

**GV/GA SARISSA-LANCET**  
**Innovative scalpel for tumor removal**

Studies indicate that the full surgical removal of a tumor increases the patient's life expectancy. However, to this day, there is no subjective way for surgeons to know whether they have removed all of the neoplasm. GV/GA Sarissa-Lancet, an advanced scalpel developed by scientists at the University Hospital of Ioannina, promises to solve this problem. The innovation lies in the biological material being examined inside the operating theater as soon as the tumor is removed so that, within five minutes, the surgeons know when they have reached the healthy tissue surrounding the tumor, and therefore when the surgery has been suc-

cessfully completed. Other techniques, developed for the same purpose, are less reliable or cost more. This explains why scientists found private funding to produce the scalpel. "We are confident that, in early 2017, the final version of GV/GA Sarissa-Lancet will be completed and that it will be used in Phase III clinical trials (surgical operations on humans). If the results are positive, then it will be patented and thereafter commercialized," say the inventors of the device, Dr Georgios Vartholomatos, Scientific Director of the Molecular Biology Unit of the Hematology Lab of the Hospital of Ioannina, and Dr Georgios Alexiou, neurosurgeon.

