

Prof. Algirdas Utkus is a former Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of Vilnius University and Head of Department of Human and Medical Genetics of Vilnius University, Lithuania. Graduating Vilnius University at 1989, he started his career from Republican Panevėžys Hospital as clinical geneticist 1989 to 1991. In 1992, he began work as a clinical geneticist at the Center for Medical Genetics at the Vilnius University Hospital's Santara Clinics. In 2001, he defended his medical doctor's thesis on the *Etiology, Prevalence and Structure of Congenital Anomalies in Lithuania's Children*. He became an Associate Professor in 2004, began professorial duties in 2009, and received the title of professor in 2012, after completing his habilitation procedure with a work on *Rare Disease Phenomics and Genetic Counseling*. Since 2012, he is the Head of the Department of Human and Medical Genetics of the Medical Faculty and the Center for Medical Genetics of the Vilnius University Hospital's Santara Clinics.

With regard to clinical genetics, Algirdas Utkus's main research interests are in the areas of rare hereditary/congenital diseases, teratogenesis, and chromosomal abnormalities. With regard to medical education, his main research interests are in modernization of the study process and rare disease teaching.

Since 2012, he is the chairman of the Lithuanian Society of Human Genetics and of the Vilnius Medical Society. Since 2020 is a chairman of the National Health Council of Republic of Lithuania.

Algirdas Utkus received professional training in Lithuania and abroad: at the Harvard Medical School (Boston, USA); the Salt Lake City University Hospital's Division of Medical Genetics (Salt Lake City, USA); Wisconsin University's Cystic Fibrosis Center and the Waisman Center (Madison, USA); the Postgraduate Medical Institute (Moscow, Russia); the Department of Medical Genetics at the Hôpital de la Timone (Marseille, France); the Obstetrics and Gynecology Clinic of Vilnius University; the Republican Children's Hospital in Vilnius and elsewhere.

Algirdas Utkus is the author of more than 110 scientific articles; author and co-author of 8 medical textbooks and methodological monographs.

At the end of 2016, Algirdas Utkus won the City of Vilnius St. Christopher statuette for promoting Vilnius with his scientific work.

Algirdas Utkus was elected member of the AMSE Executive Committee in 2017 and AMSE General Secretary since 2021.