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**EDITORIAL**

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**55 YEARS OF OPHTHALMOLOGY IN TUZLA**

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Tuzla hospital was founded 135 years ago and represented the beginning of organized health services in north-eastern Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Eye department was established in 1954, and the first permanent ophthalmologist in Tuzla was Dr. Kosta Stamenkovic. Dr. Stamenkovic was an expert of the World Health Organization, exceptional trachoma specialist who along with Professor Hansijadesenom (1960) from microbiological institute in Belgrade isolated first European trachoma virus. 1962 Dr. Stamenkovic went to Morocco and the same year to the Department comes Dr. Ana Rosić, which takes up the conduct of the same until the end of 1992.

1964 Eye department transferred to a new purpose-built space Hospital on Gradina. With two operating rooms and hospital rooms with 47 beds, and the following 1965 first group of doctors finished their specialization. 1968 Eye department received from UNICEF equipment for ortopticoptic cabinet. First graduates defectologists ortopticians worked under professional supervision of prof. Dr. Sofia Biga from Eye Clinic in Belgrade in the first years of cabinet.

During these 55 years at the University Hospital, 65 doctor worked here, 5 doctors received their doctorate, 9 finished master degree, and 35 doctors passed their Specialist exam. One defectologist became a Master of Science.

Clinic for Ophthalmology UKC is the teaching base of Medical faculty, educational and rehabilitation faculty, high medical school and medical school. In cooperation with the Faculty of optometry in Barcelona we opened Optical Department in the Medical School. Clinic for Ophthalmology organized 6 scientific and professional conferences with the participation of ophthalmologists from Bosnia and Herzegovina and abroad.

Dr. Dževdet Sarajlic is the author of scientific monography "Clinical use of viscoelastic substances in the surgery of anterior segment" in 2002, Co-author textbook "Ophthalmology" 1996, textbook on "Protection of the development period" 2004, also co-authored with Dr. Suzana Pavljašević textbook "Perinatology" 2007. Dr. Vadim Kurt has also co-authored a textbook, "Diabetes mellitus".

Doctors from Clinic for eye diseases have stayed in education in many clinics in the world. Cabinets are established for ortopticoptic, contact lenses, diagnostic ultrasound, ALFC.

1989-1990 we started with acquisition of the most modern equipment: operating microscope, ultrasonic machine, biomicroscope, equipment for operating room and ortoptics. At the clinic we intensified operative work, introduces the method of in-

traocular lens implantation (1989).

In early March 1992 Eye clinic come to a large personnel losses. Three older colleagues went to retirement including Mayor of the Clinic. Also, another four physician specialists left the Tuzla and Clinic. Leadership of the Clinic takes doc. Dr. Dževdet Sarajlić. The seven remaining doctors with two younger doctors and two doctors received at the beginning of the war and 3 resident outpatient services from the end of 1993, along with other medical staff have taken the burden of work in specific war conditions. During the war staff of the Clinic for eye diseases carried out a huge number of operations in severe war injuries.

The results of work during the war were presented at numerous scientific and professional conferences in the country and abroad.

After the war, great attention has been devoted to the education of younger cadres in the country and abroad. Acquisition of new equipment was limited by the material resources, and the solution was found in the donations. Particularly signifi-

cant donations were from Germany and the United States. However, progress is visible and very gradual. 2002 was especially important for progress in the work of the Clinic: we purchased a new operating microscope and equipment for operating room, ultrasound scanner, argon and YAG laser.

There is constant introduction of new operational methods, and phacoemulsification was adopted as a routine cataract surgery. Particularly significant is the introduction vitrectomy as a method to resolve serious pathology in the back segment with a large contribution of doc. dr. Jusufović.

In 2003 control of the clinic takes dr. Jusufović Vahid, who with a team of doctors at our clinic continued further rejuvenating of the staff, further professional and scientific education.

All these tasks will be limited with financial possibilities of society, which are now very limited. However, we hope that the future will open new perspectives in development.