

BOOK REVIEW



KIRURGIJA ZA STOMATOLOGE (SURGERY FOR DENTISTS) by M. Bekavac-Bešlin, M. Ledinsky, A. Matejić, A. Mijić and L. Negovetić. Medicinska naklada, Zagreb, 2003, 345 pages. ISBN 953-176-197-3.

It's finally here. Students of the School of Dental Medicine have long been unfortunate not to possess a comprehensive textbook of surgery. The idea of writing a book that would aid students in preparing for the surgical exam has been conceived for quite a long time, and some 30 years ago such a text was published by the late professor Branko Oberhofer, chairman of the surgical department at that time. As medical knowledge and surgical procedures advance rapidly and unstoppably, the aforementioned text has inevitably turned inadequate with time. Although new

scripts were written in 1995 by Professor Lucijan Negovetić and coworkers, during the following decades no appropriate textbooks emerged.

The ever-present need of issuing a new and modern surgical textbook has always been in the mind of the faculty of the Department of Surgery, University of Zagreb School of Dental Medicine. The book represents a combined result of three contributing factors: the tradition of teaching at the Department of Surgery, the clinical work and experience of the authors at the University Department of Surgery, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, and probably most important, the recognition of the needs of dental medicine students. The book is based on the latest papers published by Croatian authors, including the authors of the book itself, as well as on the most recent papers published in the world literature.

The text may at first seem too comprehensive for dental medicine students, however, the authors' wish was that some chapters and even the entire book be of assistance to medical students, students of high school of nursing, other healthcare professionals and surgery residents as well.

The book is divided into ten chapters, beginning with an introduction on general surgical problems and principles. Surgical diseases of the neck and neurosurgery follow. The chapters on thoracic, breast, heart and abdominal surgery cover the most important issues in modern surgical practice within these fields, and are easily read and understood. Vascular surgery and trauma have also gained the right of having their own chapters, recognizing the increase in the number of patients and advances in treatment modalities. The book finishes up with an overview of plastic and reconstructive surgery.

Thus, after a long time a good textbook of surgery has been produced which is intended primarily for students of dental medicine but is also valuable and helpful to other students, residents, healthcare professionals and non-medical readers who seek additional knowledge.

Björn Dario Franjić

NEWS

Scientific basis of Teleneurology – Telestroke Model

Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts,
Zagreb, March 21, 2003

Although great progress has been made in neurology in the last decades, especially during the Decade of Brain 1990-2000, stroke remains one of the most common diagnoses in neurology. Despite great progress achieved in all fields of neurology almost one third of patients succumb to stroke, approximately one third of patients suffer severe neurologic deficit after stroke, and only one third of patients recover in a way that they can regain normal life after stroke. Therefore, stroke is a huge medical as well as social and economic problem. In Croatia, stroke has been the leading cause of mortality and disability in the last few years. So, every attempt should be made to improve stroke prevention, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation.

New computer and telecommunication technologies offer important advantages and possibilities in medicine and particularly in neurology. Telemedicine and teleneurology are rapidly growing fields of modern medicine.

In accordance with all these facts, the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts organized the symposium entitled Scientific Basis of Teleneurology – Telestroke Model, which was held at the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts Palace on Friday, March 21, 2003. After welcome addresses by President of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Academician Ivo Adovan, and manager of the Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, Academician Zvonko Kusić, the working part of the conference began. Professor Vida Demarin, head of the University Department of Neurology Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital and associate member of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts, presented an interesting lecture on the scientific basis of the diagnosis and therapy of stroke, stressing out new insights and methods in the diagnosis and treatment, some of them being already used in daily practice. She pointed out that treatment of every stroke patient in special units for stroke patients, so-called stroke

units, significantly decreased mortality and disability of stroke patients by more than forty percent.

In his lecture, Johannes Schenkel, M.D. from Department of Neurology Haarlaching Hospital, Ludwig Maximilian's University Munich, Germany presented organization of the TEMPIS project in eastern Bavaria. In TEMPIS, different smaller hospitals in eastern Bavaria are connected in a network using ISDN links with two University Hospitals. Every neurology department in smaller hospitals has the possibility to transmit data on stroke patients admitted to the hospital and to ask experts from University Hospitals for consultation. This project was started this spring in eastern Bavaria, and neurologists have great expectations.

Professor Vida Demarin held the next lecture on the basic principles of teleneurology and telestroke model, stressing out that teleneurology was the first in telemedicine starting in late fifties of the past century. Neurology with its sophisticated diagnostic procedures has great necessity for the usage of telemedicine technologies enabling transfer of various patient data. Today, most of medical data are digitalized, enabling them to be transferred through telecommunication networks. Since stroke is one of the most common diagnoses in neurology there is a need to organize a network between neurology departments and to transfer patient data.

Assistant Professor Vesna Šerić, head of the Outpatient Department of the University Department of Neurology Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, presented a lecture on utilizing computer and telecommunication technologies in the rehabilitation of stroke patients, pointing out that the use of computers could greatly improve the process of rehabilitation at rehabilitation departments as well as at patients' homes.

Zlatko Jelačić from the Croatian Academic Research Network (CARNet) and Zlatko Bepes from the Multimedia Center, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, presented the possibilities and advantages offered by the modern telecommunication and computer science to neurologists in interesting lectures: Possibilities of videocon-

ferencing technologies in teleneurology and Elements of network cooperation in teleneurology

Assistant Professor Zlatko Trkanjec, University Department of Neurology Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, presented a lecture on the use of the Neuronet software that has been used in daily practice for more than seven years at the University Department of Neurology Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital.

At the end of the conference it was concluded that the most efficient way to treat stroke patients is treatment in stroke units that should be organized in every Croatian hospital. CARNet has built a telecommunication network that connects every large town in Croatia. Every attempt should be made to connect hospitals in Croatian towns

with CARNet network and future stroke units that will be organized in hospitals. In this way all future stroke units will be included in the network enabling them to transfer all data on every stroke patient. Expert consultations and opinions could thus be easily obtained on any diagnostic or therapeutic dilemma. In this manner the highest possible quality of diagnosis and treatment will be ensured in future stroke units, providing for every stroke patient the most sophisticated care. When this Telestroke model becomes operational, we do hope that stroke mortality figures will start to decline.

Zlatko Trkanjec



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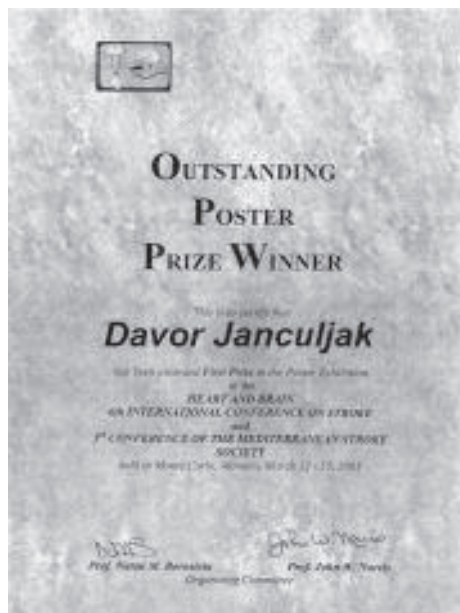
ORGANIZIRA SIMPOZIJ

ZNANSTVENE OSNOVE TELENEUROLOGIJE – TELESTROKE MODEL

koji će se održati u palači Hrvatske akademije znanosti i umjetnosti, Zrinski trg 11
u petak, 21. Ožujka 2003. godine s početkom u 9,00 sati

6TH International Conference on Stroke and 3RD Conference of the Mediterranean Stroke Society

Monte Carlo, Monaco, March 12-15, 2003



The 6th International Conference on Stroke and 3rd Conference of the Mediterranean Stroke Society was held in Monte Carlo, Monaco, March 12-15, 2003, with more than 600 participants from all over the world. This Conference is already widely known as the Heart & Brain Congress, hosting many prominent neurologists and cardiologists considering the associations between heart dis-

ease and stroke. A special plenary session was dedicated to atrial fibrillation and patent foramen ovale (PFO) as risk factors for stroke, but also to the similarities and differences of heart and brain attack.

The Conference started with lectures covering stroke imaging (especially penumbra). The next plenary session was dedicated to the epidemiology and prevention of stroke, with special lectures on antithrombotic therapy endarterectomy carotid stenting, hypertension, lipids and other emerging risk factors, but also to lifestyle and vitamins. Finally, the last day was dedicated to acute therapy of stroke introducing world leading experts presenting organized stroke care, e.g., Canadian and European (Stroke Unit) style, news in acute stroke therapy, and stroke treatment with i.v thrombolysis as well as with hypothermia. We learned about Telestroke project – inter-hospital telematic project for the early cure and continuous assistance to stroke patients in the Genova region, Italy.

Croatia was represented at the Conference by two papers from the University Department of Neurology Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, Zagreb, and two papers from the University Department of Neurology Osijek University Hospital, Osijek. Posters presented by Conference participants were daily viewed and on the last day, the best poster was awarded.

We are proud to report that the prize for the best poster went again (like in 2001) to Croatia – Davor Jančuljak from the Osijek University Hospital, for the poster entitled “Duration of diabetes mellitus and occurrence of ischemic stroke” by D. Jančuljak, J. Palić, D. Vukašinić, I. Bradvica, S. Soldo-Butković, B. Radanović, D. Kadojić, M. Čandrić and R. Palić.

Tomislav Breitenfeld

HISTORICAL REVIEW

In the years preceding World War I, physicians from the Zagreb hospitals started their determined struggle for the establishment of a dissecting department. As stated in the report, they "... submitted a resolute petition to the royal government to establish a dissecting department..." They were fully supported by the Croatian Medical Association which adopted a resolution at the assembly in June 1913, demanding the following: (a) foundation of a national hospital; (b) organization of due care for the sick and the frail; (c) foundation of a hospital for patients with lung tuberculosis; and (d) foundation of a dissecting department for Zagreb hospitals.

A proposal for the foundation of a dissecting department to be located at the Sestre milosrdnice Hospital and to serve the needs of all Zagreb hospitals was extensively elaborated in the resolution. On discussions that were previously held at the Croatian Medical Association, it was generally stated that the existence of a dissecting department was one of the major preconditions for any serious scientific research. Towards the end of 1913, the Dissecting Department of the Health Institutes of the City of

Zagreb was founded at our Hospital. For more than thirty years, the Dissecting Department was headed by Dr Ljudevit Jurak, subsequently founder of the Department of Pathology and professor of Pathologic Anatomy at the Zagreb University School of Veterinary Medicine. He was an excellent pathologist and great man for his high moral qualities.

As member of the international commission that investigated the massacre of Polish officers in Ukraine in 1940, and as an eyewitness of the then Soviet Union Red Army crime, he was executed by firing squad in 1945. As a tribute to Professor Jurak, the University Department of Pathology has been named after him since 1991, whereas the Ljudevit Jurak International Symposium on Comparative Pathology has been regularly held since 1991.

Reference

1. Lijec Vjesn 1913;35:307, 360, 633.

Tanja Sušec



INTERNET GUIDANCE

Cardiovascular diseases, heart attack and stroke are currently the leading causes of mortality in the world, and have been predicted to remain so by 2020. Therefore, a project launched as early as 1980 under the umbrella of the World Health Organization, known as MONICA Project (Monitor trends in Cardiovascular diseases) is highlighted here. The project has been conducted at 32 centers from 21 countries, covering the population aged 25-64, and has to date included ten million male and female subjects in total. The address below contains a list of all related publications, one handbook, and other material. Data are available at:

<http://www.who.int> or
<http://www.ktl.fi/monica/public/briefhtml>

* * * * *

In addition to relevant information on the Association, its members, activities, etc., the British Medical Association (BMA) web address also contains a section dealing with ethics issues. Their Ethics Committee has eighteen members, including physicians, philosophers, sociologists, lawyers, and patients. The Committee has prepared a set of instructions, guides, and other printed material on all serious and difficult ethics problems and, what is most important, is in charge to answer physicians' questions. Ethics related advice and other material are available at:

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All manuscripts should be written in English. Instructions to authors are in accordance with the text: International Committee of Medical Journal Editors. Uniform requirements for manuscripts submitted to biomedical journals. *N Engl J Med* 1997; 336:309-15., and with Instructions to authors that can be found on web page: <http://www.icmje.org>.

Submit manuscript in triplicate accompanied by a manuscript on a disk: floppy disk (3.5-inch, 1.44 MB, IBM formatted), or compact disk – CD in generally used word processing formats (MS-Word for Windows is preferred, although manuscripts prepared using any other IBM-compatible word-processor are acceptable) to:

Editorial Office, Acta Clinica Croatica, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital, Vinogradska 29, HR-10 000 Zagreb, Croatia.

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State the purpose of the article and summarize the rationale for the study or observation. Give only strictly relevant references and do not include data or conclusions from the work being reported.

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Type or print out each table with double spacing on a separate sheet of paper. Do not submit tables as photographs. Number tables consecutively in the order of their first citation in the text and supply a brief title for each. Give each column a short heading.

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Abbreviations

Use only standard abbreviations. The full term for which an abbreviation stands should precede its first use in the text unless it is a standard unit of measurement.

Acknowledgments

List all contributors who do not meet the criteria for authorship, such as a person who provided purely technical help, writing assistance, or a department chair who provided only general support. Financial and material support should also be acknowledged.

References

References should be numbered consecutively in the order in which they are first mentioned in the text. Identify references in text, tables, and legends by Arabic numerals in superscript.

References should be cited in the style based on the formats used by the Index Medicus. The titles of journals should be abbreviated according to the style used in Index Medicus (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov>).

References to papers accepted but not yet published should be designated as "in press". Authors should obtain written permission to cite such papers as well as verification that they have been accepted for publication.

Examples of reference citations are listed.

EXAMPLES OF REFERENCE CITATIONS

ARTICLES IN JOURNALS

Standard journal article (list the first six authors followed by et al.)

Vega KJ, Pina I, Krevsky B. Heart transplantation is associated with an increased risk for pancreaticobiliary disease. *Ann Intern Med* 1996;124:980-3.

More than six authors:

Parkin DM, Clayton D, Black RJ, Masuyer E, Friedl HP, Ivanov E, *et al.* Childhood leukaemia in Europe after Chernobyl: 5 year follow-up. *Br J Cancer* 1996;73:1006-12.

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The Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand. Clinical exercise stress testing. Safety and performance guidelines. *Med J Aust* 1996; 164: 282-4.

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Cancer in South Africa [editorial]. *S Afr Med J* 1994;84:15.

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Ryder TE, Haukeland EA, Solhaug JH. Bilateral infrapatellar seneruptur hostidligere frisk kvinne. [Bilateral intra-patellar tendon rupture in a previously healthy woman] *Tidsskr Nor Laegeforen* 1996;116:41-2.

Volume with supplement

Shen HM, Zhang QF. Risk assessment of nickel carcinogenicity and occupational lung cancer. *Environ Health Perspect* 1994;102 Suppl 1:275-82.

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Turan I, Wredmark T, Fellander-Tsai L. Arthroscopic ankle arthrodesis in rheumatoid arthritis. *Clin Orthop* 1995;(320):110-4.

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Browell DA, Lennard TW. Immunologic status of the cancer patient and the effects of blood transfusion on antitumor responses. *Curr Opin Gen Surg* 1993:325-33.

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Hamlin JA, Kahn AM. Herniography in symptomatic patients following inguinal hernia repair [published erratum appears in *West J Med* 1995;162:278]. *West J Med* 1995;162:28-31.

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Ringsven MK, Bond D. Gerontology and leadership skills for nurses. 2nd ed. Albany (NY): Delmar Publishers; 1996.

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Norman IJ, Redfern SJ, editors. Mental health care for elderly people. New York: Churchill Livingstone; 1996.

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Institute of Medicine (US). Looking at the future of the Medicaid program. Washington: The Institute; 1992.

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Phillips SJ, Whisnant JP. Hypertension and stroke. In: Laragh JH, Brenner BM, editors. Hypertension: pathophysiology, diagnosis, and management. 2nd ed. New York: Raven Press; 1995. p. 465-78.

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Bengtsson S, Solheim BG. Enforcement of data protection, privacy and security in medical informatics. In: Lun KC, Degoulet P, Piemme TE, Rienhoff O, editors. MEDINFO 92. Proceedings of the 7th World Congress on Medical Informatics; 1992 Sep 6-10; Geneva, Switzerland. Amsterdam: North-Holland; 1992. p. 1561-5.

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Issued by funding/sponsoring agency: Smith P, Golladay K. Payment for durable medical equipment billed during skilled nursing facility stays. Final report. Dallas (TX): Dept. of Health and Human Services (US), Office of Evaluation and Inspections; 1994 Oct. Report No.: HHSI-GOEI69200860.

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Kaplan SJ. Post-hospital home health care: the elderly's access and utilization [dissertation]. St. Louis (MO): Washington Univ; 1995.

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Preventive Health Amendments of 1993, Pub. L. No. 103-183, 107 Stat. 2226 (Dec. 14, 1993).

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Hemodynamics III: the ups and downs of hemodynamics [computer program]. Version 2.2. Orlando (FL): Computerized Educational Systems; 1993.

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