

Dr Markella Boudioni, BSc, MSc, PhD, is an experienced researcher and patient and public involvement professional. She currently works as a Patient and Public Involvement Manager with the Patient Experience Research Centre (PERC), School of Public Health, and the NIHR Imperial Biomedical Research Centre (BRC), Imperial College London, UK. Prior to joining Imperial College, she worked at the Institute of Leadership and Service Improvement, Faculty of Health and Social Care, London South Bank University, as a senior research fellow for 10 years. She has also extensive experience as a researcher and project manager in the voluntary sector in the UK, namely the College of Health, the Patients Association and CancerBACUP.

She has employed both quantitative and qualitative methods and she was the principal investigator in many health services' evaluation, research and development projects. She has also offered consultancy and advice on NHS policy analysis and health services' evaluation. She authored reports and peer-reviewed articles.

Markella has extensive experience in patient and public involvement and user participation, working with hard to reach groups and vulnerable people (ethnic minorities, mental health, and older housebound people) in research, but also education and services development. She maintains a strong interest on patient and user involvement, experiences and needs; also on evaluation and service development research, cancer, mental health and older people. Her educational background is Sociology and Demography. She finished her PhD on *'Patient Empowerment in England and Greece: Cross-national Settings, Organisational Implementation, Systems and Cultures'*, where she gained valuable skills on comparative cross-national research and also organisational theories.