

PROFESSOR DR. MILAN D. PETKOVIĆ (1906-1987)

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On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of continuous publication of the journal *Acta Medica Medianae*, we have presented the design of this renowned journal through the printed articles of Prof. Dr. Milan D. Petković published in the first (1962) and second (1963) year of the journal. Prof. Dr. Milan D. Petković was the Chief of Department of Internal Medicine at the General Hospital in Niš. This paper gives data about the life and scientific work of gastroenterologist professor Dr. Milan D. Petković. *Acta Medica Medianae* 2012;51(3):63-66.

Key words: Milan D. Petković, gastroenterology, *Acta Medica Medianae*, journal, Faculty of Medicine, Niš

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Introduction

Dr. Milan D. Petković (Figure 1) an internist, gastroenterologist, professor of medicine at the University of Niš, was born in Niš, on the 13th of July, 1906. His father Dragutin was a doctor, medical colonel, son of the priest Sava. Milan's mother Vukosava, whose father, Lazar Hadži-Pavlović, was a merchant from Sokobanjanje, was a housewife. Milan was the third of four children. He had two brothers, Ivan Petković - a lawyer and economist, Sava Petković - urologist and a member of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, and sister Ivanka - a music professor, Department of piano (1-7). He finished elementary and high school in his birth place. After graduation, he enrolled in the Medicine School in Vienna (Austria), where he obtained a doctorate degree on the 9th of July in 1930. He finished specialization in internal medicine in Paris (France) with prof. Dr. A.R. Gutman. He spoke German, French and English. Prof. Dr. Milan D. Petković died on 25th of April in 1987 in Niš. He was buried in his family's crypt at the cemetery in Čičevac (1-7).

Professional work of Dr. Milan D. Petković

Prof. Dr. Milan Petković belongs to a small circle of broadly educated physicians. He has studied experimental medicine, hepatology and

nephrology with Professor Abram (1933) and internal medicine with Professor Fisinger (1934, 1935). He attended numerous training courses (cardiology, radiology, nephrology, microbiology).



Figure 1.

In 1936, he stayed in Paris with Dr. A. R. Gutman, Professor of Internal Medicine, his "first and patient teacher in gastroenterology." Dr. Milan Petković was appointed assistant-foreigner in the subject of Experimental and Comparative Pathology, Faculty of Medicine in Paris. He worked in the Service of Gastroenterology at the hospital Salpêtrière in Paris with prof. Dr. A.R. Gutman, his medical idol, who entrusted the conduct of this esteemed medical institution to Dr. Milan in 1937.

From 1938 to 1941, Dr. Milan D. Petković worked at the Department of Internal Medicine in Belgrade. In 1941, Dr. Milan D. Petković was elected assistant in the subject of Internal Medicine, Faculty of Medicine in Belgrade. As he

refused the offered assistant place, Dr. Milan D. Petković left Belgrade and returned to his hometown.

In Niš, Dr. Milan D. Petković worked as office physician (the building is now known as the Office and it is located near the Greek consulate). He had a private practice until 1959 in his father's sanatorium, medical Col. Dr. Dragutin Petković. "Niš sanatorium Dr. Petković" was established on October 1, 1922, and it was the first sanatorium in Niš and the second in Serbia.

In 1955, Dr. Milan D. Petković was appointed the Head of the Department of Internal Medicine in the State Hospital in Niš.

In 1960, Dr. Milan D. Petković was elected a senior lecturer of Internal Medicine at the Faculty of Medicine in Niš, and 10 years later he became an Associate Professor in the same subject.

Statements and articles of Prof. Dr. Milan D. Petković

Prof. Dr. Milan D. Petković wrote a monograph "Operable Gastric Cancer - clinics and radiology" (University of Nis, 1972), authored 20 articles and co-authored five (8-13).

The journal Acta Medica Medianae published the articles of Dr. Milan D. Petković and his associates (8-11). In the first and second year (1962,1963), the journal Acta Medica Medianae published the following articles of our eminent internist, professor of our faculty:

1. Petković M, Lazarević V, Šljivić R, Jovanović S: Leukomoid reaction during the treatment of one case Febris rheumatica. Acta Medica Medianae 1962; I (1): 41-43 (Figure 2) (9).

The article was printed in Cyrillic. Summary is in Serbian and French. Conclusion: "...that in our patient leukomoid reaction occurred as a result of sudden severe gastrointestinal hemorrhage, probably caused by the effect of prednisone on blood vessels in the stomach and intestines, and aided by the anti-prothrombin influence of primidone. The modified immune-biological relations under the influence of underlying disease constitute a factor that enabled the expression of "leukomoid reaction" in our patient. By the differential diagnosis that could be the real leukemia, or accidental association of two diseases what is difficult to accept according to the rapid withdrawal and normalization of hematologic picture after the appropriate treatment, its appearance in connection with acute bleeding and absence of clinical findings of acute lymphoblastic leukemia, such as increased spleen and lymph nodes. Further long-term follow-up of patients will be decisive in whether we were right or not".

2. Petković M, Djordjević M: Two cases of essential hypochromic anemia in two sisters. Acta Medica Medianae 1962; I (1): 49-51 (Figure 3) (10).

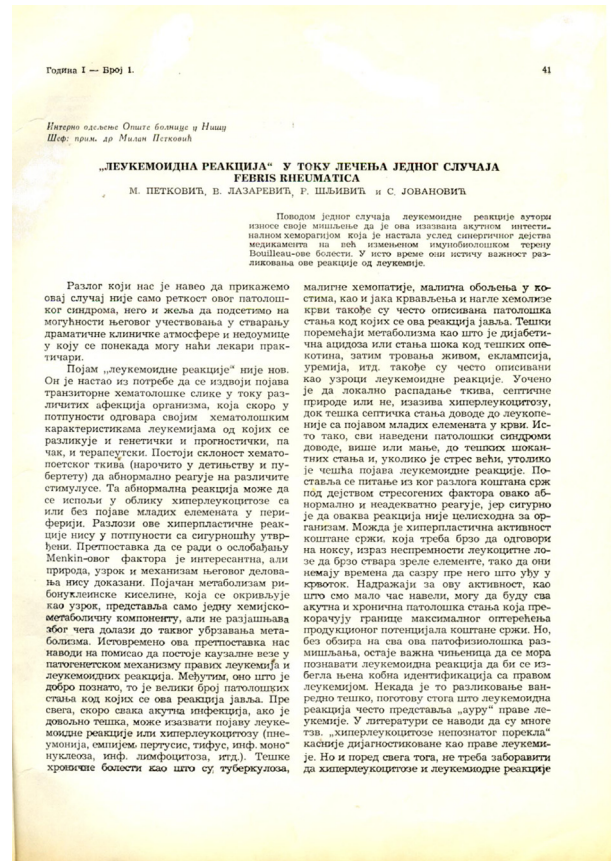


Figure 2.

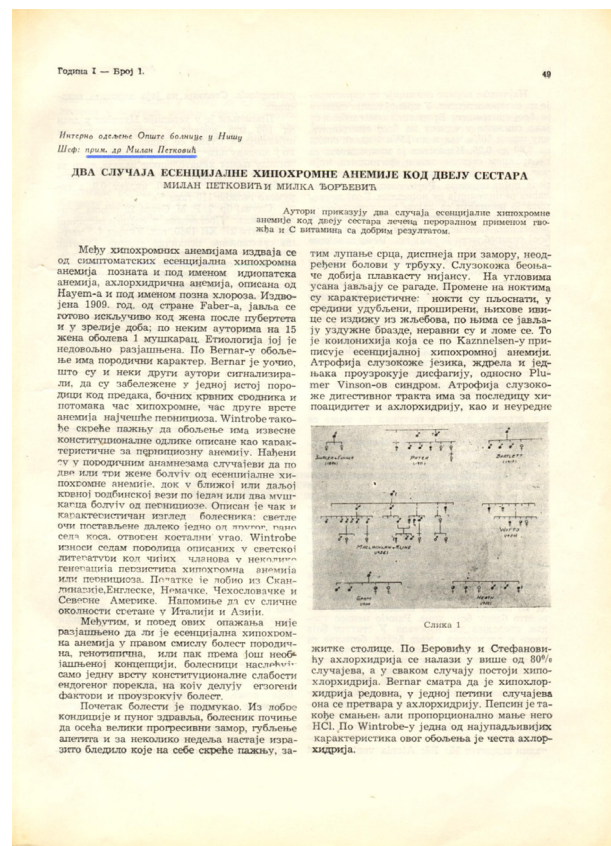


Figure 3.

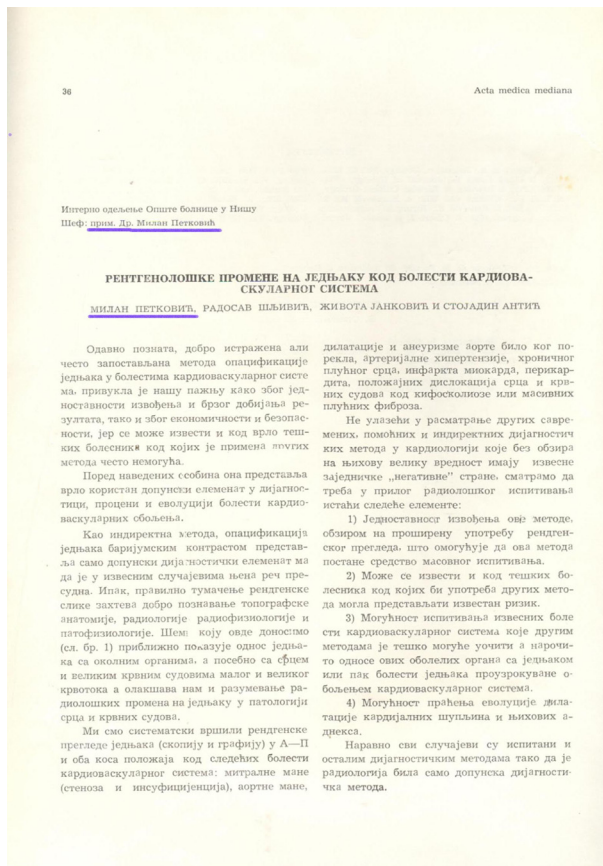


Figure 4.

The article was printed in Cyrillic. Summary is in Serbian and French. Conclusion: "Our two cases are worthwhile because the disease occurs in two sisters which proves its family character. It is undoubtedly inherited disposition and under the influence of external factors, psychological trauma and malnutrition there is a manifestation of this disease in both sisters. The shown table is from the

Wintrobe's book, in which seven families from the world literature are presented, in which essential hypochromic anemia existed in several generations, and pernicious anemia in a number of members of these families. As seen from these two cases, iron and "C" vit. therapy proved to be very efficient which is typical of this disease. Patients remain under our control and the treatment with iron. Petković M, Sljivić R, Janković F, Antić S: Radiological changes of the esophagus in patients with cardiovascular diseases. Acta Medica Medianae 1963; II (1-3): 36-42 (Figure 4) (11).

The article was printed in Cyrillic. Conclusion: "Radiological examination of barium-filled esophagus in the acquired and congenital diseases of the cardiovascular apparatus is an important diagnostic element because of his confrontation with radiographic, clinical, laboratory, ECG and other findings which provides better insight into diagnosis, evolution and prognosis of cardiovascular diseases. Simplicity in performance, fast results, harmlessness of methods and reasonable interpretation of the findings are reasons to pay more attention to routine cardiology practice, which is particularly suitable for smaller medical centers."

Conclusion

We presented some sketches of the life and scientific work of prominent internist prof. Dr. Milan Petković, a doyen of Gastroenterology in Niš, Serbia.

Prof. Dr. Milan D. Petković is one of the authors in the first issues of the journal Acta Medica Medianae from 1962 and 1963. In this paper we give an overview of the three articles of prof. Milan D. Petković, published in this renowned and eminent Serbian journal, which this year, 2012, marks the 50 years of continued publication.

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Povodom jubileja 50 godina postojanja i neprekidnog izlaženja časopisa Acta Medica Medianae prikazali smo izgled ovog renomiranog časopisa preko štampanih radova prof. dr Milana D. Petkovića u prvoj (1962) i drugoj (1963) godini izlaženja. Prof. dr Milan D. Petković je bio šef Internog odeljenja Opšte bolnice u Nišu. U radu su date crtice iz života i naučno-istraživačkog rada gastroenterologa prof. dr Milana D. Petkovića. *Acta Medica Medianae* 2012;51(3):63-66.

Ključne reči: Milan D. Petković, gastroenterologija, Acta Medica Medianae, časopis, Medicinski fakultet, Niš