

## Život i djelo prof. dr. sc. Aleksandra Blaškovića (1882. - 1953.), nestora hrvatske urologije

Razvitak urologije u Hrvatskoj nerazdvojivo je vezan uz ime Aleksandra Blaškovića, osnivača hrvatske urologije. Rodio se 20. srpnja 1882. godine u Varaždinu. Gimnaziju je polazio u Varaždinu, Zagrebu i Budimpešti. Medicinu je studirao u Budimpešti i Beču, gdje je promoviran 1907. godine.

Liječnički poziv započeo je u Bolnici milosrdnih sestara u Zagrebu kao suradnik prof. dr. Dragutina Mašeka i prof. dr. Teodora Wickerhausera. Godine 1911. počinje raditi u Osijeku kao šef odjela na kojemu je praksa obuhvaćala područja otologije, dermatovenerologije i urologije. Već tada uređuje laboratorij za Wassermannove reakcije. Bio je prvi u Hrvatskoj koji je ne samo izveo WAR-reakciju prilikom sumnje na sifilis, nego je također prvi koji je otpočeo liječenje sifilisa Salvarsanom. Kirurška se struka u Osijeku sve više razvijala, te se zbog operacija nije trebalo ići u Zagreb, Pečuh, Graz ili Budimpeštu. Gotovo sve operacije mogle su se obaviti u Osijeku. Jedan od prvih učenika profesora Blaškovića bio je primarijus Stevo Matić, čijom zaslugom je 1941. godine u Osijeku osnovan urološki odjel, posve samostalan, koji više nije pod okriljem kirurgije.

U osječkoj bolnici radio je do 1914. godine, kada su ga mobilizirali. U rujnu 1914. godine zarobili su ga Rusi u Galiciji, te je u zarobljeništvu bio do 1918. godine. Po završetku 1. svjetskoga rata, krajem ožujka 1919. godine, preuzima odjel prof. Mašeka u Zagrebu i vodi ga do 1928. godine, kada je taj odjel podijeljen u tri samostalna odjela. Preuzimanjem jednoga od tih odjela profesor Aleksandar Blašković stvara i prvi urološki odjel u Hrvatskoj.

Aleksandar Blašković je u to vrijeme bio svestrani kirurg, te se kao pionir, a kasnije i veliki praktičar, okušao u mnogim kirurškim disciplinama od otorinolaringologije preko opće kirurgije, urologije do neurokirurgije. Samoprijegorno i neumorno je radio, postizao vrhunske rezultate i uspjehe, a mladim je kolegama s entuzijazmom, nesebično, prenosio svoje znanje i sve tajne struke koju je obožavao. Kvalitetom svoga rada afirmirao je urologiju, koja postaje posve samostalna medicinska struka. Zahvaljujući upravo prof. Aleksandru Blaškoviću, liječenjem uroloških oboljenja ne bave se više opći kirurzi, već urolozi, a urologija više nije sastavni dio opće kirurgije, već samostalan odjel.

Prvi je hrvatski specijalist za urologiju. Gotovo cijeli svoj život radio je u Bolnici milosrdnih sestara u Zagrebu, gdje je 1928. godine osnovao samostalni urološki odjel, koji je vodio do 1951. godine. Kao šef urološkoga odjela umirovljen je 1. studenoga 1951. godine. Predavao je na Medicinskom fakultetu u Zagrebu, gdje je 1927. godine izabran za honorarnoga profesora, 1943. godine za izvanrednoga profesora, a 1944. godine promoviran je u zvanje redovnoga profesora na Katedri za urologiju. Osnovao je prvu našu urološku školu, koja je suvereno pratila i primjenjivala najnovije spoznaje iz područja urologije. Ova plodonosna urološka škola iznjedrila je mnoge stručnjake koji su potom utemeljili urološke odjele diljem Hrvatske i inozemstva.

Njegov požrtvovan i neumoran liječnički rad obuhvaća široko područje praktične medicine. Prvi je u nas uveo mnoge velike operacije. Već 1920. godine izvodi nefrotomiju i nefrektomiju, 1921. godine Coffeyjevu bilateralnu ureterosigmoideostomiju,



Prof. dr. sc. Aleksandar  
Blašković. Fotografija: Arhiva  
Medicinskog Vjesnika.

1922. godine uspješno je izveo prvih šest transnazalnih hipofizektomija, 1924. godine perinealnu prostatektomiju, otprilike 1927. godine prve resekcije nervusa hipogastrikusa i nervusa erigentesa, prve adenektomije i aortalne gangliktomije, 1932. godine uveo je endoskopske transuretralne elektrotomije, a 1946. godine izvodi Milinovu retropubičnu prostatektomiju i druge važne operativne zahvate. Prvi je u našoj zemlji izvodio i proučavao Wassermannovu reakciju već 1908. godine.

I u društvenom radu bio je vrlo aktivan. Član je Zbora liječnika Hrvatske i obavlja funkciju predsjednika od 1920. do 1923. godine, te od 1925. do 1927. godine. Od 1923. godine član je Societe Internationale d' Urologie, čiji je predstavnik za našu zemlju u dva mandata od 1948. godine pa sve do svoje smrti 1953. godine. Bio je poliglota (govorio je njemački, ruski, mađarski, francuski i talijanski), puno je putovao, stručno se usavršavao, uspostavljao kontakte i prijateljstva s vodećim europskim urolozima toga vremena (Zuckerandlom, Blumom, Rubritiusom, Hryntschakom, Illyesom, Nikolicsem, Ravasini-jem, Neuwirthom i mnogim drugima). Sudjeluje na međunarodnim i domaćim kongresima (urološki kongres 1924. godine u Rimu, 1934. godine u Beču, 1930. godine kongres u Splitu na kojemu prezentira svoje radove o resekciji nervusa hipogastrikusa i erigentesa, a 1936. godine na kirurškom kongresu u Ljubljani objavljuje svoje spoznaje o nefrolitijazi i litogenezi, koje nalaze odjeka u zemlji i inozemstvu.

Vrlo je plodan njegov rad koji obuhvaća znanstvena i laboratorijska istraživanja, edukaciju stručnih kadrova, redovna predavanja na Medicinskom fakultetu i mnogobrojna stručna predavanja. Objavio je više od 20 znanstvenih i stručnih radova iz raznih

područja urologije od kojih osobitu vrijednost imaju njegovi radovi o postanku mokraćnih kamenaca, tuberkulozi prostate i terapiji infekcija mokraćnih putova. Raspuštanjem prve hrvatske Klinike za urologiju 1945. godine, koju je vodio prvi hrvatski profesor urologije, Katedra za urologiju prestala je postojati, pa je stoga profesor Blašković prestao s nastavnim djelatnostima na Sveučilištu. Prema svjedočenju njegovih suvremenika, profesor Blašković bio je izuzetan predavač, vrlo životan, autentičan u realizaciji svojih kirurških i ljudskih vizija. Na prvom sveučilišnom urološkom odjelu kojega je vodio profesor Blašković radili su doc. dr. Z. Šestić, primarijus dr. A. Kohnom, O. Krivec, B. Barac i Č. Dugan. Zajedno s arhitektom Juranovićem profesor Blašković je sudjelovao u stvaranju određenih nacrti tijekom gradnje novoga Urološkoga odjela na Rebru.

Prof. Blašković, nestor hrvatske urologije, nije bio samo vrhunski liječnik, prije svega bio je veliki čovjek. Nezaboravna je i nezaobilazna ličnost u našoj urologiji. Izuzetno hrabar, častan, nesalomiv i uporan borac, afirmirao je urologiju kao potpuno samostalnu medicinsku struku, te mu zaslužno pripada naslov "oca hrvatske urologije". Pokazao nam je kako treba voljeti svoj posao i ljude.

Profesor Blašković umirovljen je 1951. godine, a preminuo je u Zagrebu 27. ožujka 1953. godine. Ostavio je neizbrisiv trag u hrvatskoj urologiji. Ovome velikom vizionaru, utemeljitelju urološke struke, neka je vječna slava i hvala!

Predsjednik Organizacijskoga odbora:  
doc. dr. sc. Josip Galić

## Life and Work of Prof. Dr. Aleksandar Blašković (1882-1953), the Nestor of the Croatian Urology

The development of urology in Croatia is inseparably connected with the name of Aleksandar Blašković, the founder of the Croatian urology. He was born on July, the 20<sup>th</sup>, 1882 in Varaždin. He attended grammar schools in Varaždin, Zagreb and Budapest and studied medicine in Budapest and Vienna, where he graduated in the year 1907.

He started his medical career at the Hospital "Sestre milosrdnice" in Zagreb, as an associate of Prof. Dr. Dragutin Mašek and Prof. Dr. Teodor Wickerhauser. In the year 1911 he started working in Osijek as the Head of the Department covering the fields of otology, dermatovenerology and urology. Already then has he established the Laboratory for Wassermann reactions. He was the first one in Croatia who not only performed WAR-reaction in case of suspected syphilis, but also was the first one who started the treatment of syphilis with Salvarsan. With the surgical profession in Osijek developing significantly, one did not have to go to Zagreb, Pécs, Graz or Budapest in order to undergo surgical procedure. Almost all operations could have been performed in Osijek. One of the first disciples of Professor Blašković was Head Doctor (Primarius Doctor of Medicine) Stevo Matić, thanks to whom the independent Urology Department (no longer under the patronage of surgery) was established in Osijek in the year 1941.

He had been working at the Hospital in Osijek until the year 1914, when he was called up for army service. In September 1914 he was taken prisoner by the Russians in Galicia, where he stayed imprisoned until the year 1918. After the end of the World War I, at the end of March 1919, he took charge over the Department of Professor Mašek and was heading it till the year 1928, when the Department was divided into three independent departments. By assuming the duty of the Head of one of those departments, Professor Aleksandar Blašković has established the first Urology Department in Croatia.

Aleksandar Blašković was at that time versatile, universal surgeon, and, as a pioneer and later on as a great practitioner, has tried his skills in many surgical disciplines, from otorhinolaryngology via general surgery and urology to neurosurgery. He worked self-denyingly and tirelessly, achieved top results and great success, and with enthusiasm, unselfishly passed on his knowledge and secrets of profession he adored to the younger colleagues. With the quality of his work he made a name for urology, which, in that way, became an independent medical branch.

Owing to Professor Aleksandar Blašković, treatment of urological diseases is no longer in hands of general surgeons, but urologists, and urology is, instead of being constituent part of general surgery, an independent department.

Prof. Dr. Aleksandar Blašković is the first Croatian specialist in urology. He spent almost all of his life in the Hospital "Sestre

milosrdnice" in Zagreb, where he founded the independent Urology Department in 1928, and headed it until the year 1951. On November, the 1<sup>st</sup>, 1951 he was retired from the position of the Head of the Urology Department. He lectured at the Faculty of Medicine in Zagreb, where he was elected Honorary Professor in 1927, in 1943 he was elected Associate Professor and in the year 1944 he was elected Full Professor at the Department of Urology of the Faculty of Medicine in Zagreb. Professor Blašković was the founder of our first school of urology, which followed and applied masterfully the newest concepts in the field of urology. This prolific school of urology has yielded many professionals who subsequently founded urology departments all over Croatia and abroad.

His self-sacrificing and tireless medical work encompasses a wide range of practical medicine. He was the first to introduce many big, complicated operations. As early as 1920 he performed nephrotomy and nephrectomy, in 1921 Coffey's bilateral ureterosigmoidostomy, in the year 1922 he successfully performed the first six transnasal hypophysectomies, in 1924 perineal prostatectomy, around the year 1927 the first resections of hypogastric and pelvic nerve (nervus hypogastricus and nervus erigentes), the first adrenalectomies and aortic gangliectomies. In the year 1932 he introduced endoscopic transurethral electrostomies and in 1946 he performed Milin's retropubic prostatectomy and other important surgical procedures. Professor Blašković was the first in our country to perform and study Wassermann reaction as early as 1908.

Professor Aleksandar Blašković was also very active in public work. He was member of the Croatian Medical Association and filled the post of the President of the Association from 1920 to 1923 and from 1925 to 1927. He was member of Societe Internationale d' Urologie from 1923, where he was delegate of our country during two terms, i.e. from 1948 till his death in 1953. He was polyglot (he spoke German, Russian, Hungarian, French and Italian), he traveled a lot, underwent professional trainings, made contacts and friends with the leading European urologists of the time (Zuckerandl, Blum, Rubritius, Hryntschak, Illyes, Nikolics, Ravasini, Neuwirth and many others). Professor Blašković participated in national and international congresses (urological congress in 1924 in Rome, in 1934 in Vienna, in 1930 in Split where he presented his work on resection of hypogastric and pelvic nerve (nervus hypogastricus and nervus erigentes) and in the year 1936 at the surgical congress in Ljubljana he disclosed his concept on nephrolithiasis and lithogenesis, which echoed significantly both in the country and abroad).

His very productive work comprises scientific and laboratory research, education of professional staff, full-time lectures at the Faculty of Medicine and numerous professional lectures. He published more than 20 scientific and professional papers from different fields of urology, out of which of significant value are those on formation of urinary stones, tuberculosis of the prostate

and therapy of urinary tract infections. With the dissolution of the first Croatian Urology Clinic in the year 1945, which was headed by the first Croatian Professor, the Department of Urology at the Faculty of Medicine ceased to exist, thus Professor Blašković stopped his teaching activities at the University. According to the testimonies of his contemporaries, Professor Blašković was an excellent teacher, acted in a vivid style and authentic in realization of his surgical and human visions. The following affiliates worked at the first University Urology Department, headed by Professor Blašković: Assist. Prof. Z. Šestić, Head Doctors A. Kohn, O. Krivec, B. Barac and Č. Dugan. Together with architect Juranović, Professor Blašković participated in creating particular designs during the construction of the new Urology Department at Rebro Hospital.

Professor Blašković, the Nestor of the Croatian urology, was not only a world-class physician, above all he was a great man. He

is unforgettable and indispensable person in our urology. Extremely brave, honorable, unbreakable and persistent crusader, he affirmed urology as a completely independent medical branch, therefore, it is justified for him to be called "the father of the modern Croatian urology". He demonstrated how one should love his profession and people.

Professor Blašković was retired in the year 1951 and died on March, the 27<sup>th</sup>, 1953 in Zagreb. He has left a profound imprint in the Croatian urology. May the memory of this great visionary, founder of the urological profession live forever, as well as our eternal gratitude!

President of the Organizing Committee:  
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