

Report on the 21st Dermatovenereological Symposium: “Dermatovenereological Stories to Remember”

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The 21st annual Dermatovenereological Symposium, titled “Dermatovenereological Stories to Remember,” was held at the Westin Hotel in Zagreb, Croatia. This event, organized by the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts, brought together dermatologists, residents, and experts to discuss advancements, case studies, and interdisciplinary approaches in the field of dermatovenereology.

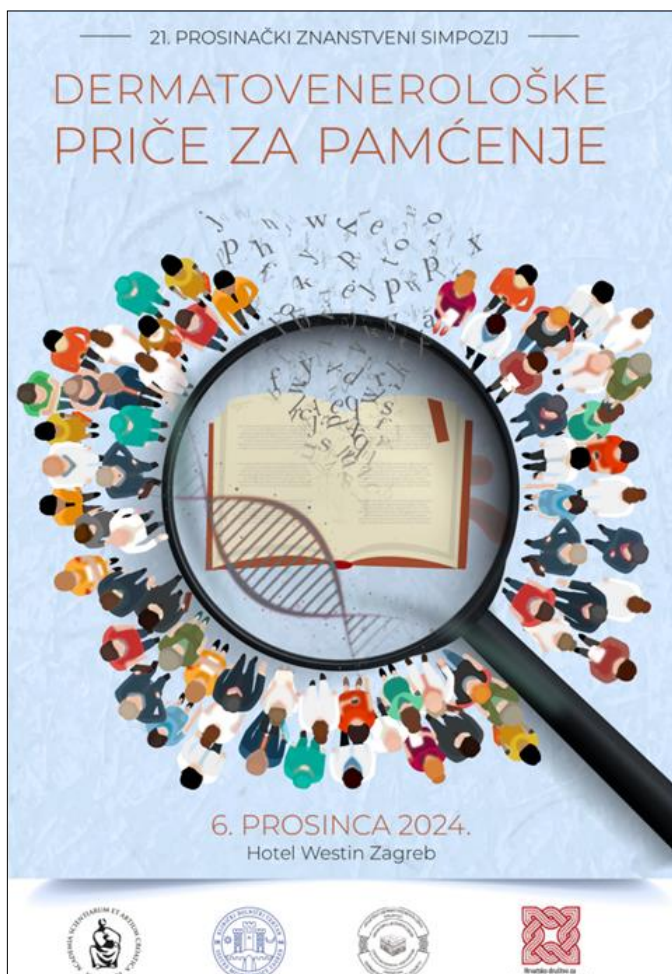


Figure 1. Image of the Symposium Cover Page.

The symposium was officially opened by academician Marko Pečina, representing the Department of Medical Sciences of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts. The event was overseen by academician Mirna Šitum, who chaired the Organizing Committee. The symposium’s organization involved several esteemed institutions, including the Department of Dermatology and Venereology at the University Hospital Centre Sestre Milosrdnice, the University of Zagreb - School of Dental Medicine, the Croatian Association of Dermatologic Oncology and the Croatian Dermatovenereologic Society of the Croatian Medical Association. These collaborative efforts underscored the significance of interdisciplinary cooperation in addressing dermatological challenges.

The symposium featured presentations by dermatology residents from Zagreb’s two leading university hospital centers—University Hospital Centre Sestre Milosrdnice and the University Hospital Centre Zagreb—as well as contributions from other major university hospitals in Rijeka, Osijek, and Split. This diverse representation highlighted the extensive work and innovative research being conducted across Croatia.



Figure 2. The Symposium was officially opened by academician Marko Pečina on behalf of the Department of Medical Sciences of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts.



Figure 3. The Chair of the Organizing Committee of the 21st December Symposium, academician Mirna Šitum.

The presentations covered a wide range of topics within dermatovenereology, emphasizing both common and rare dermatological conditions. Residents discussed diagnostic challenges and management strategies for rare autoimmune and inflammatory conditions, offering insights into differential diagnoses and treatment protocols. Furthermore, presentations also covered rare and atypical skin tumors, the clinical manifestations of metastatic melanoma, and the side effects of emerging oncological therapies. The importance of early detection and the role of dermatologists in coordinating multidisciplinary care were recurrent themes. Lastly, infectious diseases, sexually transmitted infections, metabolic skin conditions, and vasculopathies were explored, emphasizing their prevalence in general dermatological practice and the need for accurate diagnosis and effective treatment.

In addition, significant highlight of the symposium was its emphasis on the importance of multidisciplinary collaboration. Dermatologists were encouraged to work closely with oncologists, pathologists, radiologists, and other specialists to ensure comprehensive care for patients. The integration of various medical disciplines is crucial in the early detection, diagnosis, and treatment of complex dermatological conditions, particularly in the realm of dermato-oncology. Moreover, the symposium's fully attended venue reflected the substantial interest and commitment of Croatia's dermatological community to advancing knowledge and improving patient care. The event served as a platform for exchanging ideas, fostering collaboration, and inspiring the next generation of dermatologists through the active participation of residents.

In conclusion, the 21st Dermatovenereological Symposium successfully showcased the expertise, innovation, and collaborative spirit of Croatia's dermatological community. It reinforced the critical role of interdisciplinary approaches in addressing dermatological challenges and set a benchmark for future educational and professional gatherings in the field.



Figure 4. The fully attended venue reflected the significant interest of dermatologists and other specialists in this year's December Symposium.