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# Romanian neurosurgery at European standards.

## The 45th Congress of the “Romanian Society of Neurosurgery”

**Dr. Andreea Gavrilei<sup>2</sup>, Stud. Stefan Gradinaru<sup>2</sup>,  
 Stud. Mihai-Stelian Moreanu<sup>1</sup>, Prof. Dr. MSc.  
 Alexandru Vlad Ciurea<sup>3,4</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> “Carol Davila” University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Bucharest, ROMANIA

<sup>2</sup> “Lucian Blaga” University, Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacy, Sibiu, ROMANIA

<sup>3</sup> Sanador Clinical Hospital, Department of Neurosurgery, Bucharest, ROMANIA

<sup>4</sup> “Carol Davila” University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Department of Neurosurgery, Bucharest, ROMANIA

In Romania, neurosurgery has started to develop as a separate speciality since 1935, when Prof. Al. Moruzi set up the first neurosurgery service, at the “Socola” Hospital in Iassy. Then Prof. D. Bagdasar set up the Neurosurgery Service at the Central Hospital in Bucharest in 1936.

The years have passed and the Bucharest clinic of neurosurgery in „Gh.Marinescu” Hospital was developing under the leadership of Acad. Prof. Constantin Arseni, and later under the leadership of Prof. Alexandru Constantinovici.

Contemporary Romanian Neurosurgery benefiting from the technological explosion and the openness to European neurosurgery, has evolved toward performance.

The Romanian Society of Neurosurgery was founded in 1982, the first president being Acad. Prof. Constantin Arseni until 1991. The first Congress of RSN was held in the same year, and after that the RSN activity raised year by year.

Today (2019), the committee of Romanian Society of Neurosurgery is formed by: President (Assoc. Prof. Horia Ples, MD, PhD), Honorary President (Prof. A.V. Ciurea, MD, PhD, MSc, Dr.H.C.Mult.) three vice-presidents (Prof.R.M. Gorgan, MD, PhD; Prof.I. Poeta, MD, PhD; Lecturer V. Saceleanu, MD, PhD), ex-president (Prof. Dr. I.S. Florian), secretary, treasurer, residents representative and three other members. The committee of RSN is chosen at a period of 2 years (2018-2020).

### Keywords

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Corresponding author:  
**Alexandru Vlad Ciurea**

Sanador Clinical Hospital,  
 Department of Neurosurgery,  
 Bucharest, Romania

[prof.avciurea@gmail.com](mailto:prof.avciurea@gmail.com)

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The RSN Congress is held annually, in the autumn season, in the city chosen by vote at the last Congress. In 2018, the 44th Congress of R.S.N. was organized in Timisoara between 5 and 8 of September, and was chaired by Assoc. Prof. Horia Ples, MD, PhD; There, was taken the decision that the next annual congress will take place in Sibiu.

The 45th Congress of the Romanian Society of Neurosurgery (RSN) was held in Sibiu, (a historical framework recognized as German burg - Hermannstadt - founded in 1191), at Ramada Hotel

between 16 and 19 of October, including the 4th Francophone Medical Course and the 3rd Symposium of Nurses. The 45th Congress of the RSN had the full support of "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu and the Sibiu City Hall.

The congress works were opened on the 17th of October, at 9.00, by the Congress President, Lecturer Vicentiu Mircea Saceleanu, who addressed a welcome word to all participants and stressed the importance of this event to the Sibiu neurosurgery center and to Romania. (PICTURE 1).



**Picture 1.** The Welcome words at the 45th Congress of Romanian Society of Neurosurgery

The whole participation at the RSN Congress was impressive - 420 participants starting from students in medicine (21%), young residents (18%) to university professors (49%) from both the country and abroad. (PICTURE 2). The entire pathology of tumor neurosurgery, vascular, pediatric, spinal pathology, etc. were addressed.

During the scientific event, the whole neurosurgical pathology was addressed: tumoral, vascular, pediatric, spinal, etc- through 18 scientific sessions, 112 oral presentations (aprox. 20 minute each) and 30 E-posters.

Among the presentations that have recorded an increased interest there are: Abdessamad El Ouahabi (Maroc)- Multimodal treatment of pituitary adenomas, Alexandru Vlad Ciurea (Romania) - Craniopharyngomas in children / Overview of pediatric intracranial arachnoid cysts, Stefano Ferraresi (Italia) - Accessory nerve injuries/ Lumbosacral plexus injuries, Ioan-Stefan Florian (Romania) - Posterior fossa tumors at the pediatric age/ Neurovascular malformation at the pediatric age, Radu Mircea Gorgan (Romania) - Prognostic factors associated with survival for brain metastases,

Lukas Rasulic (Serbia) – New horizons in brachial plexus surgery , Keki Turel (India)- Complications in skull base surgery, Victor Volovici (Olanda) - Microvascular education from the lab to the OR, from basics to bypass, Peter A. Winkler (Austria) – Epilepsy

surgery - seven steps to improve the results ,Grigore Zapuhlii (Moldova) – Hunterian proximal arterial occlusion for giant unclippable intracranial aneurysms, etc.



**Picture 2.** An impressive number of participants at the Congress of “Romanian Society of Neurosurgery”, 45th edition, Sibiu



**Picture 3.** Special speech transmitted from the President of Romania, Klaus Werner Iohannis

In the evening, after the first day of congress, the participants were invited to a Cocktail reception at the Sibiu City Hall. Lecturer Vicentiu Saceleanu, as the host of the event, has held a welcome speech. The Mayor of Sibiu, Madame Astrid Fodor, invited as a

special guest, has pointed out the importance of the 45th RSN Congress for Romania and especially for Sibiu. To the astonishment of everyone, counselor Prof.dr.Diana Paun came with an encouraging message for the congress events, **message especially sent from the President Of Romania Klaus Werner Iohannis**. The organizers were honoured to receive such a praise. (PICTURE 3).

The congress events took place in three halls simultaneously, diverse papers being presented at a time. Besides the classical neurosurgical elements that took place during the three days of congress, there were also a Young Neurosurgeons Corner (PICTURE 4) and sessions of the Medical Assistants (12 % of the congress participants were nurses).



**Picture 4.** Young Neurosurgeons Corner – Session I

In the period of preparations of the congress Prof. Dr. Ioan-Stefan Florian (PICTURE 5) and Prof. Dr. Alexandru Vlad Ciurea (PICTURE 6) continuously collaborated to coagulate all the factors that followed the good scientific and organizational development of this event.



**Picture 5.** Ex-President of RSN - Prof. Ioan Ștefan Florian, MD, PhD, Head of Neurosurgery Clinic Cluj-Napoca



**Figure 6.** Honorary President of RSN - Prof. Alexandru Vlad Ciurea, MD, PhD, Head of Neurosurgery Department at Clinical Hospital Sanador, Bucharest.

The Congress President, Lecturer Vicentiu Saceleanu, MD, PhD (PICTURE 7), the President of Romanian Neurosurgery Society – Assoc. Prof. Horia Ples, MD, PhD (PICTURE 8) and the organizing firm Medevents have created an appropriate scientific and social framework for such a valuable event. Furthermore, a truly remarkable organizational involvement had the

Sibiu Students Circle of Neurosurgery coordinated by Dr. Vicentiu Saceleanu.

Such congress should be an example of scientific elevation, organization and social-touristic presentation for the next scientific neurosurgical manifestations.



**Figure 7.** Vice-President of RSN - S.L. Dr. Vicențiu Săceleanu, Lecturer at ULB Sibiu, Head of the Neurosurgery Department at Sibiu County Hospital.



**Figure 8.** President of RSN - Conf. Dr. Horia Pleș.

In the last day of the Congress, a session with two special presentations was held : Prof. Amir Samii, MD,PhD (PICTURE 9) (Germania) – “Current concepts in the treatment of vestibular schwannomas /Auditory midbrain implant: a new approach for hearing restoration in neural deafness”; and Prof. Saleem Abdulrauf, MD, PhD (PICTURE 10) (SUA) – „Future directions in microneurosurgery” - Prof. Abdulrauf, using his speaker talent, has fascinated the audience with interactive case presentations, and also created a special and strong bond between him and the young students who attended his lecture.

A special praise for Akio Morita (PICTURE 11) (Japan) who presented the top neurosurgical equipment and new elements of Science Fiction robotics in Japanese neuroscience, a dream difficult to accomplish, but not impossible.



**Picture 9.** Prof. Amir Samii, MD,PhD, Vice-president of the Neuroscience Institute Hanovra, Germany ‘head of the program’ Intraoperative Mapping and Visualization of the Human Brain”, professor of Neurosurgery in Hanover; next to Lecturer Vicențiu Săceleanu, MD,PhD, The RSN Congress President 2019.



**Picture 10.** Prof. Saleem Abdulrauf, MD, PhD, Chairman of the Department of Neurological Surgery at Saint Louis University School of Medicine.



**Picture 11.** Prof. Akio Morita, MD, PhD, Nippon Medical School · Department of Neurosurgery Japan · Tokyo

All of these astonishing presentations were carefully assembled in a very useful Book of Abstracts that was included in the October edition of The Official Journal of "Romanian Society of Neurosurgery".

The congress works ended on the 19th of October, where, at the closing ceremony, a surprisingly large number of participants took part, and where the closing remarks offered by Prof. Al. Vlad Ciurea, Prof. Horia Ples and by the Congress President, Lecturer Vicentiu Saceleanu underlined once more the high quality of all scientific and social manifestations and the excellent organization, thus making the 45th Congress of RSN one of the most successful scientific events organized by far.

Next year, in the autumn of 2020 we invite you in Bucharest, the capital city of Romania, to participate at the works of the **46th Congress of Romanian Society of Neurosurgery - In memoriam of the Founder Prof.Dr.Constantin Arseni**, organised by Prof.dr.R.M.Gorgan - the head of the "Bagdasar-Arseni" Neurosurgical Clinic.

Ultimately, we go back to the first statements and we consider the remark of Dr. Madjid Samii (INI Center, Hanovra) presented at **43<sup>RD</sup> Congress of Romanian Society of Neurosurgery held in Cluj-Napoca (2017): "Romanian Neurosurgery is situated at European level"**.