

AWARDS & DISTINCTIONS:

DR. THOMAS THEOLOGOU – MD

- Awarded by the US STS a TSF grant to organize a mission since 2009 to Ho Chi Minh City, at the University Medical Center UMC, Cardiothoracic Department, for the "Heartbeat Vietnam" program for poor and underserved patients, including minors and adults. November 2024.
- Awarded by the US STS of a grant for a leadership program for future cardiothoracic department and hospital leaders, to the STS Leadership Foundation. Society of Thoracic Surgeons, 633 N. Saint Clair Street Suite 2100 Chicago Illinois 60611 USA (April 2022-January 2023).
- Awarded by the US STS a TSF grant to organize a mission since 2009 to Ho Chi Minh City, at the University Medical Center UMC, Cardiothoracic Department, for the "Heartbeat Vietnam" program for poor and underserved patients, including minors and adults. August 2022.
- Award for the best paper of the Society of Cardiothoracic Surgery (SCTS) in March 2019 in London, United Kingdom, on the topic: "Repair of thoracoabdominal aneurysms using aortic clamp or with DHCA. Neurological events and mortality after twenty years. The Liverpool experience".
- Award for the best cardiac video SCTS in March 2018 in Glasgow, United Kingdom, on the topic: "mini-mitral robotic the LEAR technique for robotics in mitral surgery".
- Award for the best cardiac video during the SCTS academic meeting of Prof. G. Murphy in November 2018 in Leicester, United Kingdom, entitled: "The LEAR technique for robotics in mitral surgery".
- Award for the best presentation and summary for the clinical and surgical academic research program entitled "Transcriptional profile of c-kit+ cardiac stem progenitor cells (c-kit+ eESCs) isolated from the four chambers of the adult human heart" at the meeting of the Hellenic International Cardiothoracic Society in Athens (Greece) in October 2014.
- One-year award from LHCH for my MPhil research period between December 2012 and March 2013.
- BRENDAI Award May 2011, European Society for Surgical Research (ESSR) (Aachen, Germany) for the best presentation and summary in the surgical clinical academic research program entitled: Biological Properties & Regenerative Potential, In Vitro & in Vivo, from human heart stem cells isolated from the adult human heart.
- Best Presentation Award at the Alcock's Surgical Society Meeting at St. Thomas' Hospital Kings College London, November 2008.
- Award for best performance in the Liverpool Cardiothoracic Center's anastomosis course in February 2008
- Scholarship from the Rectorate of the University of Trieste as the most integrity and dedicated medical student of the year 1997-98.

– Humanitarian missions

- Between January 2010 and September 2014, in collaboration with the Vina-Capital Foundation with the help of Dr. Tom Pezzela, a leader in the establishment of cardiac surgery in Vietnam, and Robin Austin King, head of the World Heart Foundation, the cardiac surgery program in Vietnam was improved. After visiting two cardiovascular units, Ho Chi Minh University Hospital (UMC), and the Carpenter Center, adult and pediatric surgeries were performed. At the same time, 30 children and 53 adults were operated on. Academic lectures were given to local doctors and nurses, and I am trying to increase their academic contribution. The plan was to teach local doctors, especially in the provinces, ATLS, ALS, BLS, APLS, PLS. At the same time, as part of my leadership and management of healthcare and hospital care (part of my MBA in Healthcare Management), we collaborated with the Vietnamese Ministry of Health to improve cardiac surgery and the quality of care at the UMH department in Ho Chi Minh City.
- In August 2015 , the new humanitarian mission included a second visit by cardiac radiologist Dr. Binusukumaran from the LHCH radiology department. This was done to improve collaboration with the radiology department of the HCHC University Medical Center and to exchange knowledge and current practices in cardiac MRI and CT.
- In June 2016 , a visit was made with Prof. Aung Oo to perform complex aortic cases and to help the new department acquire a new portable ECHO, new instruments and USS so that the anaesthetists can safely place the lines. The funding, through fundraising from different sources and organisations in the UK, equipped the new unit with ECMO and CVVH.
- In November 2017, another mission took place with Prof. Aung Oo from the Aortic Center at Barts Hospital in London and Prof. Martin Minsfeld from Leipzig, assisted by cardiac anaesthetist Dr. Sofia Sgouropoulou from Leipzig. During this mission, which lasted 10 days, 3 mitral valves were replaced and 4 were repaired, a mini David procedure and a TAAA were performed by the team free of charge. Mini AVR courses and mini AVR workshops were organized.
- In May 2018 , another mission took place. Prof. Aung Oo from the Aortic Center of Barts University London and Prof. Martin Minsfeld from Leipzig, with the assistance of cardiac anaesthetist Dr. Sofia Sgouropoulou from Leipzig and Prof. Tristan Yan from Melbourne Australia, who participated this time, and Dr. Oana Cole, ITU Cardiac Director from LHCH Liverpool, UK. In this mission, which lasted 7 days, 3 cases of complex aortic pathology were operated on, including a type A dissection and all others were performed by the team free of charge in mini-sternotomy. A mini-aortic root and arch course and a workshop were held by the 3 professors.
- Another mission took place in October 2018 where courses on Mini AVR, Mini Aortic Root and Semi-Arch, Arch and Cadaveric FET were conducted by Prof. Martin Minsfeld from Leipzig Germany and with Prof. Tom Ngyuen from UCLA California USA. This time we focused on training young cardiac surgeons throughout Vietnam to gain skills in mini-procedures in the complex aortic area.
- In October 2019, a mission took place, where the 10-year program of construction and equipment of a cardiology center with external assistance and under the supervision of the HCG Geneva 2009-2019/IMC for Vietnam was completed.
- The next mission took place in August 2022 where mini sternotomy and MINI MVR REPAIR surgeries were performed on 20 patients with the first scholarship from the STS TSF 2021 USA.
- The next mission was successfully completed in November 2024, with the second consecutive scholarship with 25 surgeries on very poor children and adults STS TSF 2023-24 from the USA.
- The next mission will take place in April 2025, with the third consecutive STS TSF 2024-25 scholarship from the USA.