THE FIRST AETHER NARCOSIS IN CROATIA

Five months after the first public demonstration of ether anaesthesia in Boston, ether anaesthesia was performed in Zadar, Croatia on March 15, 1847. It was the first ether anaesthetic in Croatia and the second one in Europe. The anaesthetic was prepared by Ivan Bettni and given to an 80-year-old woman during an operation for incarcerated hernia by a team of surgeons – Česar Pilegini-Daniels, Jerolim Defeni and Toma Fumagallo.

At the time of ether discovery Bettni was 51 and Fumagallo 36 years old and the two young colleagues soon recognised the importance of this epochal discovery. On March 15, 1847 Bettni performed the first ether anaesthetic in cooperation with Dr. Fumagallo. The procedure lasted 15 minutes and at the end of surgery the patient reported that she was fast asleep and felt no pain whatsoever. Dr. Bettni used about 15 ml of ether for the duration of 15 minutes and used an improvised apparatus consisting of a glass bowl with an anerth-reinforced sponge inside and a mouthpiece. It was a well-thought-out, successful and carefully performed procedure. The first report on the employment of ether anaesthesia was published the same day the procedure was performed in the Zadar newspaper Gazetta di Zara. The article was written in a popular fashion, simple and clear but precisely formulated descriptions with an agenda to rapidly popularize the new method. In his report Dr. Bettni concluded: “May this case provide courage to doctors and surgeons in our region who still doubt the successfulness of the method and the need for this great discovery, which deserves full attention of practitioners and diligent and detailed research”.

Dr. Ivan Bettni was born in Makarska in 1816. After graduating from high school in Zadar he enrolled into Medical University of Vienna and continued his studies in Padua. Graduating when he was only 22 years old Bettni soon received his first employment opportunity in Zadar where he remained until 1854. Known for his temper, liberal politics as well as self-sacrifice, Bettni left Zadar and transferred to Trieste in 1854 where he lived and worked as a well respected doctor until his death in 1883.

Dr. Toma Fumagallo was born in Zadar in 1811 and spent most of his childhood in Brissagod. He graduated from high school in Zadar and proceeded with his medical studies in Padova and Padua. He studied ophthalmology and general surgery. After graduating Dr. Fumagallo moved back to his hometown Zadar and worked as a highly respected doctor known for his gentle manners, alacrity and sensitivity towards poor patients. He died at a young age of 59 during a journey from Zadar to Venice.

PERIODICUM BIOLOGORUM

177 Comparison of early continuous epidural and intravenous opioid analgesia on haemodynamic changes after several pelvic fractures
Dubravka Barisnik, Kaka Šakolž Zlender, Mirela Kovačić, Ivana Šundić Revicz, Tatjana Ozolić, Ivan Ivanović

181 Comparison of needed end-tidal concentration of sevoflurane in children with balanced intravenous retroperitoneal analgesia versus epidural caudal retroperitoneal analgesia: prospective randomized trial
Milena Kremer, Štela Šiljak, Mirela Kovačić, Nataša Šiljak, Mario Tkalčič, Vesa Novak Jurčič and Vesna Paver Erzen

187 Dynamics of change in coagulation parameters in carcinoma patients with epidural analgesia following liver resection
Ilija Štakolž, Stea Matić, Branka Maldini, Mirela Kovačić, Gordana Štakolž, Vesna Novak Jurčič and Kata Šakolž

191 Low dose spinal morphine and intravenous sedation for postoperative analgesia after total hip and knee arthroplasty
Djuro Čebić, Katarina Šakolž, Vilmača Neveč Novak, Aleksandra Smiljančič, Elvira Grestl-Jurčič, Minka Vukelić and Vesna Molić

197 Hemodynamic effects of epidural clonidine at patients undergoing lung surgery
Marina Cusma, Lučka Komisar, Michael Sok and Vesna Novak Jurčič

203 Large volume dye spread in transverse abdominis plane block via three injection sites: A cadaveric study
Mija Želeka, Domina Topić, Patrik Mcconnell and James Pickering

207 Temporomandibular disorders – validity of clinical diagnostics compared to magnetic resonance imaging
Tomislav Šafar, Milenko Maročić, Ivan Savić, Boštjan Štakolž, Mirela Kovačić and Joasia Kros

213 Quality of analgesia with multi versus two few-hole catheters in patients after colorectal surgery
Stela Matić, Mirela Kovačić, Branka Maldini, Mirela Kovačić and Kata Šakolž

217 The effect of injection speed on haemodynamic changes immediate after lidoine/adenaline infiltration of nasal submucosa under general anaesthesia
Tanja Zrmančič, Jure Kljik, Domagoj Parancić, Goran Gudej, Boris Ždanić, Branimir Vuković, Boris Šimunčar and Kaka Šakolž

223 Our experience with femoral analgesia after orthopaedic surgical procedures on lower extremities
Senka Barisnik, Milan Milosav, Ivan Zvonić, Ljubica, Vesna Štakolž and Branka Maldini

229 Development of post-traumatic pain syndrome in patients undergoing lung surgery – comparison of thoracic paravertebral and epidural analgesia
Srgo Lusak, Stela Matić and Vesna Novak Jurčič

235 Unilateral lipoic acid injection into the lipoic acid-infiltrated spinal anesthesia for arthroscopic knee surgery
Renate Kebet, Jasnačka Premžič, Patricia Golbič and Neža Vucelj

239 Persistent post-partum pain after vaginal birth and cesarean section
Lada Kalićak Fábrić

EDUCATION/NEW PROCEDURES

243 Organisation of day surgery service
Vesna Golubović and Stjepana Golubović