

FIRST SCIENTIFIC MEETING: "RIJEKA AND ITS INHABITANTS IN MEDICAL HISTORY"

Organised by: Croatian Scientific Society for the History of Health Culture and Rijeka University School of Medicine

Sponsored by: City of Rijeka, Primorsko-goranska County and Ministry of Science and Technology of Republic of Croatia

Rijeka University School of Medicine, 19-20th October 2000

SELECTED ABSTRACTS

Zgrablić M.

**PROF. DR. SILVIJE NOVAK - THE LEGEND OF THE INTERNAL
MEDICINE IN RIJEKA.
ACTA FAC MED FLUM 2000;25(1-2):1-5.**

The abstracts from the author's book "The Origins and History of Internal Medicine in Rijeka" brought forth the chronological record of Prof. Dr. Silviije Novak's biography, his efforts and obstacles he had to deal with in his modernising the internal medicine in this town. The development of internal medicine in Rijeka began twice, both times almost from the beginning, in 1935 and 1952. In 1955 he became the first dean of the Faculty of Medicine in Rijeka, being also the professor and head of the Department of internal medicine till his retirement in 1970. Being an excellent diagnostician and therapist he did not tolerate polypragmasy, and as a respected teacher he was a strong upholder of integral medicine demanding to view the patient at the examination in his full integrity. He used to emphasise: "Do not watch the findings - watch the man, do not treat the illness - treat the patient! Prof. Dr. Silviije Novak was not born in this town, but through the internal medicine he lived and worked for the good of its people. He is remembered as one of the outstanding figures of national history and medicine whose life also merits an additional scientific evaluation.

Bakašun V, Alebić-Juretić A, Jonjić A.

**CENTENNIAL OF PREVENTIVE MEDICINE INSTITUTIONS IN THE
RIJEKA REGION.**

ACTA FAC MED FLUM 2000;25(1-2):6-10.

The first preventive medicine institute in Rijeka - the Chemical Examination Establishment "M. Kir. Állami Vegyakisérletti Állomás - R. Ung. Stazione Chimica Sperimentale dello Stato Fiume" began its work in 1900 and was active till the end of the World War the First. During the Italian rule it worked under the name R. Stazione Chimico Sperimentale, and in the period from 1927 to 1945 under the name Laboratorio Provinciale d'Igiene e Profilassi. The first health institutions in the area of the Susak district were the Permanent Bacteriological Station in Kraljevica established in 1923 and the Health Center Sušak established in 1926 covering the area of Croatian Littoral and Gorski Kotar. In 1945, after the end of the War, the Health Center changed its name in the Sanitary-Epidemiological Station, and a similar institution was established in Rijeka. In 1950 these two establishments were joined together in the Hygienic Institute of Rijeka. In 1953 the Health Center Rijeka was established. In 1960 it was joined together with the Hygienic Institute in one Institute for Health Protection Rijeka comprising the whole out-hospital health service in Rijeka. Since the time of establishing the Faculty of Medicine in Rijeka the centre also served as a collaborating teaching establishment. In 1972 the centre was moved into a new building at today's address Krešimirova ulica 52A. In 1990, with the independence of the Republic of Croatia and the foundation of the counties, in the line of new orientations, the name of the institution was changed in the Institute of Public Health of the Primorsko-Goranska County, gradually resuming all the preventive medical services in the whole county area.

Dugac Ž, Škrobonja A.

**HEALTH EDUCATION THROUGH MEDICAL ADVERTISEMENTS IN
THE FIRST EDITIONS OF THE NOVI LIST.
ACTA FAC MED FLUM 2000;25(1-2):11-17.**

Medical advertisements published in the first volume of the Novi List in the year 1900 were analysed in this paper. The advertisements advertising various pharmaceutical, hygienic and cosmetic products, as well as medical practice were those assessed to have medical contents. A special attention was paid to the analysis of those advertising medicines and remedial substances with regard to their health education messages, to detecting medical doctrines being upheld, to the evaluation of the quality of medicines, as well as to the medical terminology being used.

Milović Đ.

**MORE ON THE STATUTE OF RIJEKA IN RELATION TO PUBLIC
HEALTH PROBLEMS OF THE TOWN IN 1530.
ACTA FAC MED FLUM 2000;25(1-2):18-20.**

The Statute of Rijeka from 1530 paid a particular attention to the problems of the town health culture. It looked after the cleanness of the public roads, it protected the citizens from all kinds of pollutions, it ordered the cleanness of the wells, Town Square, public areas of the town, etc. This was broadly elaborated in author's previously published studies, and it is not repeated in this paper. The additional circumstances were particularly pointed out. The leatherwork in Rijeka was a highly developed craft. Therefore the Statute particularly forbade drying the leather on the main square or access ways around the square threatening with a financial fine (danger to the health of citizens from harmful evaporations). Threatening with a considerable financial fine the Statute proscribed where the "harlots" were allowed to live, and where not, undoubtedly bearing in mind the restriction of possible spread of sexually transmitted diseases. The work of so-called "sorceresses" was very intense in the town. Therefore the Statute, threatening with burning at the stake, forbade preparing the

poisonous potions that could (or managed to) murder somebody, mutilate him or disorder him. Nevertheless, the preparation of potions without such consequences and only for aphrodisiacal purposes was punished considerably less severely, i.e. following the judgement of the Rijeka authorities (protection of the public health from poisonous potions prepared in "sorcery").

Toševa Karpowicz Lj.

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CEMETERY SANITARY REGULATIONS IN
THE CASE OF THE ORTHODOX CEMETERY IN RIJEKA.**

ACTA FAC MED FLUM 2000;25(1-2):21-24.

Implementation of the cemetery sanitary regulations in the burials and cemeteries is a part of the crucial questions in the process of urbanisation and modernisation. During the last decades of the 18th century Rijeka was at the top of the Croatian urban centres in its level of urbanisation and modernisation. The enlightened rulers Maria Theresa and Joseph II assigned to Rijeka, as a free crown town, an important role in trade. Therefore, Rijeka became religiously, culturally and "ethnically" a cosmopolitan city. In that time in Rijeka, besides the Catholic population there were also Jews, Protestants and members of the Orthodox church, and they were all buried on different places in the town. All the sanitary measures were implemented firstly in the cemetery on Kalvarija (1769-1773), and then, after its filling up, in the reassignment of the former Augustinian vineyard to the same purpose in 1793, but they were not implemented in the Orthodox cemetery, for the members of the Orthodox church had their own cemetery outside the city walls, from 1733. However, the municipal authorities of the City of Rijeka forbade the burial in accordance with the Orthodox procedure which had proscribed carrying the corpse in an open coffin. It was not before 1788 when the municipal authorities forbade the Orthodox religious community further burials at their cemetery in Zagrad proposing them to buy a part of the land that was being prepared for the cemetery in Kozala. The Orthodox community, using various arguments, postponed the relocation from Zagrad to Kozala till 1858, when their cemetery was sold to Smith and Meynie for Protestant oratory.

Szabo A.

**ON THE PUBLIC HEALTH SITUATION IN THE TOWN OF RIJEKA
DURING THE RULE OF VICE-ROY IVAN MAŽURANIĆ IN 1873-
1880.**

ACTA FAC MED FLUM 2000;25(1-2):25-34.

After 1873 Rijeka was in a condominium position as a result of the application of the administrative "Rijeka Scrap". In spite of this, the historical evidence undoubtedly confirm that the town of Rijeka had its permanent place in the official reports of the Country Government in Zagreb, including the public health situation, as well. The original historical records, in this case the reports of the Country Statistics Office in capital Zagreb bring forth thorough reports on the natality and mortality rates, as well as their causes that include not only the identification of the disease as the cause of death, but also the social status (age, marital status, Social "class", etc.). The paper also presents comparisons showing the relation between the town of Rijeka and the Rijeka County, as well as the relation between the town of Rijeka and the town of Zagreb. They document all the problems, as well as the presented results. In 1880 in the town of Rijeka 21 people died from various epidemics, 63 in Zagreb, and 186 in the Rijeka Sub-County! With regard to other diseases (non-violent deaths) 750 people died in Rijeka, 955 in Zagreb, and 1,490 in the Rijeka Sub County. Comparisons with the population numbers show the mortality rate in the town of Zagreb being higher than in Rijeka, primarily due to increased immigration and worse social conditions.

Buklijaš T.

**REPORTS ON HEALTH CONDITIONS IN RIJEKA AND ITS SUR-
ROUNDINGS IN THE ZAGREB DAILY PAPERS "OBZOR" AND
"NARODNE NOVINE" IN THE 1868-1888 PERIOD.**

ACTA FAC MED FLUM 2000;25(1-2):35-39

The paper presented the reports on health conditions in Rijeka and its surroundings in the Zagreb papers "Obzor" and "Narodne novine" during twenty-year period immediately after the Croato-Hungarian

Compromise of 1868. In this period Rijeka was politically organised as a separate body under direct jurisdiction of the Hungarian crown and with loose links with its surroundings. Economically this period was the onset of economic growth primarily due to the development of communications (railroad was opened in 1873, and a new harbour was built). Two Zagreb newspapers were reviewed, the "Obzor" and the "Narodne novine" upholding different political views: the "Obzor" as an oppositional, populist and anti-Compromise paper, and the "Narodne novine" as an official paper. Upon the analysis of the articles published in these papers an attempt was made to consider what were the events in the health history of Rijeka and its surroundings that were found important from the Zagreb view. In its broader meaning, the attempt was made to determine in what way the political isolation of Rijeka from the rest of Croatia had influenced the perception of the health situation in Rijeka and its surroundings by Zagreb public opinion (exemplars: closing of the Kraljevica hospital in 1874, epidemic of cholera in 1886).

Bartulović Ž.

**PUBLIC HEALTH REGULATIONS IN NETTUNO
CONVENTIONS OF 1925.
ACTA FAC MED FLUM 2000;25(1-2):40-50.**

During the period from 1924 to 1927 an unnatural state border was separating Rijeka from Suak. This demarcation unavoidably lead to international legal regulation of various relations between the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes and Italy. This regulation included public health issues, as well. In the first part of the paper the regulations on public health care comprised in the Nettuno Conventions are analysed. First of all, it was the Agreement on Admitting the Citizens of the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes to the Hospital in Rijeka. In conventions and agreements on issues resulting from the implementation of the peace treaty the regulations on social and medical care, as well as those on the division of assets of various social welfare organisations were analysed: the Agreement on the Reimbursement of Hospital Expenses, Convention on Various Agree-

ments in Social Securities, Agree on anonymous society "Cooperativa Garibaldi" and General Agreement on the Reciprocity in Social Security. In the second part of the paper the way of issuing the Nettuno Conventions of 1925 was described. By the means of them a part of unregulated relations between the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes and Italy, resulting from the cessation of the Rijeka State in 1924, was regulated. During the negotiations the Belgrade royalty and government demonstrated an extreme indulgence resulting in many provisions unfavourable for the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes. The public opinion considered them an agreement between Great-Serbian and irredentist politicians at the detriment of Croatian, particularly Littoral and Dalmatian areas. The issue of ratification of these conventions provoked internal political buffets in the state. Finally it was ratified by the rump parliament, without Croatian representatives on the day of Radić's funeral in 1928.

Dürriegl M, Fatović-Ferenčić S.

RUDOLF STROHAL EXPLORING GLAGOLITIC MEDICAL TEXTS.

ACTA FAC MED FLUM 2000;25(1-2):51-55.

Rudolf Strohal (1856-1936) was born in Lokve, in Gorski Kotar, in today's Primorsko-Goranska County. A part of his education and working carrier (as a secondary-school teacher) he spent in Rijeka. He focused his scientific interest on the study of Croatian Glagolitic heritage, and with it he increased the knowledge of cultural and literary tradition of Rijeka and its broader surroundings, from Istria to Vinodol and farther. This paper presents a special review of the collection of prescriptions and therapeutical instructions published by Strohal in the 15th book of the Anthology on the Popular Life and Customs of the South Slavs, entitled "Various Records and Sorceries. Croatian Glagolitic Monument from the 15th Century", in 1910. Strohal belongs to the period of our research in which philologists played an important role, for they were finding, locating, and publishing transliterated Glagolitic texts, as well as textological and philological critical papers on them, making them accessible to the explorers from other professions, from philologists to historians and physi-

cians. Younger generations of researchers follow the way paved by Strohal's results completing them, and sometimes correcting them with their own information and insight.

Borovečki A.

**DR GIOVANNI SPAGNOLO AND HIS MANUAL "IGIENE DEL BAMBINO" IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF PUERICULTURE IN RIJEKA IN THE MIDDLE THE 19TH CENTURY.
ACTA FAC MED FLUM 2000;25(1-2):56-59.**

The paper presents an extremely interesting document related to the development of puericulture in Rijeka in the middle of the 19th century, an educative booklet "Igiene del bambino", written by Dr Giovanni Spagnolo, a physician in children's asylum in Rijeka, in 1842. Although this is a small book, with 24 pages only, the author managed in a very appropriate way to convey to mothers a set of useful instructions and pieces of advice on proper nourishment, on the importance of breast-feeding, on bathing, dressing, and dentition in children. Even today, from the historical medical point of view, this booklet represents not only a valuable contribution to the Rijeka medicine of that time, but also to the puericulture in this area in general. Besides this book, Dr G. Spagnolo also wrote a series of literary texts in the anthology "Strenna Fiumana", being its editor, too.

Zalokar J.

**ON SIGNIFICANCE OF THE "ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE" IN RIJEKA.
ACTA FAC MED FLUM 2000;25(1-2):60-64.**

In the first part of the paper a relation between medicine/pharmacy and spirituality was reviewed. This relation is being spoken about in different ways and accomplished in the aspects/intentions of so called "alternative medicine". This is more about complementarity of one universal medicine, than about an alternative. So, a historical-spiritual and poetical-universal approach is required in hermeneutising these problems. Therefore, a renovation of certain

spiritual values in the medical care, the care of spiritual-psychosomatic identity and vitality of modern mankind is being upheld. The beginnings of such universal medicine are also existing in Rijeka as modest initiatives in a spiritual atmosphere of new-age constellation of spiritual practices and methods of care of the integrity of human being. A part of the paper also includes a selective bibliography on this issue from the University Library in Rijeka.

Sepčić J, Muzur A, Tomić Z, Popović

**K. LIONELLO LENAZ AND THE TERM STATIC INNERVATION OF
THE MUSCLE TONUS.**

ACTA FAC MED FLUM 2000;25(1-2):65-66.

Lionello Lenaz (1872-1939), poet, musician, politician and scientist, head doctor of the "Ospedale civile" in Rijeka, professor of the University of Padua was the first one to introduce a term static innervation into the neuroscience as a function of fixation of the joints, particularly those with proximal location on the extremity completing the voluntary movement. Lenaz suggests that this function is linked to the cerebellum, which, in the case of the lesion of its central structures, as well as paths connecting it with other parts of the central nervous system, manifests its deficit with insufficient coordination of the movements that become atactic in spite the integrity of cortical impulse. The term static innervation was recognised much later, but due to Strümpell - (myostatic innervation) and Edinger - (statom).

Pavlović E.

**IVAN KISELJAK - THE RIJEKA AND SUŠAK PHYSICIAN, ONE OF
THE PROMOTERS AND THE LEADER OF THE CROATIAN ABSTI-
NENTS MOVEMENT.**

ACTA FAC MED FLUM 2000;25(1-2):67-69.

Ivan Kiseljak, MD, born in Zagreb in 1853, accomplished the major part of his professional, beneficent and patriotic deeds in Rijeka and Sušak over the last decades of the 19th century and in the begin-

ning of the 20th century. This diligent physician was known at the Kvarner area as a physician for the poor people, though as an excellent internist he was a personal physician to some members of the royal family who lived in Rijeka. Very soon he realised that alcoholism was Croatian greatest burden. Therefore, he was one of the first promoters of the Croatian Abstinent Movement, later becoming its leader, as well. Dr Ivan Kiseljak strongly emphasised the disastrous union of alcoholism and industry, particularly among poor working population. Therefore, he wrote several works, particularly emphasizing that abstinence - as a method of complete abstain from every alcohol intake - was a crucial step in any form of healthier living. He died from blood poisoning after an operation in Zagreb in 1915, at the age of 63.

Lukežić I.

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE HISTORY OF STOMATOLOGY IN RIJEKA.
ACTA FAC MED FLUM 2000;25(1-2):70-76.**

The paper presents data on the history of stomatology in Rijeka throughout the period from the Middle Ages to the middle of the 20th century, based on the archival materials and periodicals research. In the paper particular dentists and their contribution to the development of stomatological profession were discussed.

Gruber F, Čabrijan L, Vukas D.

**PROF DR ANTE VUKAS - INVENTOR OF THE EPIDERMOTECTOSCOPY.
ACTA FAC MED FLUM 2000;25(1-2):77-78.**

An important role in diagnosing the skin diseases is played by morphology. The paper presented the methods for better presentation of the pathologic changes of the skin by the means of intravital microscopy and epidermotectoscopy, introduced in dermatology by Prof. Ante Vukas. With the epidermotectoscopy he studied many skin diseases and wrote about them in the most famous dermatological journals in the middle of the 20th century.

Begović-Sišul E, Cindrić-Stančin M, Ribarić Lj.

**DEVELOPMENT OF ANAESTHESIOLOGY AND INTENSIVE CARE IN
RIJEKA.**

ACTA FAC MED FLUM 2000;25(1-2):79-83.

The idea of anaesthesiology as an independent branch of medicine among other specialities began to develop in Europe (with the exception of England) in the beginning of the 20th century. In Croatia Dr Ante Medanić, a surgeon in Karlovac, foresighted it already in 1929. As the head of the department of surgery in the "Braće dr. Sobol" hospital in Rijeka, he introduced this "revolutionary" idea increasing the interest for this profession among young colleagues. After dr Risto Ivanovski's demonstration of the new method of endotracheal administration of inhalation anaesthesia in 1952, this method was gradually accepted by all the hospitals in the region. From "one-man job" this speciality grew into the first independent Anaesthesiology and Resuscitation Unit in 1961. In 1971 it grew into the Department of Anaesthesiology and Intensive care employing 42 physicians and about 100 other members of the staff. Very soon the activity of anaesthesiologists included the treatment of the critically ill patients, and their work became the leading one in the country.

Vukas D, Matić-Glažar Đ, Petrošić N.

**TIMES OF SURGERY - A RETROSPECTIVE ON THE WORK OF PROF.
VINKO FRANČIŠKOVIĆ.**

ACTA FAC MED FLUM 2000;25(1-2):84-89.

Professor Vinko Frančičković (1919-1984) belonged primarily to Rijeka and its medical sphere, by his medical contribution and his views. He was one of the most famous personalities in this region for over two decades in the second half of the 20th century. By his education, views, his broad interests and his life career he was a typical inhabitant of Rijeka with distinction of multiculturalism and open-mindedness towards positive attitudes. He was a distinguished expert and an exemplary surgeon, a warrior, a diligent public worker, the founder of the Department of Surgery in the Sušak hospital and

its first head, a professor at the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Rijeka and its dean, and a member of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts. However, his greatest merit was the foundation of the well-known surgical school. The importance of Prof. Frančišković's work is based on foundation and realisation of a series of important medical and surgical programmes, in their scientific presentation and in continuity of their development. By them the Rijeka medicine reached its modern level, and surgery its prestigious position with credits for development of other fields of medicine. The prominent and pioneer fields of Prof. Frančišković's work are: thoracic and lung surgery, introduction of vascular and heart surgery including open heart surgery (1967), as well as establishing the treatment of terminal renal insufficiency by dialysis methods (1962) and renal transplantation (1971). Prof. Frančišković introduced into clinical practice methods of artificial heart electrostimulation, and invasive angiologic and heart diagnostics. He was the founder of experimental surgery and polyorganic transplantation programmes. With his professional and scientific activity, together with his associates, he lead the Rijeka surgery into the spheres of modern medicine. Many of the achievements of his work haven't been outdone yet.

Beg-Zec-Kopani Z.

PROF. SLOBODAN MARIN, PH.D. AND HIS CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF MODERN PULMOLOGY IN THE RIJEKA REGION.

ACTA FAC MED FLUM 2000;25(1-2):90-93.

Prof. Slobodan Marin, Ph.D. was born in Skradin on 18 August 1924, and died in Ičići on 15th April 1996 at the age of 72. He attended grammar school in Split and Zagreb, graduating in 1942. He graduated from the Faculty of Medicine in Zagreb in 1949. In 1958 and 1959 he attended postgraduate studies in pulmology in New York - Sea View Hospital and in Atlantic City. In 1964 he took his doctor's degree with doctoral dissertation "Syndrome of Lung Lobes" at the Faculty of Medicine in Rijeka. During his work career from 1949 to 1990 Prof. Slobodan Marin, Ph.D. with his personality, reputation

and work left remarkable and lasting footsteps in the field of internal-medicine speciality pneumophthisiology. Therefore, the Hospital for Lung Tuberculosis was transformed into a modern Clinic for Lung Diseases being a teaching hospital of the Faculty of Medicine in Rijeka. It was him being the first who initiated early diagnostic procedures of lung patients following the modern diagnostic methods of the western world. His work was profoundly linked to an independent hospital under the name "Special Hospital for Lung Tuberculosis Ičići". He contributed to the affirmation of this hospital, peripheral at that time, which soon became important not only in the region but in the whole country, becoming a meeting point of the pneumophthisiologists from the country and abroad. He was an eminent university professor in pulmology at the Faculty of Medicine in Rijeka. During his career he was also vice-dean, dean and head of the University of Rijeka. He was a member of many distinguished institutions, associations and scientific journals in the homeland and abroad. He was a much-decorated person for his professionalism and life work.