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George K. Christophides is Professor of Infectious Diseases and Immunity and Director of the Vector Immunogenomics and Infection Laboratory (VigiLab) at Imperial College London, United Kingdom. He is also Adjunct Professor at the Cyprus Institute, Cyprus. He received his PhD from the University of Athens and joined the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL) in Heidelberg, Germany, as a postdoctoral Marie Curie Fellow and later as a Staff Scientist. He moved to Imperial College in 2005. Professor Christophides research is in the fields of insect innate immunity and vector-borne diseases, especially malaria. He has published a series of benchmark papers that contributed to the advancement of these fields. He pioneered the field of mosquito functional genomics and has been centrally involved in sequencing the genomes of disease vector mosquitoes. He coordinated several large and international research projects, and served as advisor to WHO, the EFSA and other organisations. He is a member of several academic institutions including the Cyprus Agency of Quality Assurance and Accreditation of Higher Education. He is also elected Fellow of the Royal Society of Biology, Senior Investigator of the Wellcome Trust, and Special Visiting Fellow of the National Council of Scientific and Technological Development of Brazil. He has been recently awarded substantial funding by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to engineer mosquitoes that are resistant to malaria and to use them in gene drive approaches toward mosquito population modification and malaria elimination. He lectures undergraduate students pursuing BSc degrees in Biological Sciences, Biochemistry and Medicine, and supervises the Master's and Doctoral theses of several students at Imperial and elsewhere.