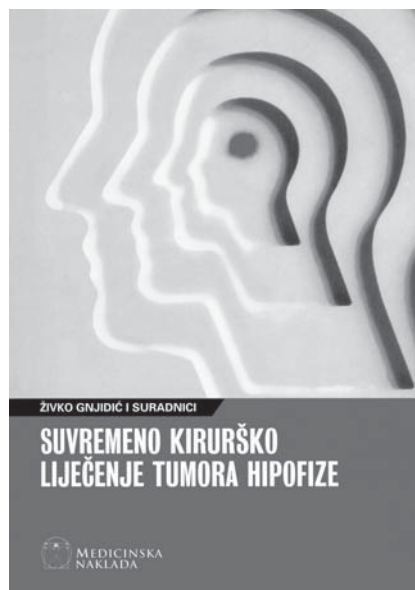


ON NOTABLE BOOKS IN OUR HISTORY

At our Hospital, surgical treatment of pituitary gland tumors was initiated by first operation performed by Dr Aleksandar Blašković using Schloffer's method in 1922. After more than 80 years, on October 1, 2004, the international symposium entitled *Modern Surgical Treatment of Pituitary Gland Tumors* (with international participation) was held at our Hospital, organized by Clinical Department of Neurosurgery, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital Center; School of Medicine, University of Zagreb; and the Croatian Academy of Medical Sciences. Lectures were held by experts in the field from Croatia and abroad. The Symposium objective was to offer the state-of-the-art in the field to specialists from various medical professions dealing with the diagnosis and treatment of pituitary gland tumors, including neurosurgeons, endocrinologists, neurologists, radiologists, neuropathologists, anesthesiologists, pediatricians, and ophthalmologists. The role and relevance of the Symposium have been underlined by Dr Živko Gnjidić in his Foreword to the book *Suvremeno kirurško liječenje tumora hipofize (Modern Surgical Treatment of Pituitary Gland Tumors)*. The book was printed in 2004 by Medicinska naklada from Zagreb, with Dr Gnjidić as editor. In his Foreword, he has expressed his thanks to Dr Dieter Lüdecke, a renowned surgeon from the University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf and expert in the field. Dr Gnjidić has not only appreciated his role as a teacher and collaborator in the Symposium activities but also as a man having presented our Clinical Department of Neurosurgery with the first set of instruments for tumor surgery. Besides Dr Lüdecke, lecturers from abroad were Dr Jörg Flitsch also from the University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf, and two Japanese experts, Assoc. Professor Takumi Abe and Assoc. Professor Masamichi Kurosaki. Croatian lecturers and authors of articles in the book were physicians from our Hospital, including neurosurgeons, endocrinologists, pathologists, radiologists, anesthesiologists and biochemists, along with Professor Jasminka Pavelić from Department of Molecular Medicine,



Ruder Bošković Institute; Zdravko Heinrich, MD, neurosurgeon from the Zagreb University Hospital Center; and Zoran Rumboldt, MD, radiologist working at the North Carolina School of Medicine, Charleston, USA. This impressive group of experts shows how complex and demanding this field of medicine is, with a note that Dr Živko Gnjidić and Professor Biserka Belicza from Department of History of Medical Sciences, Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts wrote the chapter entitled *Pregled povijesnih zbivanja u području dijagnostike i liječenja tumora hipofize (Historical Review of Diagnosis and Treatment of Pituitary Tumors)*, in which they present data on the history of treatment of pituitary tumors in our Hospital, as reported in the Historical Review in this issue. The book has twenty chapters, i.e. twenty lectures with extensive list of references and illustrations on 160 pages. The book will certainly continue serving as a valuable professional and scientific source of data for our current and future professionals because there still are many known and unknown issues in the field to be resolved by the profession and the science.

Tanja Sušec