



Dear colleagues and friends,

The year 2020 has dramatically changed our lives and the face of the entire world. During the first wave of the coronavirus pandemic, our world came to a standstill, and so did our domestic and foreign gatherings. Unfortunately we were unable to hold the 5th Congress of Emergency Medicine, which would have brought together many experts. However, despite the constraints in 2021, our activities continued. We have organized numerous online webinars and shown that even under difficult conditions one can still work professionally. As a result of great effort and continuous work, you have before you a thematic issue of the journal Acta Clinica Croatica. It contains collected works from the 6th Croatian Congress of Emergency Medicine (with international participation), which took place in Vodice, Croatia from 3-5 June 2022.

The Croatian Society for Emergency Medicine of the Croatian Medical Association (HLZ-HDHM) is the organizer of this congress. The Croatian Congress of Emergency Medicine with international participation is the most important professional meeting of the society. It is held every two years. This year, the main topics of the congress include significant issues related to the care of emergency patients from polytrauma, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, pain, geriatric medicine, education and new projects in emergency medicine. Special emphasis has been placed on the past two years and the importance of emergency medical services during the coronavirus pandemic.

As in the organization of numerous professional meetings, symposia and congresses, our desire was to achieve a high professional and scientific level and one of the ways is to publish complete papers in one of the most respected and important Croatian journals, Acta Clinica Croatica. All papers have passed independent reviews, English proofreading, and thanks to the valuable comments of the reviewers, the thematic issue represents a significant and instructive reading in everyday clinical work. We would certainly like to point out the great value of the works of emergency medical specialists who frequently presented their first clinical experiences, and for most of them, this was an opportunity for their first publication.

As a sign of our efforts to improve the quality of the congress, it is important to emphasize that it was attended not only by Croatian experts in the field of emergency medicine, but also by many recognized international experts.

The education of doctors working in the emergency medical service is better today, and with the introduction of a specialization in emergency medicine, we are receiving fully educated doctors. However, there is still room for improvement. Therefore, this congress is a good platform for the exchange of experiences and opinions with one main goal - safer and better care for emergency patients.

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