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### CONTENTS

FOREWORD .....	5
ORIGINAL SCIENTIFIC PAPERS	
<b>Orbital Meningiomas – Clinical Observation</b> Lovro Bojić, Milan Ivanišević, Veljko Rogošić, Davor Galetović, Mladen Lešin .....	7
<b>The Role of Frequency-doubled Nd: Yag Laser (532 Nm) in the Treatment of Diabetic Macular Edema</b> Kajo Bućan, Milan Ivanišević, Ljubo Znaor, Lovro Bojić, Ksenija Karaman, Davor Galetović .....	13
<b>Soft Contact Lenses and Long Term Corneal Hypoxia: What is Changing With Silicone Hydrogel Lens?</b> Ksenija Čuruvija-Opačić .....	17
<b>Prognostic Value of Clinical and Histopathological Parameters of Uveal Melanomas: A Retrospective Study</b> Ksenija Karaman, Kajo Bućan, Valdi Pešutić-Pisac, Igor Žuljan, Ljubo Znaor, Alen Siničić, Ivana Vujčić, Marin Kuzmanić .....	21
<b>Modern Approach in the Treatment of Recurrent Corneal Erosion</b> Zdravko Mandić, Ivana Bednar and Dean Šarić .....	25
<b>Effect of Cataract Extraction on Visual Field in Patients with Open Angle Glaucoma</b> Katia Novak-Lauš, Tamara Knežević, Aljoša Matejčić, Renata Iveković, Mia Zorić-Geber, Jadranka Koršić, Zdravko Mandić .....	31
<b>Analysis of Postoperative Corneal Astigmatism After Phacoemulsification Through a Clear Corneal Incision</b> Nikola Sušić, Jasenka Brajković, Ivana Kalauz-Surać .....	37
<b>Endemic Glaucoma in the Mune-Brgud Area</b> Aldo Valković, Ivana Valković-Antić, Asja Valković-Mika .....	41
<b>Analysis of Current Ophthalmology Residency Curriculum</b> Zoran Vatačuk, Romano Vrabec, Goran Benčić, Ana Čima, Krešimir Mandić, Zdravko Mandić .....	45
PROFESSIONAL PAPERS	
<b>Amniotic Membrane in the Treatment of Neuroparalytic Keratopathy</b> Ivana Bednar, Renata Iveković, Ivanka Petric, Katia Novak-Lauš, Zdravko Mandić .....	51
<b>Ocular Pseudoexfoliation Syndrome and Internal Systemic Diseases</b> Jasenka Brajković, Ivana Kalauz-Surać, Ante Ercegović, Alenka Miletić-Jurić, Nikola Sušić, Željko Burić .....	57
<b>Stereoscopic Visual Acuity in Different Types of Amblyopia</b> Ljubica Dorn, Jelena Petrinović-Dorešić .....	63
<b>Phacoemulsification Through the Small Pupil</b> Ante Ercegović, Ivana Kalauz-Surać, Jasenka Brajković .....	71
Acta Clin Croat, Vol. 46, Suppl. 1, pp. 1-142 Zagreb, April 2007	3



<b>Optic Neuritis and Multiple Sclerosis: Our Experience</b> Davor Galetović, Lovro Bojić, Dobrila Karlica, Kajo Bučan, Veljko Rogošić, Ljubo Znaor .....	75
<b>Granulomatous Inflammation of the Orbit: Diagnosis, Management and Therapy</b> Slavica Konjević-Pernar, Renata Iveković, Katia Novak-Lauš, Zdravko Mandić .....	79
<b>Our Experience with 25 Gauge Transconjunctival Sutureless Vitreoretinal Surgery</b> Damir Kovačević, Aldo Valković .....	83
<b>Comparative Analysis of Intraocular Pressure Measurements with Different Ophthalmologic Devices</b> Željko Kovačić, Lovro Bojić, Ivica Štambuk, Robert Stanić, Milan Ivanišević and Ljubo Znaor .....	87
<b>Multifocal Intraocular Lenses to Correct Presbyopia After Cataract Surgery</b> Valentina Lacmanović-Lončar, Ivanka Petric-Vicković, Sanda Rožanković, Jelena Škunca, Zdravko Mandić .....	91
<b>Is Central Corneal Thickness a Risk Factor for Pseudoexfoliation Glaucoma?</b> Smiljka Popović-Suić, Tomislav Kuzman, Rajko Kordić, Branimir Cerovski .....	95
<b>Effect of Topical 10% Phenylephrine on Blood Pressure and Heart Rate During Phacoemulsification Under Local Anesthesia</b> Jelena Škunca, Nevenka Bohaček, Blanka Doko-Mandić, Ivanka Petric-Vicković, Valentina Lacmanović-Lončar, Zdravko Mandić .....	99
<b>CASE REPORTS</b>	
<b>Phototherapeutic Excimer Keratectomy</b> Siniša Cvrtić, Dean Šarić, Marijan Marić, Zdravko Mandić .....	105
<b>Iris Melanoma: A Case Report</b> Blanka Doko-Mandić, Jelena Škunca, Valentina Lacmanović-Lončar, Ivanka Petric-Vicković, Antonija Puljić, Mía Zorić-Geber, Zdravko Mandić .....	107
<b>Primary Orbital Non-hodgkin's Lymphoma: Case Report</b> Antonela Gverović-Antunica, Irena Marković, Maja Bohač, Elizabeta Čorović-Ameri, Ana Ivanišin-Barač, Ksenija Karaman .....	113
<b>Neurotrophic Keratopathy: Case Report</b> Rajko Kordić, Tomislav Kuzman, Smiljka Popović-Suić, Miro Kalauz, Tihomir Čurković .....	117
<b>REVIEWS</b>	
<b>Quo Vadis, Croatian Medical Terminology*</b> <b>Should The Diagnoses Be Written In Croatian, Latin Or – English?</b> *From the Lecture Presented at 3 <sup>rd</sup> Symposium on Current Ophthalmology, Held on December 6, 2006, Zagreb, Croatia Željko Poljak .....	121
<b>Ethical Issues in Medicine</b> Valentin Pozaić .....	127
<b>IN MEMORIAM</b> .....	133
<b>ANNIVERSARIES</b> .....	139
<b>INSTRUCTION TO AUTHORS</b> .....	140

## FOREWORD

Looking at the reviewed papers received for the ophthalmologic supplement of our Hospital journal *Acta clinica Croatica*, I was very pleased indeed for having collected such a great number of quality contributions that reflect the high professional and scientific level of the Croatian ophthalmology today. In the introduction section, the readers will find the honorary lecture by Professor Valentin Pozaić, PhD, S.J., *episc. aux. zagrebiensis*, entitled “Ethical Issues in Medicine”, held at the last year’s National Congress of Ophthalmology in Primošten. All those that encounter or want to think about the numerous ethical issues in medicine, or in ophthalmology providing eye care, preserving sight and giving the light of common sense, *ratio recte iudicans*, will probably find answers and see what’s right and good.

Of high interest will certainly also be the honorary lecture by Professor Željko Poljak, PhD, a renowned professor, erudite and publicist, editor of *Liječničke novine*, who in a competent and witty manner comments upon the language used in Croatian medicine and on the language in general, i.e. how to speak and write Croatian correctly.

Analyzing the professional and scientific level of the contributions presented, the reader will encounter a variety of the latest diagnostic and therapeutic methods employed in ophthalmology today. So, for example, there are papers dealing with the latest methods and experience in the management of recurrent corneal erosion by use of Excimer laser keratectomy. No less valuable is the reported experience in the multifocal intraocular lens implantation in cataract surgery, or the use of pachymetry in the early diagnosis of glaucoma; then, there are highly useful papers on the experience with the most sophisticated approach in 25 G pars plana vitrectomy for certain retinal pathologies. I am especially glad to see that a number of young ophthalmologists have decided to publish their first works in the form of professionally intriguing and properly documented case reports that have been thoroughly analyzed and therefore are very instructive.

And the last but not the least, mention should be made of a very useful study carried out by Dr. Vatavuk and his junior colleagues, trying to identify the shortcomings of and find way to improve the education of junior ophthalmologists.

The closing section of the supplement brings several obituaries to our recently departed fellow ophthalmologists who had left profound impression during the significant period of Croatian ophthalmology.

Professor Zdravko Mandić, MD, PhD

