
EDITORIAL

Prof DEŠO MEŠIĆ, MD, PhD 1957-2010



gery. During the years of 1989 and 1990 he continued his training at Surgery clinic "Sestre milosrdnice" in Zagreb. He completed his postgraduate education with obtaining the Masters of Science degree in University of Tuzla School of Medicine. His PhD degree followed shortly, at the same school in 1994.

Complete duration of Bosnian war finds him at Surgical Department of University Clinical Centre Tuzla. During the war he was initiator of cooperation between University Clinical Centre and UNPROFOR Norwegian Battalion Hospital where he regularly performed surgical procedures and gave lectures on topics related to war surgery. His academic career continued to flourish by being appointed as assistant professor, visiting professor and regular professor of Surgery and war surgery at University of Tuzla School of Medicine. He held positions of Head of Department for Urgent conditions in medicine and pharmacotherapy and Head of Department of Surgery and War Surgery as well.

His constant desire for education was reflected with his numerous educational stays in USA, Buffalo, Iowa, Cincinnati, New Orleans; in 1995 he became to be a member of American Association of Surgeons. Subsequent educational trips to Sweden, France, Italy, Turkey, Austria and other countries resulted with his mastery in laparoscopic surgery, minimally invasive surgery, stapler surgery, pancreatic, biliary and transplant surgery. He never kept the acquired knowledge for himself but rather he unselfishly shared it with students, residents, and younger fellows throughout the Bosnia. He has managed to transfer his academic knowledge and skills into mentorships of numerous masters and doctor's thesis.

There are only a few of us who did not ask help from Prof Mešić either for ourselves or for our beloved, friends and acquaintances, only to be stunned with his spontaneity and fluency when he had faced with difficult medical problems and tasks. Even as an experienced surgeon, teacher and chief, he withhold the

We record with much regret the death of Prof Dešo Mešić, professor of Surgery in the University of Tuzla and Director of Surgery at University Clinical Centre Tuzla. Prof Mešić died at age 53 on October 20th, 2010 after a devastating illness of only few days.

His pathway was determined during his childhood with his child fantasies of becoming the surgeon. Even during elementary and high school, stories about decent and modest boy, a young man who absorbed and achieved knowledge unimaginable to others with childish curiosity and who preferred a good book over anything else, started to spread quickly. His school and college friends could already perceive that his nobility, immediacy, sincerity and persistence will rise him up into professional and mankind heights available only to chosen ones.

His career as a medical doctor, started in 1983, after he brilliantly graduated at Tuzla University School of Medicine. In 1984 he started his medical practice at the University Clinical Centre Tuzla in Surgical Department where he obtained his fellowship in general sur-

characteristics of childish curiosity and easiness while solving the most difficult medical cases, an easiness that comes from hard work, talent, knowledge and determination.

Although there were many with suspicions and disbelief that surgery of exceptional quality can be performed in a rather small country as Bosnia, Prof Mešić proudly presented results of his surgical team at numerous regional and international meetings. His readiness to cope with the biggest professional challenges was proven at his position as a Director of Surgery and team leader of liver transplantation program of UCC Tuzla. He performed the first liver transplantation in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

He expressed his original love by writing a book "Pancreatic Surgery" as well as numerous chapters in other books. His investigative spirit can be seen in hundreds of published scientific and professional works. Nevertheless, the common people were the most important for him, people who asked him for help, patients coming from every part of Bosnia. He took away the pain,

healed the diseases, saved and prolonged lives. His kindness calmed all fears and uncertainties.

Professor Dešo Mešić is a true and unique figure of Tuzla, a prominent figure of Bosnian medicine and unfortunately a figure of history of medicine that can already be split into medicine before and after him. We will remember and cherish his work and character.

He was a good husband, a good father of two sons and a good son. He was a boy and a man, a student and a teacher, a chief and a friend, a leader and a soul.

He will be missed.

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