

## IVO PADOVAN (1922 - 2010)

On December 19, 2010, Ivo Padovan, the founder and the first editor-in-chief of LIBRI ONCOLOGICI passed away in Zagreb at the age of 88. Many readers knew Ivo Padovan personally through his many contacts and activities in the country and abroad.

Born in Blato, Korčula in 1922, this prominent medical expert, specialist in reconstructive surgery, head and neck oncology and rehabilitation of hearing and speech, a regular member of the Department of Medical Sciences of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts (CASA) and its long-term vice president and president graduated in Medicine from the Zagreb University School of Medicine in 1947. In the very same year, he started his residency in Otorhinolaryngology at the "Sestre milosrdnice" Hospital in Zagreb. In addition to resident training in Otorhinolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery in Zagreb, Ivo Padovan attended the University of Paris in 1952, the Institute of Laryngology and Otology of London in 1958, the Sloan Kettering Memorial Cancer Center as a Research Fellow in 1963-1964, and the Medical College of Wisconsin as a Research Associate and Visiting Professor in 1972.

Since 1952, Ivo Padovan had been working at the "Sestre milosrdnice" ORL Department, where he held the position of Co-Chairman from 1961 to 1965, became Chairman of this Department in 1966, and remained in this position until 1988.

Ivo Padovan's academic career as Assistant Professor at the Department of ORL of the Zagreb University School of Medicine started in 1956. There he achieved promotion to Associate Professor in 1958, Professor in 1961 and Full Professor of Otorhinolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery in 1967.

In 1989, Ivo Padovan, a full member of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts since 1975, was elected Head of the Department of Medical Sciences. From 1991 to 1997 he held the position of Vice-President, and from 1997 to 2004 served as President of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts.

Ivo Padovan, also the winner of the World Award for his innovative contribution to rhinoplasty, received the Lifetime Achievement Award for his exceptional contributions to the development of medical practice and research in 1993.

His dynamic role in the organizational healthcare activities started early, after his return from the United States in 1964, when he initiated and founded the Croatian League against Cancer with a group of colleagues and the assistance of Pero Pirker, the mayor of Zagreb at the time. Only a few years later, in 1968, Ivo Padovan and colleagues from the "Sestre milosrdnice" Hospital also founded the Central Institute for Tumors and Allied Diseases, now the University Hospital for Tumors, which is the crowning feature of his work in oncology. As attending Otorhinolaryngologist, Director of the Scientific Programs and long-term Head and Neck surgery consultant at the Central Institute for Tumors and Allied Diseases, this ideologist in the struggle against cancer there encouraged and promoted a multifaceted approach to cancer care and multidisciplinary teamwork in Croatian oncology, and also the development of similar institutions across the country.

Very much aware of the importance of experience sharing to improve cancer management and research, in 1972, Ivo Padovan gathered a group of colleagues that set to the establishment of LIBRI ONCOLOGICI: The Croatian Journal of Oncology. Although just one of his many interests and activities, the journal represented and embodied his primary interests in oncology and multidisciplinary approach to cancer care.

The continuing evolution of the University Hospital for Tumors and this journal as well is one of the many tangible and intangible legacies Ivo Padovan has left to us.

*Danko Velimir Vrdoljak*  
Editor-in-Chief