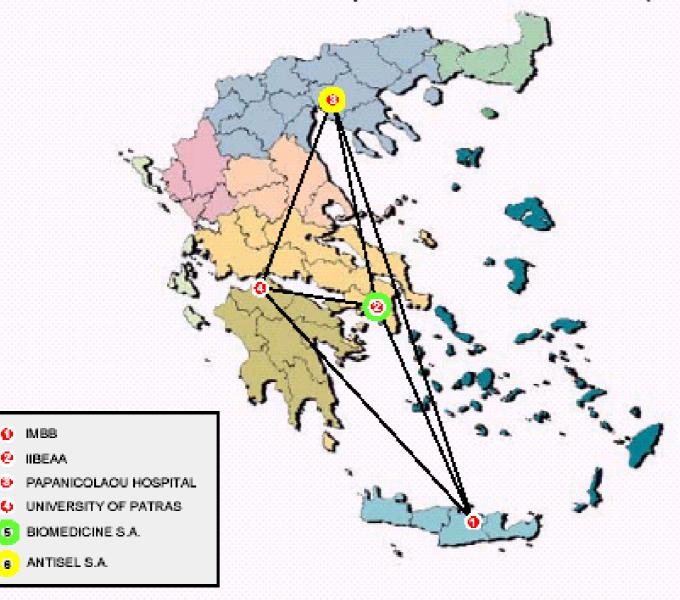
Gene Therapy for β-Thalassaemia

The Finamcial issue

- 1.Low International Investment
- 2. High National Interest

The Development of Gene Therapy Network in Greece

Greek Network for Vector Development and Gene Transfer (GENETHERNET)



Thank you