

**In memory
of the former longtime Editor-of-Chief of LIBRI ONCOLOGICI
and Director of the University Hospital for Tumors,
Professor MARKO TURIĆ, MD, PhD
(Župa, 1943 – Zagreb, 2015)**



On August 7, 2015 our former longtime Editor-in-Chief and Director of the University Hospital of Tumors, Professor Marko Turić passed away after a courageous battle with cancer. Throughout fifteen years, Dr. Turić was a major driving force behind this journal. We dedicate these lines to his memory.

Professor Marko Turić, MD, PhD, specialist in otorhinolaryngology and head and neck surgery, was born in Župa (Zagvozd) on January 30, 1943.

He received his medical degree from the Zagreb University School of Medicine in 1969, and subsequently became a specialist in otorhinolaryngology and head and neck surgery. He also completed his postgraduate studies in Biomedicine, and earned his master's and doctoral degrees in 1977 and 1980, respectively. In 1985, Dr. Turić was chosen as a Distinguished Doctor, and in 1995, elected for the scientific-teaching title of assistant professor. In 2001, he was promoted to the rank of associate professor at the Zagreb University School of Medicine, where he headed the postgraduate program in Otorhinolaryngology and Maxillofacial Surgery at the Otorhinolaryngology Department.

Throughout his medical career, Dr. Turić continued developing his professional capabilities both in the country and abroad. He took active part in numerous national and international medical conferences, and also proved his strong organizational skills in about fifteen.

He was involved in scientific research, wrote peer reviews for scientific and professional papers, authored 64 articles in national and international journals, and participated in many international research projects. In addition to his 15 year commitment as the Editor-in-Chief of our Libri Oncologici published by the University Hospital of Tumors where he held the position of Hospital Director for 20 years, Dr. Turić was also an active member of editorial boards of several other medical journals and books, as well as a member of the Croatian Medical Association, Croatian Medical Chamber, Croatian Society of Oncology, Croatian Society of Otorhinolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery, and Organization of European Cancer Institutes.

Dr. Turić was a member of the Croatian Parliament. He carried out his parliamentary duty in two parliamentary convocations and among others, served as chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Labor, Social Policy and Health.

Dr. Turić spent his entire medical career at the University Hospital for Tumors, or the Central Institute for Tumors and Allied Diseases at the time when he started his residency in Otorhinolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery at the Otorhinolaryngology Department of the "Sestre milosrdnice" Clinical Hospital. After completing his residency, he worked as a head and neck surgeon for years, outshined others in the field and had been recognized among the top in his industry.

As Head of the Department of Head and Neck Tumors from 1987 to 1990, and then Director of the University Hospital for Tumors, he never wasted time and effort. He was a hard working head and neck surgeon, teacher, mentor and guide who with his relentless energy and perseverance, patience, calm and equanimity, spread optimism and positive thinking among us all. He promoted and advocated friendly relationships, tolerance and solidarity, supported the spirit of fellowship, and always attempted at solving problems through dialogue, agreement and consensus.

Dr. Turić persisted on collaboration and teamwork in the field of both healthcare and administration, not merely declaratively but in practice, too. By virtue of his continuing insistence on a multidisciplinary approach to cancer care, with a team of experts from multiple specialties working together under one roof, our Hospital reached world standards in providing our cancer patients optimal outcomes. He was especially keen on achieving the balanced development of all cancer treatment modalities, from cancer prevention and early detection through surgery, radiation and chemotherapy to rehabilitation and palliative care.

Dr. Turić particularly took care of continuing education and training of young doctors and researchers, enabling them to attend conferences and meetings, take courses and participate in short-term study programs in the country and abroad. He also encouraged them to write papers and develop their professional capabilities and skills through postgraduate and doctoral studies.

A great deal of his time and effort he invested in the University Hospital of Tumors publishing activities. His high sense of teamwork helped him bring together over 200 distinguished experts, scholars and practitioners in various fields of oncology from around Croatia to contribute to the book on Clinical Oncology – the first such book in the Croatian language. His editorial efforts and co-authorship secured the prestigious award – Charter Josip Juraj Strossmayer in the category of the most successful publishing venture in 1997. This book was also a guidepost and an incentive to further publication activities of the University Hospital for Tumors. It was the merit of his daily effort that many a textbook of different fields of oncology finally saw the light of day: Medical Oncology, Surgical Oncology, Radiation Oncology and many others.

During his term of office, Dr. Turić made the old idea of extending the University Hospital for Tumors new and successfully brought it into reality. Replanning and redesigning the existing layouts within their fixed dimensions under his guidance resulted in a completely new Hospital annex and partial refurbishment of the old Hospital building, which has eventually provided both adequate facilities for employees and a high level of comfort for cancer patients.

During his directorship, and primarily with cancer patients in mind, the University Hospital for Tumors got equipped with state-of-the-art devices and instrumentation for diagnosis and treatment aimed at developing and improving the quality of cancer care to achieve world-class cancer outcomes.

Professor Turić left his mark on the Croatian health care system, Croatian oncology, our Hospital and on us all in too many ways. We are all proud of him and will remember him forever. May God rest his soul in peace.

Danijel Došen

Prof. ANTON ROTH MD, PhD
(1937-2015)



Anton Roth past away on September 9th, 2015 in Zagreb. University Hospital for Tumors has lost an extraordinary researcher and School of Medicine University of Zagreb a respectable teacher. Prof. Roth was a pioneer and leader in the field of internistic oncology.

Professor Roth served for many years as the director of the Clinical Oncology Department at University Hospital for Tumors. He brought an infectious enthusiasm and a panoramic vision to his work. He was not just about getting grants, but about what could be done to change the face of medicine on a big scale. He is perhaps best known for his work with the advanced gastric cancer drug 5-fluorouracil and cisplatin taken by hundreds of thousands of patients around the world to reduce the risk of cancer recurrence.

Profesor Roth had an insatiable thirst for knowledge, and his mind whirled with new ideas and projects to explore. Colleagues describe how he had get a glint in his eye, and would be off and running. As a consummate clinician-scientist with a dizzying sense of energy and urgency he was always focused on helping each patient.

A native of Petrinja, enrolled at the University Of Zagreb School Of Medicine, graduating in 1963. He continued his training with a residency at Zagreb. He earned his Ph.D. from the Zagreb School of Medicine in the Croatia, 1979 and later was hired as an professor of Internal Medicine at the Zagreb University School of Medicine.

Over the course of his career, he became one of the world's foremost authorities on combination of chemotherapy and irradiation. He published more than 140 articles, reviews, and book chapters, and was a member of many prestigious professional organizations (Croatian Medical Association, Croatian Medical Chamber, Croatian Academy of Medical Sciences, Croatian Society of Gastroenterology, Croatia Society of Oncology, European Society for Medical Oncology ESMO, European Society for Clinical Oncology ESCO, European School of Oncology ESO, European Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy ASGE, American Society of Clinical Oncology ASCO). He was cited over 400 times.

He passed on his enthusiasm and compassion to dozens of rising physicians and researchers in clinical oncology and other specialties who saw him as a mentor and a friend. He had a lifelong love for music. He appreciated all types of music, from classical artists to evergreens and jazz. Above all, Dr. Roth was a loving father. His child is a surgeon Andrej Roth Ph.D. By any measure, profesor Anton Roth was a remarkable success, and a remarkable human being.

Miroslav Banović

NEBOJŠA VUJIČIĆ (1938 - 2015)



Nebojša Vujičić MD, PhD was born on July 28th 1938 in Donje Selište near Glina. He attended the highschool in Karlovac and graduated from Medical School, University of Zagreb in 1966. Doctor Vujičić worked as an intern in Topusko and at University Hospital Center Zagreb, since 1968 he started working at Central Institute for Tumours and Allied Diseases in Zagreb. In 1974 doctor Vujičić became a certified general surgery specialist and he continued his education by achieving Masters and Doctorate degrees in 1985 and the title of *primarius* 1984.

Doctor Vujičić was in the first team of surgeons who founded Surgical Oncology Service at the Institute for Tumours. His main focus were abdominal oncology cases, but he was a well established expert in the entire field of surgical oncology.

Scientific contribution was confirmed by achieving the title of Scientific Advisor and Assistant Professor and through the publication of over fifty scientific paper. His work had a great impact on promotion of surgical oncology and The Institute within the country and the region.

Apart from being a great expert, doctor Vujičić will be remembered for his relation to patients and colleagues which showed that he sees the whole person in each individual and is determined to give assistance or guidance whenever needed. Calmness and composed character gave a sense of security in challenges he faced and interactions he established.

Throughout his carrier doctor Vujičić created a lot of good and firm relationships, with his colleagues and friends, by being there when he was needed and rejoicing the common celebrations with a remarkable sense of humour and tact. Fortunately, during his carrier we were lucky to experience a number of joyous moments with him.

Doctor Vujičić left us on September 8th, 2015, leaving a tangible loss in the living history of the Institute and the lives of each of everyone who knew him.

Mladen Stanec