

УВОДНИК / EDITORIAL



My Dear and Honorable Colleagues, Members of the Serbian Medical Society,

Thank you so much for granting me the most prestigious award a medical doctor born, raised, and educated in Serbia can receive: to be the editor-in-chief of the Serbian Archives of Medicine, the oldest journal of the kind in a country with over 800-year-long tradition of medicine. This is an immense honor, but at the same time an even greater responsibility. Established in 1872, the Serbian Archives of Medicine is a living testimonial of modern Serbian medicine growth and development over the last two centuries.

Today, we are at a historical turning point when it is of paramount importance to strengthen our ties nationally and internationally, in a wholehearted effort fueled by endless desire to provide our journal the position it once had both in the region and worldwide. The fact that over 30,000 medical doctors in the country support the Serbian Medical Society is both promising and encouraging. Although the restitution of our property – donated to the Society during the 19th and in the first half of the 20th century by our successful colleagues and noble countrymen – is still in process, we have faith in our government to find an adequate solution.

The medical education in our country has been always keeping pace with the times. When in 1920, although established in 1905, the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Belgrade enrolled its first generation of students, they were taught according to medical curriculum similar to the leading European ones. The same happened later, when medical schools were established at the universities of Novi Sad and Niš simultaneously in 1960, fol-



lowed by Priština in 1969, and, last but not least, Kragujevac in 1977. The growing number of medical schools in the country as well as their collaboration and healthy competition are of great importance. Over time, we have been witnessing the increasing influence of American medicine both in Western Europe and in Serbia. The United States of America always welcomed our medical doctors for clinical training and post-doctoral studies in

basic medical sciences. Thus, English became the second language of instruction at the Faculty of Medicine in Novi Sad, and later on at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Belgrade, where Studies in English have been operating successfully and unceasingly since 1995.

From all said and mentioned, you can see that we have been keeping up the pace with the global academia rather successfully, irrelevant of the testing decades behind us. As a matter of fact, although we have a habit of saying it was done both in basic and clinical medicine, that division is actually artificial, for one cannot exist without the other and exclusive divisions bring good nowhere, least of all in medicine, where research endeavors are joint and aim to benefit all in any setting: bench or bedside.

I spent so many lines on medical education for I'm a firm believer that it is crucial for all of us practicing and teaching medicine, and particularly for those not in the vicinity of big medical centers. It is good training and skillful observation hand-in-hand that save lives in all four corners of the world and that can still help increase the knowledge of colleagues anywhere. Therefore, I urge you to share your work with us at the Serbian Archives of Medicine. Whether you are working at a small general hospital or you are affiliated with the leading university

hospital center, it is important to share the knowledge you acquire in different steps of your careers.

I am happy to inform you that members of the journal's Editorial Board, at our recent meeting, promised to contribute with their latest or best manuscripts, hoping to improve our journal's metrics, which shall continue to be a painstaking procedure.

While seeking new, modern, and better solutions for our journal, striving to increase its visibility and access, I will also do my very best to preserve our medical heritage. In the same spirit, I will practice a statement we all preach in the Hippocratic Oath by honoring one of my lifelong mentors who was a great supporter of the Serbian medi-

cine, in an article dedicated to his memory that you will find in this issue.

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