

ON NOTABLE BOOKS IN OUR HISTORY

Laser as one of surgical options enabling the so-called 'no touch technique' for the first time, has been employed in medicine since 1967. Over years thereafter, the use of laser has passed the usual way of developing a new technique, from experimental phase to clinical application, professional and scientific papers and meetings, through international collaboration and exchange. Our physicians dealing with head and neck surgery have also been through all these phases, and have therefore decided to publish their papers in the book *Laser u kirurgiji glave i vrata* (Laser in Head and Neck Surgery), published by Tehnička knjiga from Zagreb. The book was printed in 1990, edited and authored by our surgeons Professor Lucijan Negovetić and Velimir Lupret, PhD, and Karolj Skala, PhD, engaged in laser research, from Ruđer Bošković Institute. The book has eight chapters, their authors also being our surgeons from other medical fields using laser, including neurosurgery, ophthalmology, ENT, dental medicine, and the chapter on anesthesia in laser surgery at the end. The book begins with a chapter on physical fundamentals and major problems related to the use of laser in surgery. Along with the above mentioned authors-editors, our neurosurgeons Živko Gnjidić, Dario Lovrić and Danko Vidović; ophthalmologist Atila Čerfalvi; anesthesiologist Mladen Perić; doctors of dental medicine Professor Zdravko Rajjić and Ivica Anić; and American physicians, neurosurgeon Julian Bailes, Howard K. Herman and Geze J. Jako also appear as authors in the book. Foreword was written by P.W. Ascher, Austrian neurosurgeon, stating that the basic physical and technical information on laser is «excellently» presented in the book.

With this valuable book, the then state-of-the-art on the use of laser became available to all surgeons in former Yugoslavia for the first time; as clearly expressed by the editors in the introduction section: «The purpose of this book is not to convince the readers of



Laser in Head and Neck Surgery, Tehnička knjiga, 1990

the superiority of laser surgery, but to serve as a way to familiarize with and discover the advantages of laser use in medicine»¹.

It should be noted that the authors have dedicated the book to their families and in particular to Professor Danko Riesner. Professor Riesner, popularly called Father of the Croatian Neurosurgery, came to our Hospital in 1953. He had acquired his great surgical knowledge at the famous Kaiser Wilhelm Institute for Brain Research in Berlin and all our early neurosurgeons were his disciples².

It is nice indeed to see that disciples remember their teachers with due respect.

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References

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2. Sušec T. Historical review. Acta Clin Croat. 2011;50:309.