

Pod pokroviteljstvom
Under the auspices of

HRVATSKE AKADEMIJE ZNANOSTI I UMJETNOSTI
CROATIAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

U organizaciji

HRVATSKOG DERMATOVENEROLOŠKOG DRUŠTVA HRVATSKOG
LIJEČNIČKOG ZBORA

I KLINIKE ZA KOŽNE I SPOLNE BOLESTI
KB *SESTRE MILOSRDNICE*

Organized by

CROATIAN SOCIETY OF DERMATOVENEROLOGY, CROATIAN MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION

AND UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF DERMATOLOGY AND VENEROLOGY,
SESTRE MILOSRDNICE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

ZNANSTVENI SIMPOZIJ S MEĐUNARODNIM SUDJELOVANJEM
SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM WITH INTERNATIONAL
PARTICIPATION

STARENJE I KAKO GA ODGODITI
AGING AND HOW TO PUT IT OFF



AGING AND HOW TO PUT IT OFF SYMPOSIUM

The Scientific Symposium with International Participation entitled Aging and How to Put It Off was held in December 2009 under the auspices of the Croatian Academy of Science and Arts, organized by the Croatian Society of Dermatovenereology, Croatian Medical Association, and University Department of Dermatology and Venereology, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, Zagreb, Croatia.

Why aging and what was our motivation to choose this topic of our symposium?

Historically, rejuvenation is a frequent motif in mythological concepts of ancient peoples (e.g., the myth of Osiris, the epic of Gilgamesh and the plant named "The-Old-Man-Will-Be-Made-Young", tales about magic youth springs and lakes, rejuvenating "elixir of life", etc.), through the extraordinary popularity of Voronov's transplantation of anthropoid monkey sex glands to humans at the beginning of the 20th century and Filatov's discovery of the stimulating action of a serum prepared from embryonal tissue and placenta, later applied subcutaneously by Krause, having allegedly produced excellent rejuvenating effects. These experiments reported in popular literature were decades later replaced by serious

scientific concepts of the molecular process of aging, which have entailed a number of scientifically and chemically-technologically based methods to slow down and mask the visible signs of aging.

In their daily routine, dermatovenereologists increasingly encounter psychological effects of visible signs of aging and demands for their correction. In addition, the fact that favorable change in one's appearance leads to improvement in the person's self-esteem, self-respect and general mental state motivated us to choose aging and attenuation of its visible signs as a scientifically valuable and popular topic of modern dermatovenereology.

Therefore, December 2009 was marked with scientific and professional concepts on the process of aging, with particular reference to skin aging and various corrective methods currently available to slow down, put off and mask the signs of aging, thus improving the quality of life of each individual.

The Symposium program consisted of 18 thematic units, of which nine have been selected as high quality scientific papers to be presented in this journal. We do hope that readers will find them interesting and useful.

Prof. Mirna Šitum, MD, PhD

