

## 3<sup>rd</sup> International andrology symposium “News in andrology”

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The Department of Medical Sciences of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts, in collaboration with the Croatian Andrological Society of the Croatian Medical Association, successfully organized the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Symposium: News in Andrology. The event was held at the Library Hall of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts in Zagreb on Friday, April 25, 2025, under the chairmanship of Academician Željko Kaštelan, the president of Croatian Society of Andrology. This one-day scientific gathering brought together leading experts from Croatia, Hungary, and Serbia, serving as a crucial platform for the exchange of the latest scientific and clinical knowledge in the dynamic field of andrology.

The symposium opened with welcoming remarks from Academician Josip Madić, deputy secretary, Department of medical sciences and Academician Željko Kaštelan, who emphasized the importance of continuous progress and collaboration in andrology. The morning session, moderated by Dinko Hauptman, Antun Gršković, and

Pero Bokarica, focused on contemporary surgical and functional challenges. Presentations included Miodrag Aćimović's insights into the management of urethral strictures after radical prostatectomy, István Király's (University of Szeged) approach to treating severe Peyronie's disease with curvatures over 60 degrees, Radoš Đinović's discussion of complications and treatment following penile implant surgery, Dinko Hauptman's experience with penile implants, and Antun Gršković's analysis of quality of life following artificial urinary sphincter implantation for severe incontinence.

After a short break, the scientific program continued under the moderation of Davor Ježek, Igor Grubišić, and Damir Prlić, shifting attention to new diagnostic and therapeutic developments in male infertility. Miklós Szűcs (University of Debrecen) examined the impact of sperm DNA fragmentation on the interpretation of classical sperm parameters, offering new perspectives for infertility diagnostics. András Balló (University of Pécs) discussed the



importance of patient education in sperm retrieval and IVF, highlighting its role in optimizing clinical outcomes. Lana Škrgatić presented on IVF/ICSI after TESE/mTESE, while Domagoj Rašić compared fresh versus cryopreserved mTESE procedures. Igor Grubišić evaluated the clinical relevance of new genetic markers for infertility, and Zoran Zimak addressed updated protocols and outcomes in the treatment of varicocele and azoospermia.

The symposium highlighted the pivotal role of the Croatian Andrological Society, established in 2016, in promoting andrology as a multidisciplinary subspecialty within Croatian medicine. The society actively fosters scientific exchange, educates young physicians, and contributes to the development of novel diagnostic and therapeutic methods. Notably, Croatian experts, through collaborations with the European Academy of Andrology and numerous international centers, have made significant contributions to reproductive medicine and andrology at a European level.

The establishment of the Center for Reproductive Medicine and Andrology at the University Hospital Centre Zagreb, which has introduced a comprehensive range of new diagnostic and therapeutic procedures, further underscores Croatia's commitment to advancing andrological care.

The 3rd International Symposium: News in Andrology facilitated invaluable discussions and knowledge sharing among experts from diverse medical disciplines. It fostered an environment conducive to establishing new collaborations, notably strengthening regional cooperation with participating experts from neighboring Hungary and Serbia. These international partnerships are paramount for the continued development of andrology and the overall improvement of men's health in Croatia. The symposium was accredited according to the regulations of the Croatian Medical Chamber, underscoring its recognized contribution to professional development and medical education.

