

Sestre milosrdnice



University Hospital

HISTORICAL REVIEW

Scientific education and research in biomedicine are tightly linked to medical studies, however, it is only through their engagement as healthcare professionals, in this case in hospitals, that physicians can acquire deep and strict insight into scientific research and connect it with human diseases. That is why scientific activities have been practiced at our Hospital from the very beginning. With the fast development of biomedicine in the 20th century, these researches have continuously increased in their number, quality and interdisciplinary approach. In the 1960s, a number of serious and systematic scientific activities were launched, when the Laboratory of Experimental Medicine headed by Professor Stevan Milković was established at the Hospital. Thirty years ago, in 1982, a decision was made to establish the Scientific Unit for Research in Clinical Medicine. As written by Dr. Zvonimir Marić and Professor Željka Reiner-Banovac in their historical review on the Scientific Unit, "the Scientific Unit has been registered in line with the Act on Scientific Work Organization."¹

The Scientific Unit was headed by Professor Željka Reiner-Banovac and employed 83 scientists. The rest of some twenty scientists (MS and PhD) working at the Hospital were registered as research workers at School of Medicine and School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb. After Professor Željka Reiner-Banovac was elected chairman of the Hospital Scientific Council, the Unit was headed by Zvonimir Marić.

The Scientific Unit enabled our physicians to take active part in organized scientific and research activities, so that four projects on the topic of Population Health and Healthcare were completed as early as 1983. From 1984, our Scientific Unit coordinated re-

searches within the regional project entitled Healthcare as a Factor of Developing Own Technology and Inclusion in International Activities. A number of outstanding institutions were included in the project, i.e. Ruđer Bošković Institute, School of Dental Medicine, Vuk Vrhovac Hospital of Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases, and School of Pharmacy and Biochemistry. At that time, our scientists started collaborating on scientific projects with other scientific institutions. From 1988, our Scientific Council was entitled to perform election for scientific titles, and in 1989, owing to its successful work, our Scientific Unit grew into Department of Clinical Medical Research. From 1991, some twenty scientific projects were performed over a decade, including international projects conducted in collaboration with colleagues from university centers abroad, the results of which were published in international and Croatian periodicals. The Department pays due attention to young researchers, so they take active part as junior researchers in many research projects. Young physicians have an opportunity to acquire good education and training in biomedical research, as evidenced by a number of MS and PhD theses in the field.

In addition, the Department has an active role in publishing papers in our journal *Acta Clinica Croatica*.

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Reference

- MARIĆ Z, REINER-BEKAVAC Ž. Znanstvena jedinica i istraživanje u kliničkoj medicini. Klinička bolnica "Dr Mladen Stojanović", Zagreb 1845.-1985. Zagreb: Klinička bolnica "Dr Mladen Stojanović", 1985;178-9.

