The first medical school in Croatia was opened ninety years ago in Zagreb. It was certainly one of the landmarks in the history of Croatian medicine and health care. All events have been recorded in Liječnički vjesnik from 1917, including considerations of the leading Croatian and foreign physicians on the need of founding a medical school, discussions at the Croatian Parliament, respective actions launched by the Croatian Medical Association, Academy Senate, University of Zagreb, etc. A report from the Parliament session, entitled “Croatian School of Medicine”, appeared in No. 11 from 1917, saying that Milan Roje, president of the Royal Governmental Department for Religious Affairs and Education, proclaimed that Vice-Roy had approved the School of Medicine opening on November 12. Physicians from our Hospital took a decisive role in the foundation of the Zagreb School of Medicine. So, our physicians Teodor Wickerhauser, Miroslav Čačković and Dragutin Mašek were the first professors at the newly founded School of Medicine. Miroslav Čačković was the first dean, and Dragutin Mašek the first vice-dean. Although appointed the first Professor of Surgery as the founder of Croatian surgery, Professor Teodor Wickerhauser did not hold lectures for students, which role was taken over by Professor Čačković as the first Professor of Surgery, while Professor Dragutin Mašek was the first Professor of Otorhinolaryngology. With their ardent arguing in public and practical activities they all contributed greatly to the Zagreb School of Medicine to complete the task and to provide due education to the first generations of Croatian physicians.

References
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