

## 8<sup>th</sup> Symposium on Von Willebrand disease and Allied Disorders

### AUTHOR:

SILVA ZUPANČIĆ ŠALEK

The traditional scientific Symposium on von Willebrand disease and allied disorders with international participation was held on November 24<sup>th</sup> 2022, Zrinjavac Hall Clinical Hospital „Sv. Duh“, Zagreb. It was the 8th in a series Symposium annually organized by the Croatian Academy of Science and Arts and the Croatian Society for Haemostasis and Thrombosis of the Croatian Medical Association. The goal of the symposium was to gather experts in the field of haemostasis and thrombosis together with the experts in coagulation laboratory and molecular diagnostics and discuss current possibilities in the treatment and diagnosis of von Willebrand disease. The speeches were held by leading experts in the field.

At the beginning of the Symposium, the participants were welcomed by Silva Zupančić Šalek, the organizer of the Symposium. The first speaker and guest was Irena Preložnik Zupan, haematologist from Clinical Hospital Centre Ljubljana with an overview of the comprehensive care of von Willebrand disease in Slovenia. The second part of the presentation were comments on ASH, ISTH, NHF, WFH 2021 guidelines on diagnosis and management of von Willebrand disease.

Dražen Pulanić, haematologist from University Hospital Centre Zagreb showed the role of von Willebrand factor and FVIII as new, potential biomarkers of cGvHD. They could be indicator of endothelial dysfunction and inflammation that take place in the etiology of cGvHD. The role of von Willebrand factor in aging population was discussed by Silva Zupančić Šalek. There are still unanswered questions about type I von Willebrand disease in the elderly patients-

The second part of the Symposium Désirée Coen Herak from University Hospital Centre Zagreb presented the pivotal role of the VWF-ADAMTS13 axis in regulating hemostasis by stressing the close relationship between VWF and ADAMTS13 in health and disease. Marija Miloš presented current challenges of laboratory diagnostics in new therapeutic approaches in hereditary hemophilia. Ivana Lapić presented the role of molecular diagnostics in the classification of von Willebrand disease, by giving an overview of the genetic basis of von Willebrand disease and the challenges in establishing the appropriate approach in molecular diagnostics. Interactive discussion followed after all lectures with many suggestions for future.

