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HTRS 2020 Mentored Research Award Recipient



**Konstantine Halkidis, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor
University of Kansas Medical Center**

Mentor: X. Long Zheng, MD PhD

Project Title: “Exploring the antibody-mediated pathogenesis of immune thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura”

Dr. Halkidis is an Assistant Professor at The University of Kansas Medical Center in the Division of Hematologic Malignancies and Cellular Therapies. He completed his MD and PhD degrees at Thomas Jefferson University where he studied the mechanism of entry of HIV-1 in the lab of Dr. Michael Root. He finished residency in Internal Medicine at Hahnemann University Hospital, and completed fellowship training in Hematology and Oncology at The University of Alabama at Birmingham. Dr. Halkidis is interested in studying thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura (TTP), which is a thrombotic microangiopathy caused by deficiency of the enzyme ADAMTS13. He will be studying how auto-antibodies in patients with the immune form of TTP affect the ability of ADAMTS13 to cleave von Willebrand factor, its only known substrate. His research mentor, Dr. Long Zheng, is Professor and Russell J. Eilers, MD, Endowed Chair of Pathology at the University of Kansas Medical Center, and a world-renowned expert in the field of TTP.