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FOREWORD

Looking at the reviewed papers received for the ophthalmologic supplement of our Hospital journal *Acta clinica Croatica*, I was very pleased indeed for having collected such a great number of quality contributions that reflect the high professional and scientific level of the Croatian ophthalmology today. In the introduction section, the readers will find the honorary lecture by Professor Valentin Pozaić, PhD, S.J., *episc. aux. zagrebiensis*, entitled “Ethical Issues in Medicine”, held at the last year’s National Congress of Ophthalmology in Primošten. All those that encounter or want to think about the numerous ethical issues in medicine, or in ophthalmology providing eye care, preserving sight and giving the light of common sense, *ratio recte iudicans*, will probably find answers and see what’s right and good.

Of high interest will certainly also be the honorary lecture by Professor Željko Poljak, PhD, a renowned professor, erudite and publicist, editor of *Liječničke novine*, who in a competent and witty manner comments upon the language used in Croatian medicine and on the language in general, i.e. how to speak and write Croatian correctly.

Analyzing the professional and scientific level of the contributions presented, the reader will encounter a variety of the latest diagnostic and therapeutic methods employed in ophthalmology today. So, for example, there are papers dealing with the latest methods and experience in the management of recurrent corneal erosion by use of Excimer laser keratectomy. No less valuable is the reported experience in the multifocal intraocular lens implantation in cataract surgery, or the use of pachymetry in the early diagnosis of glaucoma; then, there are highly useful papers on the experience with the most sophisticated approach in 25 G pars plana vitrectomy for certain retinal pathologies. I am especially glad to see that a number of young ophthalmologists have decided to publish their first works in the form of professionally intriguing and properly documented case reports that have been thoroughly analyzed and therefore are very instructive.

And the last but not the least, mention should be made of a very useful study carried out by Dr. Vatavuk and his junior colleagues, trying to identify the shortcomings of and find way to improve the education of junior ophthalmologists.

The closing section of the supplement brings several obituaries to our recently departed fellow ophthalmologists who had left profound impression during the significant period of Croatian ophthalmology.

Professor Zdravko Mandić, MD, PhD

