

**Professor Michael B Petersen, MD, PhD, DMSc**

*Director, Department of Genetics, Institute of Child Health, Athens, Greece*

Professor Petersen studied Medicine at University of Copenhagen and subsequently specialized in Clinical Genetics. He has a PhD (1992) and DMSc (1996) from University of Copenhagen, on linkage mapping of human chromosome 21 and origin of nondisjunction in trisomy 21, respectively. He did a postdoctoral Fulbright fellowship in Molecular Genetics at the Center for Medical Genetics, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, USA. From 1993, he directs the Department of Genetics at the Institute of Child Health, Athens, Greece. His main research interests have been origin and mechanisms of chromosomal aneuploidies, but he has in the more recent years concentrated on genetics of deafness and blindness. He has published around 150 articles in peer-reviewed international genetics journals, and he is an Editorial Board member of four of these journals. In 2004, he was awarded a Distinguished Visiting Professorship at the “Iuliu Hatieganu” University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Cluj-Napoca, Romania.