

EDITORIAL

Dear readers.

It is a real pleasure to present Volume 41 (2015) of the journal RAD of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts – Medical Sciences. The present Volume introduces papers from two symposia, which were co-organised by the Department of Medical Sciences of the Croatian Academy, and held at the Academy Palace in Zagreb.

Every calendar year, around fifty symposia, scientific meetings, congresses, round tables, and book and monograph promotions, are organized, co-organized or held under the patronage of the Department of Medical Sciences of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts. When two summer months are excluded, the fact remains that nearly every week, one event involving the Department of Medical Sciences takes place. The Editorial Board of the journal RAD has so far, depending on the topicality and actuality of the content of individual symposia, and as agreed with symposia leaders, published papers tackling symposia statements. In our journal RAD, we have usually published papers from one symposium; Volume 41 however comprises papers from two symposia, both of major importance. Each of these symposia was the first to have tackled the topics involved, held within not only the Croatian Academy, but also Croatia.

The intention of the *First Croatian Symposium on Lung Transplantation*, which was held in November 2014, was to present and emphasize the most important indications and updated status of the lung transplantation programme in Croatia. As a part of this Symposium, state-of-the-art lectures regarding indication, pre-evaluation, transplantation surgical procedures, post-transplantation care, immunosuppressive treatment, and pulmonary rehabilitation were presented. The Department of Medical Sciences of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts and the Croatian Thoracic Society organized this Symposium jointly. The chairs of the Symposium were Academy members, Professors Zvonko Kusić and Marko Pećina on behalf of the Croatian Academy; and Professors Walter Klepetko and Miroslav Samaržija on behalf of the Croatian Thoracic Society. Speakers at the Symposium were distinguished experts from Croatia, Austria and Slovenia.

To emphasize the complexity regarding the Colorectal Cancer (CRC) incidence; pathogenesis; and the complexity in diagnosis and treatment, the 1st scientific meeting entitled *Tumours of the Gastrointestinal Tract: Colorectal Cancer* was organized on December 21st, 2014 by the Department of Medical Sciences of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts, and the Department of Clinical Oncology of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Zagreb. The Organizing Committee included the following members of the Department of Clinical Oncology: Prof. Lidija Beketić-Orešković, MD, PhD; Prof. Nikola Đaković, MD, PhD; Prof. Antonio Juretić, MD, PhD; Academy President Prof. Zvonko Kusić, MD, PhD; and Prof. Fedor Šantek, MD, PhD.

On behalf of the Editorial Board of our journal, I cordially thank our guest editors – Prof. Miroslav Samaržija, MD, PhD; and Ass. Prof. Marko Jakopović, MD, PhD (Editors for the Lung Transplantation Symposium); as well as Prof. Antonio Juretić, MD, PhD (Editor for the Colorectal Cancer Symposium) – for their great effort in compiling the symposium papers.

Dear readers, it is with great pleasure that I announce RAD 42 (2015), which will include papers from the Symposium held in March 2015. in Rijeka “*Developmental Biology of Platelets, Trombocytopenia and Myeloproliferative Neoplasms*” and led by Academy member Daniel Rukavina, who will act as guest editor of this upcoming volume of RAD. We will thus publish two volumes of RAD in 2015, both tackling major issues. I believe a wide audience will find them both useful and interesting.

Marko Pećina