ON NOTABLE BOOKS IN OUR MEDICAL HISTORY

Here is another book by Dr. Radovan Marković, written for the Croatian people and intended for health education of the population at large. This time, Marković deals with infectious diseases as one of the major healthcare problems at the beginning of the 20th century worldwide. The book is entitled Infectious Diseases – Advice for the Croatian People, and was published by St. Jerome Society in Zagreb in 1916.

Like his other works, Marković does not use professional style in this book either; he rather prefers language of the people to be comprehensible to everyone, especially those providing care for the patient. At present, the book is of interest for medicine historians and specialists in infectious diseases as well as for sociologists because Marković extensively describes various forms of superstition and ignorance of the time. Now we can laugh at some absurdities of the time such as carrying a walnut under one’s arm to prevent infection. Marković takes it as an example to explain that these people pose a risk of transmitting infectious diseases to the others because due to their superstition they move freely among infected people. In fact, they carry greater risk than the poor and the ignorant, since the latter can still be helped through instructions and medical care.

Considering the above phenomenon, we have to admit that our time is also abundant in various forms of superstition; there is (perhaps) no walnut under the arm anymore but there is plenty of pills, potions, teas, magnet bracelets, etc., thus Marković’s warnings and explanations on the need of continuous education of both the patients and the carers are still quite actual. The praiseworthy language Dr. Marković uses in the previously reviewed book entitled Child Care – Instructions to Young Mother should also be mentioned here. He had excellent knowledge of the popular, colloquial terms for many infectious diseases that had for centuries been present in Croatia and in the world.

Reference

Tanja Sušec
INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

Introduction
State the purpose of the article and summarize the rationale for the study or observation. Give only strictly relevant references and do not include data or conclusions from the work being reported.

Methods
Describe selection and identify all important characteristics of the observational or experimental subjects or laboratory animals clearly. Specify carefully what the descriptors mean, and explain how the data were collected. Identify the methods, apparatus with the manufacturer’s name and address in parentheses, and procedures in sufficient detail to allow other workers to reproduce the results. Provide references to established methods and statistical methods used. Describe new or substantially modified methods, give reasons for using them, and evaluate their limitations. Identify precisely all drugs and chemicals used. Use only generic name of drugs. All measurements should be expressed in SI units.

Ethics
Papers dealing with experiments on human subjects should clearly indicate that the procedures followed were in accordance with the ethical standards of the institutional or regional responsible committee on human experimentation and with the Helsinki Declaration of 1975, as revised in 1983. Never use patients’ names, initials, or hospital numbers, especially in illustrative material. Papers dealing with experiments on animals should indicate that the institution’s or a national research council’s guide for the care and use of laboratory animals was followed.

Statistics
Describe statistical methods with enough detail to enable a knowledgeable reader with access to the original data to verify the reported results. Whenever possible, quantify findings and present them with appropriate indicators of measurement error or uncertainty. Specify any general-use computer programs used.

Results
Present your results in logical sequence in the text, tables, and illustrations. Do not repeat in the text all the data in the tables or illustrations; emphasize or summarize only important observations.

Discussion
Emphasize the new and important aspects of the study and the conclusions that follow from them. Do not repeat in detail data or other material given in the Introduction or the Results section. Include in the Discussion section the implications of the findings and their limitations, including implications for future research, but avoid unqualified statements and conclusions not completely supported by the data. Relate the observations from your study to other relevant studies. State new hypotheses when warranted, but clearly label them as such.

Tables
Type or print out each table with double spacing on a separate sheet of paper. Do not submit tables as photographs. Number tables consecutively in the order of their first citation in the text and supply a brief title for each. Give each column a short heading.

Figures
Figures and illustrations should be professionally drawn and photographed. Make sure that letters, numbers, and symbols should be legible even when reduced in size for publication. Each figure should have a label pasted on its back indicating the number of the figure, author’s name, and top of the figure. Figures should be numbered.
consecutively according to the order in which they have been first cited in the text. If photographs of people are used, either the subjects must not be identifiable or their pictures must be accompanied by written permission to use the photograph. All illustrations and figures could be submitted on disks: floppy disk (3.5-inch, 1.44 MB, IBM formatted), or compact disk – CD in appropriate, generally used picture formats. The preferred formats are JPEG and TIFF, although any format in general use that is not application-specific is acceptable. Make sure that minimum resolution should be 300 dpi. Up to two color illustrations are acceptable for each manuscript free of charge.

Abbreviations

Use only standard abbreviations. The full term for which an abbreviation stands should precede its first use in the text unless it is a standard unit of measurement.

Acknowledgments

List all contributors who do not meet the criteria for authorship, such as a person who provided purely technical help, writing assistance, or a department chair who provided only general support. Financial and material support should also be acknowledged.

References

References should be numbered consecutively in the order in which they are first mentioned in the text. Identify references in text, tables, and legends by Arabic numerals in superscript.

References should be cited in the style based on the formats used by the Index Medicus. The titles of journals should be abbreviated according to the style used in Index Medicus (http://www.nlm.nih.gov).

References to papers accepted but not yet published should be designated as “in press”. Authors should obtain written permission to cite such papers as well as verification that they have been accepted for publication.

Examples of reference citations are listed.

EXAMPLES OF REFERENCE CITATIONS

ARTICLES IN JOURNALS


More than six authors:


Organization as author


No author given


Article not in English


Volume with supplement


Issue with supplement


Volume with part


Issue with part


Issue with no volume


No issue or volume


Pagination in Roman numerals


Type of article indicated as needed


Article containing retraction


Article retracted


Article with published erratum


BOOKS AND OTHER MONOGRAPHS

Personal author(s)


Editor(s) as author


Organization as author and publisher


Chapter in a book


Conference proceedings

Kimura J, Shibasaki H, editors. Recent advances in clinical neurophysiology: Proceedings of the 10th International Congress of EMG


Conference paper

Scientific or technical report


Dissertation

Patent

OTHER PUBLISHED MATERIAL

Newspaper article

Audiovisual material

Legal material
Public law:

Unenacted bill:

Hearing:

Map

Dictionary and similar references

UNPUBLISHED MATERIAL
In press

Electronic Material
Journal article in electronic format

Monograph in electronic format

Computer file

EDITORIAL PROCESS
After submission of the manuscript, the author may receive a letter confirming manuscript receipt. All manuscripts received are anonymously sent to at least two reviewers. Acta Clinica Croatica is committed to promote peer review quality and fairness. The reviewers are asked to treat the manuscript with confidentiality. Authors are welcome to suggest up to five potential reviewers for their manuscript (excluding co-authors or collaborators for the last three years), or to ask for the exclusion of reviewer(s) and the reasons for it. The Editorial Board may or may not accept authors’ suggestions regarding reviewers. Usually one to three months after submission the authors will receive the reviews. Generally, the instructions, objections and requests made by the reviewers should be closely followed. The authors are invited to revise their manuscript in accordance with reviewers’ suggestions, and to explain amendments made in accordance with the reviewers’ requests. The articles that receive more than one reviewers’ recommendations for “major review” are sent, after revision to the same reviewer, who makes the final recommendation about the revised article. Based on reviewers’ suggestions and recommendations, the Editorial Board makes final decision about acceptance of submitted article. Authors may receive a letter confirming the acceptance of submitted article for publication. Corresponding author will receive a page-proof version of article to make final corrections of possible printing errors. The authors will receive 20 free reprints of the published paper free of charge.