

THE INSPIRATIONAL STORY OF THANOS

Conversation with Thanos Tyraskis | Pediatric Surgeon

[The inspirational story of pediatric surgeon, Thanos Tyraskis]

[Thanos Tyraskis, Pediatric Surgeon, Athens, Greece]

So, my name is Athanasios Tyraskis, or Thanos for short, and I'm a trainee in pediatric surgery, and specifically, will be going to spend time with Dr. Levitt in Washington DC to do a one-year colorectal fellowship in the subspecialty, pediatric surgery. Now, I'm currently a trainee in pediatric surgery in the United Kingdom. I'm originally from Greece, and I hope to be able to come back to my country and to bring back the skills that I will learn over this period. Now, I'm towards the end of my training, and I'm going to be spending one year with Dr. Levitt, focusing specifically on operations that are relevant to pediatric colorectal surgery, and then will be returned to the UK [United Kingdom] to finish the rest of my training, before then coming to Greece in order to work as an attending or consultant, depending on where you are. My overall goal is to be able to gain some specific competencies that are currently lacking in my country of origin, and specifically to be able to bring those back so that I can implement them, so I can complement the teams that are already here, and fill in the gap in a specific subpart of the specialty that has some need in order to serve the patients that are of the country here. In this one-year period, I hope to gain adequate competencies in order to be able to perform some more complicated operations that some people here do need further help with. Also, to be able to solve some problems with some patients that might be a little bit more complex and require some more concentrated experience, that I could only possibly get in a center and with a trainer such as Dr. Levitt. In addition, I want to be able to, in the long term, maintain our relationship with Dr. Levitt, as well as increase his interaction with the center here, so that as required, he can also give us advice from a distance. Now, we hope to be able to prevent the need of patients needing to travel halfway across the globe in order to receive the treatment, and actually bring back the skills to Greece so that we can keep them closer to home, and offer them the same quality of treatment as they would receive abroad. And specifically, whenever we do need help, we do know where we need to turn to, and that's Dr. Levitt in Washington.