

Editorial

Dear colleagues!

The last survey of our hospital, on paper and all in one spot, where all the wards gave contributions about their work in the period between 1987 and 1992, was the last, sixth edition of the Zbornik zdravstva u Istri (the Anthology of Istrian Health Care). In the meanwhile, it seems that the words of the editors of the fifth Zbornik (1987), issued at the occasion of the 40-years-anniversary of Croatian health care in Istria, became true:

„We have realized long ago that we have no potential to issue a medical journal, a publication that would meet adequate standards, but that we can and have the obligation to note and record the development of achievements and successes of health care in this region, where it followed its specific and hard path, becoming part of our health care systems only after the union of Istria with the mother country“ ed. quot.

But in the time that followed (2004) the Glasnik pulske bolnice (Pula Hospital Herald) came to life, a publication of modest circulation, but read from Iceland to New Zealand thanks to the internet. The editorial board could not allow, for several reasons, that our hospital's voice is not heard and its words are not read, coming from an institution that walked a centennial crossing with seven-miles-steps in the last 15 years. We now finally know that we have the potential for a journal. The publication lives, the fifth edition is almost finished. This supplement is a chronicle 1993-2007, our contribution to the celebration of the 60th anniversary of Croatian health care in Istria. This is also an opportunity to remember the 111th anniversary of the civilian hospital in Pula. In the year 1896 the construction of the hospital on St. Michael's hill was ended and the city hospital began its work. This is also the place where the later Medical Center Pula was developed (1961-1994), and the place where hopefully soon all the hospital wards will be united. This will be a special joy for the inhabitants of our County who have always been the greatest allies of the Pula hospital through their work, contributions and sacrifice.

The supplement in three volumes presents the past and present work of the 19 wards, the administration and the technical and service departments of the hospital. The hospital's role in the war in Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina from 1991-1995 is only partly presented. The fact that more than one hundred health care employees from the hospital have been awarded the Independence War Testimonial and numerous other decorations speaks for itself. The role of our employees in the war will be treated in a special edition or a volume of the Herald. That was all from your editor.

Don't forget about this. The authors of these contributions are doctors. Do not expect literary text or essays. However, the presentation of the wards represents a valuable document of a past that we can most certainly be proud of.