

PREAMBLE

Articles published in this issue of the Acta Clinica Croatica had been prepared for oral presentations at the 8th Croatian Congress of Regional Anesthesia and Analgesia with international participation, held in Zagreb, Croatia on 2 and 3 September 2022. The Congress was organized by the Croatian Society of Regional Anesthesia and Analgesia, in collaboration with the European Society of Regional Anesthesia & Pain Therapy and School of Medicine, Catholic University of Croatia under the auspices of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts. Prior to acceptance and publication, all articles had undergone double review process, CrossRef similarity check and language editing.

This up to date volume is a testimony to the recent advances in diagnosing, managing and assessment of patients' clinical pain states in Croatia. Contributors describe procedures and strategies to combat a wide range of acute and chronic pain. Unfortunately, many people suffering from various forms of pain are not helped because we lack the necessary knowledge. What is worse, many people suffer even though we have the knowledge, but our education, health care, or other social systems have failed. In addition to educating one another in current pain research and therapy, as we do in our journals and congresses, we need to promote pain management education for medical students and all health professionals. We must also teach patients to communicate better about their pain, and inform them that they have a right to be deliberated from pain.

“Why put the whole body to sleep when all that is wanted is to anesthetize one part?” This is the phrase with which Carl Ludwig Schleich began his speech with the rather fascinating title “Infiltration analgesia and its relation to general anesthesia” (Congress of German Society of Surgery, Berlin 1892).

Local or regional anesthesia may be used for surgical procedures in hospital and day surgery, for relief of acute and chronic pain, and for therapeutic or diagnostic purposes. It is our hope that this thematic volume of Acta Clinica Croatica will fulfill our aim of providing a strong foundation of regional anesthetic techniques in the treatment of acute perioperative and chronic cancer pain.

We are grateful to our patients, our teachers and students for these analyzes. As editors, we thank our associates at the School of Medicine for their help in this enjoyable and educational endeavor. We are confident that you will receive the issue with enthusiasm.

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