

## THE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS, SESTRE MILOSRDNICE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL, ZAGREB, CROATIA

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**SUMMARY** – The University Department of Pediatrics was established in 1904 as Department of Pediatrics at Sestre milosrdnice Hospital in Zagreb, as the first pediatric department in Croatia, founded and headed until 1920 by Dr. Radovan Marković (1884-1920), the first Croatian pediatrician. In the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the Department grew into University Department and one of the leading pediatric institutions in Croatia. At Department, numerous physical and clinical laboratory tests and methods of treatment were initially introduced in the pediatric practice at large. When the Department premises were devastated by fire in 2002, it was reconstructed in line with the latest architectural concepts and reopened on its hundredth anniversary. As Department has a rich scientific background, professional and manpower resources, and sophisticated equipment, it may hopefully hold the position of the University Department of Pediatrics of high national relevance in the time to come.

**Key words:** *History of medicine; History, 20<sup>th</sup> century; Pediatrics – history; Croatia*

### The First Fifty Years of the Department, then University Department of Pediatrics, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital

“The history of medicine, in part a long-lasting chronicle of misapprehension and futile attempts, successful steps forward, failures and repeat mistakes, is also one of the brightest pages in the book of the man’s endeavors to overcome Nature, to prolong and upgrade his life. Behind it there is a gallery of innumerable small, unknown heroes of the profession along with numerous examples of great physicians who surpassed the others by their mind or character, courage or humaneness.”<sup>1</sup>

All this said by Professor Mirko Dražen Grmek in his definition of the history of medicine applies to the history of the Pediatric Department of our Hospital: failures, errors, successful steps forward and a gallery of

small, unrecognized heroes – physicians, nurses, child nurses, hospital attendants, and above all a vast number of our little patients. All this makes the history of our Pediatric Department, which had its “great physician” at the very beginning, i.e. Dr. Radovan Marković, the founder of the Department.

Dr. Marković was the first Croatian pediatrician. Being a son to Dr. Franjo Marković, a philosopher and writer, Dr. Radovan Marković was educated in Vienna. Having graduated from the Vienna School of Medicine, he stayed for residency at St. Anne Childrens’ Hospital in Vienna, founded in 1837 as the first pediatric hospital in the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy and third in Europe. St. Vincent de Paul Sisters of Charity also worked at St. Anne Hospital. In 1884, Dr. Herman Wiederhofer, Marković’s teacher, was appointed Professor of Pediatrics at Vienna University. In the book *Practice of Pediatrics*, the classic work of the world pediatrics edited by Joseph Brennemann, the history of pediatrics is presented by Professor Isaac A. Abt<sup>2</sup>. He describes Wiederhofer’s Department as a well known and prestigious institution, with special reference to Herman Wiederhofer

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Gjurovečki wrote his *Zdravoslovje djeteta* (Child's Health) from 1884 till 1886. Yet, as said by Dr. Marković in his foreword, "... the professionals have acquired considerable new experience in various fields ...", therefore he wrote his book, which gained great popularity as such, unlike many a Croatian term and word that Dr. Marković as a patriot tended to introduce in informal speech. So, the terms *mekokosnost* (rickets), *gronica* (diphtheria) or *hranjenčeto* (formula-fed infant) did not take root in everyday speech.

Dr. Marković was an excellent clinician. He published professional papers on spastic diplegia, uterine sarcoma, scarlet fever and diphtheria, and held training courses in the field. In his social activities, he did not confine his work to writing popular medical booklets but was an active member of the Croatian Medical Association (CMA) and editor of *Liječnički vjesnik* from February 1905. It was by no means an easy duty, at the time of considerable dropout among CMA members, especially those willing to collaborate in *Liječnički vjesnik*<sup>10</sup>. As witnessed by Dr. Radovan Marković's fellow physicians, he quite frequently had to support and enable the publication of particular issues by his own contributions and active work, which he continued after having left the position of editor in 1908 when he was elected parliamentarian for Velika Gorica. Then he invested his efforts in his political activities in the Croatian Parliament. This period he designated best himself by his famous speech in the Parliament in 1910, printed in the *Liječnički vjesnik* supplement<sup>11</sup>. All our medical historians agree this speech is one of the best and most significant speeches on health care ever. Dr. Marković put special emphasis on some important tasks of the Croatian medicine of the time, i.e.:

- foundation of medical school
- introduction of European criteria in the evaluation of medical profession
- education of nurses, midwives and child nurses
- construction of new hospitals and active struggle against lung tuberculosis, alcoholism, trachoma and sexually transmitted diseases

He especially criticized the officialism and use of connections in health care. He used strong and tough language, which is best illustrated by the following paragraph:

"Likewise any other, health care service is also characterized by a fully bureaucratic structure. One is doing well if submitting numerous reports and statements regularly and on time, properly summed up. If, however, as

a practitioner you are more concerned with the people's health, or propose some new but necessary recommendation, then you will get on the wrong side of your superiors and be reprimanded to have exceeded your authority. Many a young physician has been through it and has abandoned such "excessive eagerness". The state gives you lower salary, and lower pension to you and your family, so shift for yourself to private practice. If you perform your regular duties thoroughly, if you monitor whether health regulations on pharmacies, midwifery, schools, inns, shops, butcher shops, trades, wells, houses, etc., have been implemented properly, you will get on the wrong side with the whole world, and you can well start looking for a private practice, as nothing else has been left to you but to move on. You do not have enough time to study the state of the people's health, to teach them about their health and its protection. According to bureaucratic directive issued by the authorities, a variety of nonprofessionals meddle in professional activities of physicians. With time, you have to turn unconcerned, you only do what you basically have to; actually, the physician has been replaced by the bureaucrat."<sup>12</sup>

While known as a fair, brave and wise fighter, for this very reason Marković was not exempted from reproach from his close fellow physicians who felt affected by his comments. It is best illustrated by his well known polemics with Dr. Franjo Durst, who perceived Marković's observations on midwifery college and maternal ward as an attack upon his personality. As Marković believed that he was right and that his comments should always be accepted as a professional criticism, this polemics gradually grew into fight, which Dr. Miroslav Čačković, CMA Vice-President and their mutual friend, tried and managed to stop. The polemics appeared in *Liječnički vjesnik* in 1910; even in that time, it was probably indicative of the polemicists' personalities rather than the pros and cons on the issue of uniting gynecology and obstetrics<sup>13</sup>. It is known that they both accepted Čačković's advice to discontinue this controversy, Durst succeeded in accomplishing his idea, while Marković's next action confirmed how seriously he understood professional honesty and personal integrity; namely, he decided to withdraw from CMA so as not to involve its members in some awkward situations by his potential future polemics.

In an attempt to achieve full independence of his work, Marković refused to accept government employment up to 1916. That is why he was mobilized to serve at the front in Mačva, where he developed severe dys-

entry. As an activist for social justice and as a physician, Marković strongly opposed the war, during which he not only fell seriously ill but also was separated from his family. In addition, he was deeply upset when he learned from some old newspapers he accidentally ran across at the frontline that his father, his idol and teacher, Dr. Franjo Marković had died. In order to avoid further war service, he accepted the position of county medical officer in 1916, to be appointed health care commissioner at SHS National Council in 1918. Indeed, it was a true reward for his longstanding work. Of course, he accepted the position as eagerly and diligently as during all his previous activities, having proposed Draft Act on Health Service Structure<sup>14</sup>. Unfortunately, Radovan Marković did not stay long at this position, struggling for proper structuring of the new state's health care service. This time, it was premature death that took him away from all those tasks he had so fervently and idealistically performed, deeply convinced in the motto he used to close his forward to the Draft Act on Health Service Structure: "... healthy people, free nation". Dr. Radovan Marković died in 1920, too early to achieve any substantial results in only two years of his dealing with the problems of health service at large; yet, considering his longstanding activities in all other segments of health sector mentioned above, Marković made a great job, he managed to achieve a lot, he was the first to devote his great human and professional abilities as a specialist to public affairs.

The postwar period at our Hospital began or rather continued with a period of daily shortages. This is best illustrated by a record from the time, stating that all primary physicians accept by signature the bitter information on the breakfast being cancelled and offered "white bread at will" (a note by Hospital Management from 1922)<sup>15</sup>.

At that time, Pediatric Department was headed by Dr. Ljudevit Kobali. Of course, Dr. Kobali was a Viennese student. His application for "one-year leave for scientific training" from 1920 has been preserved. He spent one year at University Department of Pediatrics in Vienna. Unlike Dr. Marković, Dr. Kobali had no problems in the Croatian Parliament but encountered problems at the Hospital because Hospital Management did not give approval for opening an outpatient clinic at the Hospital he proposed, and charged him with serious indolence, i.e. hospital bed vacancy.

So, these still were hard times indeed. The state had changed; there was no Austro-Hungarian and civil

governor's authority. Now, there was the Ministry of Public Health led by Professor Andrija Štampar, who tended to emphasize the preventive role and direction of medicine, implying that medical profession was not a private occupation but a physician was a governmental officer performing a particular public service he was paid for according to predetermined ministerial acts.

Dr. Štampar's social and health care concepts were, to say the least, resented at the Hospital, as indicated by his letter to Dr. Baraković, Hospital Director, in which he tries to convince primary physicians that governmental acts are beneficial for the entire health care, at the same time proposing a meeting in Zagreb to discuss the misunderstandings. In the 1920s, the Hospital faced a very difficult situation due to the generally low financial and health care standards of living. During the war, the Hospital then overcrowded with patients, wounded, soldiers, refugees and others was not able to meet the ever growing needs of the patients by the hygienic and other standards, the more so as the investments were rather negligible and included some expansion of ophthalmologic department and restructuring of operating theaters. There are many notes and letters in which Hospital Management complains of inadequate room for modern health care, hygiene, low salaries, high drug utilization, etc. Letters were sent, graphs and flowcharts of consumption, hospital days, etc. were made, however, all these efforts lost direction and faded away in futile correspondence, such as the following: "Over the last 13 years, the Hospital Management undersigned has sent, on the Ministry demand, Hospital reports on 8 occasions to date, therefore it seems rather surprising that the Ministry does not have them".

Then, Pediatric Department had a lower number of beds, some forty in all, because the children suffering from infectious diseases were referred to the Hospital for Contagious Diseases in Zeleni breg. In that period, Pediatric Department had three physicians: Dr. Ljudevit Kobali as primary physician and head of Department, Dr. Olga Bošnjaković-Göszl as secondary physician, and Dr. Darinka Čepulić-Bičan as assistant physician. Besides Hospital Archives, the name of Dr. Ljudevit Kobali could only be found in daily newspapers and in obituaries on his sudden death. In addition to being a Viennese student, he also was Wickerhauser's disciple, as underlined by his biographers, because he possessed the high qualities of the school created at Sestre milosrdnice Hospital by Dr. Wickerhauser: "... Dr. Kobali stood by his ethical principles almost with fanaticism".

There is a preserved note on Dr. Olga Bošnjaković-Göszl kept at both Hospital Archives and Zagreb Historical Archives. The note is about her appointment as secondary physician at the Hospital in 1932, issued by the Royal Governor Board for Savska Banovina in Zagreb. In fact, of true interest is an appendix, the “superior report”<sup>16</sup> evaluating not only the physician’s professional work at the Hospital but also judging her moral characteristics and behavior. Dr. Darinka Bićan came to the Hospital Department of Pediatrics in 1925 for residency in pediatrics. This “directive” has also been preserved in the Hospital Archives, unlike her oath at the time taken before service and attached to documentation in writing. Dr. Beata Hitrec’s oath has been preserved and is presented as a document of the time<sup>17</sup>.

Upon Dr. Ljudevit Kobali’s death in 1938, Dr. Darinka Čepulić-Bićan was appointed interim head, and from 1940 head of Pediatric Department. Dr. Darinka Čepulić-Bićan belonged to the first generation of students at the reopened School of Medicine in Zagreb. Her matriculation book shows her being enrolled as a student at the then Francis Joseph I Royal University in Zagreb on January 5, 1918; her professors were Čačković, Mašek, Perović, Saltykov, Radoničić, Štampar, and others<sup>18</sup>. As revealed by her matriculation book, Dr. Čepulić also attended some lectures at Vienna University, among others those held by Professor Pirquet in 1922, his course being simply entitled *Kinderheilkunde* (Pediatrics). Dr. Darinka Čepulić-Bićan headed Pediatric Department during the hard times of World War II, when the number of beds increased to 78 due to the ever growing number of sick children, this time victims of war and famine, to mention only the rescue of children from Kozara. Unfortunately, medical documentation of Pediatric Department from that period has been lost, while Dr. Čepulić and her coworkers did not receive any form of written recognition in public. Not even a nice letter like the one written by Dr. Marković to Dr. Jakšić, “... Towards the end of these bloodshed years ...”, has been left to remind us of their self-denying work.

The time in which Drs. Kobali, Bošnjaković and Čepulić lived and worked actually was the period of the true establishment of Croatian pediatrics as a profession. In 1923, the Zagreb University Department of Pediatrics started working as the first such institution in the Kingdom of Yugoslavia<sup>19</sup>. In their textbook entitled *Pedijatrija* (Pediatrics), Dr. E. Mayerhofer and Dr. Dragišić bring some interesting figures, e.g., that there

were 100 specialists in pediatrics in 1935, and that 13,126 sick children were admitted to 136 hospitals in 1934 in the then Yugoslavia. As for data on particular bannats (districts), they cite only one of interest for this review, that Drava Bannat (Slovenia) had one dispensary *per* 2500 children, and Sava Bannat (Croatia) one dispensary *per* 20,000 children. In other districts, the situation was even worse and infant mortality rate was very high, therefore the main topic of the First Congress of Pediatricians, held in Bled in 1934, was Infant Mortality and Morbidity in Yugoslavia<sup>20</sup>.

Dr. Mayerhofer and Dr. Dragišić wrote the first proper textbook of pediatrics in Croatia, published in 1939, in which they gave an account of the development of pediatrics in the world, however, without even mentioning Dr. Marković, our first pediatrician, and our first pediatric department at Sestre milosrdnice Hospital in Vinogradska Street, Zagreb.

In their paper entitled *Razvoj pedijatrije i zdravstvene zaštite djece u SR Hrvatskoj do 1960.* (Development of Pediatrics and Child Health Care in Croatia until 1960)<sup>21</sup>, the authors Juretić, Oberiter, Perović and Reiner-Banovac say that all other efforts fell in oblivion after World War I, with the establishment of the Zagreb School of Medicine and University Department of Pediatrics in Šalata, and with the arrival of Ernest Mayerhofer. All other professionals and their deeds were in particular overshadowed by Professor Ernest Mayerhofer, his pediatric school, his professional and scientific papers, and his personality as a clinician and teacher of great medical culture and authority. As Professor Mayerhofer actually raised all the leading Croatian pediatricians between the two world wars, who were in the very forefront of the Croatian pediatrics for several decades after World War II, it is evident that Croatian pediatrics as a profession was generated in Mayerhofer’s time, while the times of the establishment of Sestre milosrdnice Department of Pediatrics and Dr. Marković were for long forgotten.

Yet, as Professor Grmek says, there still existed “a gallery of small and unknown heroes of the profession”, who lived and worked during the hard times of World War II and the postwar period of rebuilding, with new people and new challenges of the time and profession. At that time, Pediatric Department was located in its current premises. In the first postwar years, 1946-1949, heads of Pediatric Department were frequently changed, so Head Doctor Feđa Fišer-Sartorius was appointed head in 1946, Head Doctor Gustav Jungwirth in 1947, Head

Doctor Boris Mravunac in 1948, and Head Doctor Jungwirth again in 1949 to stay at the position until retirement in 1956<sup>22</sup>. During this period, the number of residents rose to eight. At first, there were only three physicians. The first specialist from this period was Dr. Vlado Oberiter, in 1952. The number of beds increased from 80 to 112. The year 1954 was especially significant, when the Preterm Unit with 24 beds and the first incubators in Croatia was established. Preterm infants from all over Croatia as well as from the neighboring Bosnia and Herzegovina were treated at the Unit. To meet the Unit requirements, the Department dairy kitchenette extended activities by introducing nursing mothers. The number of specialist pediatricians was on a continuous increase, while the whole Department through various subspecialties created conditions for the Department to grow into University Department and teaching unit of the Zagreb University School of Medicine and School of Dentistry.

As stated above, our Department of Pediatrics was the only pediatric department in the region for full two decades (1904-1923), i.e. until the foundation of the University Department of Pediatrics in Šalata in 1923. Although the germ of clinical and social pediatrics and pediatric infectology originated from this department and the first preterm unit was organized here, the first written records on the establishment and subsequent activities of the Pediatric Department in Vinogradska Hospital after 1920 appeared only in 1962, in the first edition of Medical Encyclopedia<sup>23</sup>. In 1956, Professor Emil Najman was appointed head of the Department, and this period was characterized by rapid professional promotion of newly opened subspecialist divisions and units. After Professor Emil Najman, heads of the Department of Pediatrics were Professor Vlado Oberiter

(1977-1989), Professor Željka Reiner-Banovac (acting head, 1990), Professor Magda Kadrnka-Lovrenčić (1990-2001) and Professor Tomislav Franjo Hajnžić (2001-). During the past 50 years, twenty-four physicians completed their residency in pediatrics at University Department of Pediatrics and stayed working at its departments and divisions for years: Professor Vlado Oberiter, MD, PhD; Professor Željka Reiner-Banovac, MD, PhD; Ante Grgić, MD; Professor Višnja Fabečić-Sabadi, MD, PhD; Professor Magda Kadrnka-Lovrenčić, MD, PhD; Head Doctor Dušanka Bajakić, MD; Head Doctor Ljerkica Schmutzer, MD, PhD; Professor Tomislav Franjo Hajnžić, MD, PhD; Professor Zvonimir Jurčić, MD, PhD; Assistant Professor Željka Kokoš, MD, PhD; Head Doctor Eva Verona, MD; Head Doctor Zvonimir Puretić, MD, PhD; Head Doctor Tanja Lukanović, MD, MS; Karmen Markičević-Ružičić, MD, MS; Branka Mučić, MD, MS; Head Doctor Zdenka Petković, MD; Jasna Knežević, MD; Gordana Stipančić, MD, MS; Biserka Čičak, MD, MS; Marina Mataija, MD; Bernarda Valent, MD; Orjena Žaja-Franulović, MD; Lavinia La Grasta, MD; and Iva Mihatov-Štefanović, MD.

Seven pediatricians started and continued working at University Department of Pediatrics: Head Doctor Dragica Rudar, MD; Vanja Zah, MD; Head Doctor Ljerkica Cvitanović-Šojat, MD, PhD; Head Doctor Jasna Đelmiš, MD, MS; and Mirta Starčević, MD.

Extensive professional activities of the University Department of Pediatrics have resulted in acquisition of numerous clinical laboratory tests and methods of treatment, which have been here initially introduced in the Croatian pediatric practice (Table 1).

In 1971, Pediatric Department grew into University Department of the Zagreb University School of Dentistry, and a few years later of the School of Medicine,

*Table 1. Clinical laboratory tests and methods of treatment initially introduced at University Department of Pediatrics, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital*

Tests introduced	Methods of treatment
Heart US in children	Phototherapy for hyperbilirubinemia
NBT test	Phenobarbital therapy for jaundice
Determination of Cl in sweat	Bedoxin therapy
US guided kidney biopsy	Bactericidal lamp infection prophylaxis
Subcutaneous splenography	Brain tumor polychemotherapy
Diaphanoscopy	Dietary treatment
Neuropediatric EEG evaluation	Peroral rehydration with original solutions
Muscle needle biopsy	Supportive treatment of malignant diseases
Humoral and cellular immunity in malignancy	Team management of anorexia

providing undergraduate and postgraduate education, education for physicians in almost all fields of medicine and dental medicine, and education of high-school medical personnel. The overall pathology of childhood has been covered by ten subspecialist departments: endocrinology, gastroenterology, hematology, oncology, cardiology, nephrology, neonatology, neuropsychiatry, pulmonology, and allergology. Eight research projects and a number of drug trials have been performed at the Department. Since 1960, more than 1500 professional and scientific papers have been published by Department physicians. Among others, mention should be made of the international recognition Professor Emil Najman received for his studies of megaloblastic anemia due to vitamin B<sub>12</sub> malabsorption, a special entity named after him in the literature<sup>24</sup>.

The first adaptation and minor reconstruction of the Department were undertaken in 1982, and the new Department of Hematology and Oncology was opened in the rebuilt University Department in 1997. Unfortunately, on January 8, 2002, the University Department of Pediatrics was completely devastated by fire. On this disaster, our little patients were efficiently and safely evacuated, without any complication or injury in the children or the personnel. The most severely ill patients were in part accommodated at three other pediatric departments in Zagreb, and in part observed at Day Hospital, while a minor proportion of less severely ill patients were discharged for home treatment. The work of the Department was discontinued for only 24 hours. Until completion of the Department reconstruction three years of the fire, the inpatient pediatric service was accommodated at Department of Gastroenterology, University Department of Medicine. Although our patients were accommodated at just one-fifth of the previous room, owing to great efforts of the Department personnel, the number of hospitalizations and admissions to Day Hospital was reduced by not more than 12%, whereas the rate of polyclinical services offered in dispersed rooms of the polyclinic increased by 5%.

On the hundredth anniversary of its foundation, the University Department of Pediatrics rose from its ashes like the mythical bird Phoenix, to be opened with due ceremony on November 22, 2004. Now, the inpatient department with the ward appropriately supplied with furniture and medical equipment, and with rooms accommodating three patients at the most, is on the fourth floor of the reconstructed building.

Department of Hematology and Oncology has suites and double rooms for patients requiring stage II intensive care. There are adapted rooms for newborns at risk and preterm infants who need intensive therapy. In the added-on fifth floor there are polyclinics, specialized units, waiting rooms, internet booths, multimedia computer equipment, and pediatric psychiatry polyclinic.

The new building has been constructed according to current architectural concepts for hospital facilities. The reconstructed and extended Department can accommodate 80 inpatient beds, along with 15 patients at Day Hospital. Hospitalization of some 2500 patients, and 24,000 patients examined and treated at polyclinical service have been anticipated *per* year. The present capacity of subspecialist departments, new Day Hospital and 18 polyclinics provide good conditions for our physicians and other medical personnel to properly perform all their demanding tasks and duties (Table 2).

The staff of our University Department consists of 113 employees, 17 of them specialist physicians (6 subspecialists), including two professors, two assistant professors, 11 research fellows, and seven head doctors; 55 high-school nurses and seven college nurses.

Establishment of some new divisions and interventional diagnostics units has been planned soon. This can

*Table 2. Diagnostic and therapeutic procedures performed at University Department of Pediatrics, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital*

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Bronchofibroscopy
Airway hyperactivity testing
Determination of allergic inflammatory activity
Gastrointestinal endoscopy
Enteral resuscitation
Integral gastroenterology
Functional nephrologic diagnosis
Several-hour endocrinologic tests
Insulin pump therapy
Noninvasive and invasive cardiologic examinations
Multi-channel EEG examinations
Cortical perfusion (with EEG)
Polygraphic CNS imaging
Doppler studies of CNS vasculature
Intensive care (postoperative, oncologic, etc.)
Sterile units at hemato-oncology
Intensive therapy for newborns at risk and premature infants
Department computerization (within and beyond the Hospital)

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be anticipated owing to the highly competent medical personnel, properly trained in the work with sophisticated medical instruments, which is a precondition for the University Department of Pediatrics, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, to hold its position of a pediatric institution of national relevance in the time to come.

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## Sažetak

### STOTA OBLJETNICA KLINIKE ZA DJEČJE BOLESTI KLINIČKE BOLNICE "SESTRE MILOSRDNICE" U ZAGREBU, HRVATSKA

*T. F. Hajnžić i T. Sušec*

Klinika za dječje bolesti osnovana je 1904. godine kao Dječji odjel Bolnice milosrdnih sestara u Zagrebu. To je bio prvi dječji odjel u našoj zemlji, a osnovao ga je i vodio do 1920. godine prvi hrvatski pedijatar, dr. Radovan pl. Marković (1884.-1920.). U drugoj polovici dvadesetog stoljeća Odjel postaje Klinika i jedna je od vodećih pedijatrijskih ustanova u zemlji. U Klinici su prvi put u našoj pedijatrijskoj praksi uvedene brojne fizikalne i kliničko-laboratorijske pretrage te metode liječenja. Kada je 2002. godine katastrofalan požar uništio Kliniku, ona je ponovno sagrađena u skladu s najsuremenijim arhitektonskim rješenjima na njezinu stotu obljetnicu. Kako Klinika raspolaže znanstvenim, stručnim i ljudskim potencijalom te sofisticiranom opremom, nadamo se kako će i u budućnosti ostati Klinika za pedijatriju od nacionalnog značenja.

*Ključne riječi: Povijest medicine; Povijest, 20. stoljeće; Pedijatrija – povijest; Hrvatska*