

Bulletin No 9

Society of Friends of Otorhinolaryngology

Founded by the Academic Association of the Basel ORL University Department
with the ORL Departments of the Cantonal Hospitals in Aarau, Liestal and Olten (ORL-BAL)

Activity Report 2010

(This Report can be downloaded in English and German from www.orl-bal.info)

On the occasion of the retirement of its president from active duty as Professor of Otolaryngology at the University of Basel and Chief of the Aarau Department, our Society thanked the numerous full and supporting members of the Swiss ORL Society with a contribution at its Autumn Meeting. We were pleased to list the names of the members of our Society and of persons from our international ORL circle of friends who have supported our work during the past nine years with active contributions such as giving courses, hosting and mentoring guests and by travelling abroad for lectures. We list below the names of Swiss, German, French, Belgian and British colleagues who joined us in these efforts. We hope to find even more colleagues to help us with our projects in future.

Members of the Swiss ORL-Society active in visits and education:

Wolfgang **Arnold**, Andre **Arnoux**, Daniel **à Wengen**, Daniel **Bodmer**, Marco **Caversaccio**, Nicolas **Gürtler**, Rudolf **Häusler**, Marcel **Kraft**, Francis **Marchal**, Philippe **Monnier**, Mihael **Podvinec**, Rudolf **Probst**, Nevenka **Schmid**, Nicolas **Schmuziger**, Josef **Sopko**, Dominique **Vibert**, Antje **Welge-Lüssen**

Further Members who supported us by donations or hosting of trainees:

Claudia **Candreia**, Claudio **Decurtins**, David **Holzmann**, Martin **Kompis**, Frieda **Kohli**, Roland **Seiler**, Albert **Sommerhalder**, Stephan **Schmid**.

Friends, who held lectures or mentored the education of trainees and guests:

Solomon **Abramovich (GB)**, Klaus **Albegger (Ö)**, Christoph **Arens (D)**, Thomas **Bregenzer (CH)**, Paul **van Cauwenberge (B)**, Orlando **Guntinas-Lichius (D)**, Hiltrud **Glanz (D)**, Karl **Hörmann (D)**, Andreas **Huber (CH)**, **Rajko Igetic (USA)**, Philipp **Jürgens (CH)**, Nick **Jones (GB)**, Thomas **Kamber (CH)**, Henrik **Kingma (NL)**, Andreas **Leunig (D)**, Jeremy **Lavy (GB)**, Valerie **Lund (GB)**, Cem **Meco (TR)**, Gerard **O'Donoghue (GB)**, Richard **Ramsden (GB)**, Marc **Remacle (B)**, Heinz **Stammberger(Ö)**, André **Sultan (F)**, Andres **Tjellström (S)** and Patrice **Tran Ba Huy (F)**.

Special thanks are owed to the British medical society Medicus.

Our Website:

The ORL-Society of Serbia installed new homepage of it's own, which publishes mainly information on coming local education events. **Our own website** will therefore, in the future concentrate on events in Switzerland. As a new feature it will be published in **three languages**. The technology has rapidly advanced in this field, so that a new technical solution becomes necessary. The programming of our website five years ago was adapted to the capacities of the weak and in many cases outdated personal computers in use in Eastern Europe. To adapt our website technology to a modern standards will cost 2'400 Euro. We thank the ORL Department in Basel for a contribution of CHF 1'000 for this project.

Visits of Serbian surgeons abroad, with support by our Society

Dr. Bojan Pejaković, Maxillofacial surgeon at the University Department Novi Sad visited Aarau und Basel in January 2010. Thanks to the kind support of **Prof. Hans-Florian Zeilhofer**, Director of the Departments of Maxillofacial Surgery in Aarau and Basel, Dr. Pejaković was able to acquire specialised knowledge during his two weeks stay.

Dr. Zoran Dudvarski, ORL-specialist at the University Department in Beograd, visited Aarau during two weeks in February. During this period he could study our organisational procedures as well our clinical work. A case report paper on an especially rare case of gout in the middle ear resulted from this visit. Both visits were financially supported by our Society.

Courses Abroad:

The by now traditional **Course of Laryngomicroscopy** and endoscopic surgery of the larynx took place in Novi Sad on April 8. and 9. 2010. Thirteen course participants were instructed by **Prof. Rajko Jović**, **Prof. Hiltrud Glanz** and **Prof. Mihael Podvinec**. A pleasing detail: the intended paper of **PD Dr. Marcel Kraft** was, after appropriate instruction, brilliantly presented by a member of the Novi Sad Department, **Dr. Danijela Dragičević**. The gradual takeover of the tutoring role through young local experts has been one of our primary aims from the very beginning.

The course on **Tumour Surgery of the Oropharynx** was held at the University Department in Novi Sad on March 18. and 19. It was hosted by **Prof. Rajko Jović** together with **Prof. Hiltrud Glanz** of the University of Giessen. **Prof. Podvinec** acted as facilitator. **Dr. Philipp Jürgens** of the Maxillofacial Surgery Department of the Basel University Hospital spoke on reconstruction surgery of the mandible. He demonstrated the latest methods of fabrication of virtual computer models for ready-to-use surgical implants. This being an absolutely novel and research intensive subject, the participants showed great interest. Perspectives for future scientific and clinical co-operation have been opened.

On May 14th three British colleagues (**Amit Parmar, MRCS, Shiraz Ahmed, MRCS** and **Edward Toll, MRCS**) from Bristol were tutors of a **Course in Scientific Writing**, which took place at the ORL University Department in Beograd. In a highly interesting one-day course, these young researchers informed the participants on how a modern scientific publication is planned, prepared and written. This is the **second course** on this topic and it was characterised by the fact, that it was given by young medical scientists who had an excellent grasp of the problems with which young physicians in Serbia are confronted with. Highly accomplished in statistics and well informed on the publishing policy of scientific medical journals, the three lecturers offered a very interesting course. They were impressed by the friendly welcome and hospitality they enjoyed. By chance, a group of young enthusiastic anaesthesiologists were present for a seminar in Beograd, and a joint project for follow-up courses with the collaboration of our allied society „Medicus“, London, was decided upon. **Dr. Olivera Potparić**, Anaesthesiologist from Great Britain is the driving spirit behind this project.

The **Annual Meeting of the ORL Society of Serbia** took place in Belgrade on September 16, 2010. Our Society motivated the president of the European Union of ORL Specialists to visit this event. Serbia has not yet efficiently adjusted its specialists training programmes to the existing European standards. An accreditation of these standards for Serbia is precisely one of our most important goals. Therefore, papers by the **UEMS ORL-President Prof. Karl Hörmann** from Mannheim, **Prof. Rajko Jović**, head of the advanced training commission in Serbia and **Prof. M. Podvinec**, made education and training the principal topic of the first day of the meeting. The president of the Serbian ORL society, **Prof. Vojko Djukić** staunchly supported us. Prof. Hörmann spoke on the perspectives and organisational change of training in Europe, Prof. Jović presented the translation of the Logbook, the principal document in this modernisation process and Prof. Podvinec presented the training curriculum in Switzerland. We hope to have thus brought the organisation of specialist training in Serbia a good step ahead. Serbia retains observer status at the UEMS-ORL. However, Prof. Hörmann will advocate a closer link of Serbia to this organisation. On our new Website, we propose to publish information on European ORL Specialists examinations and other important events on a regular basis

The **Third course of ultrasonic diagnostics in the head and neck region** took place on October 8 and 9, in the Military Medical Academy in Belgrade. **Prof. Christoph Arens**, the newly elected Director of the University Department in Magdeburg, **PD Dr. Marcel Kraft** of Aarau and **Prof. M. Podvinec** were the tutors, together with the established local team consisting of **PD D. Stefanović** and **PD Z. Tatomirović**, **Prof. Rajko Jović** from Novi Sad und **Dr. Ljiljana Čvorović** from the Zemun hospital. We must point out the excellence of the organisation by our extremely reliable associate **Dr. Jelena Sotirović** of the Military hospital and would like to offer her our special thanks. The basics of theory and practical patient examinations as well as training Fine Needle Biopsies on prepared calf livers were the main topics of the course for 22 participants. We have strongly supported the idea that in future, local teams should carry out this course alone.

Gregory Leković MD, Neurosurgeon from the House Ear Institute in Los Angeles with ethnic roots in Serbia, contacted us after hearing from friends about our projects. As a guest of the Medical Chamber of Serbia, he participated at a meeting in Beograd, but could in sequence hold a very instructive lecture in Sremski Karlovci to the members of the ORL Society. The presentation concerned the interdisciplinary otosurgical and neurosurgical treatment of vestibular Schwannoma. A basis for active co-operation, including mutual working visits, was worked out between **Professor Dr. M. Vuleković**, Professor of Neurosurgery at the University Department in Novi Sad, **Dr. Dragan Dankuc**, head of the ORL University Department in Novi Sad and a further noted Neurosurgeon from Chicago, **Professor Ivan Ćirić MD**. In the near future a Serbian trainee will travel to Los Angeles to a meeting on the Therapy of vestibular Schwannoma, which is to be followed by a guest stay at the House Ear Institute. Our Society partially contributes to the expenses.

The year's activities closed with the two-day **6th. Course on the Preparation of the Petrous Bone**, followed by the **2nd Course on Tympanoplasty**, in the first week of December. Guest director was again **Prof. Daniel Bodmer**, the newly appointed Director of the University ORL Department in Basel. Host in Novi Sad was **Prof. Dragan Dankuc** in his usual outstanding form. He was supported by **Prof. Ljiljana Vlaški** and **Prof. M. Podvinec** (16 course participants).

Outlook:

ORL-BAL and the Society of Friends of Otorhinolaryngology intend to broaden the scope of their activities. We are aiming for a broader membership and a more stringent programme concerning the training and education of doctors, also in Switzerland. We are discussing a change of our statutes and new projects.

Acknowledgements

We are extraordinarily grateful to our sponsors Karl Storz & Co, GmbH and Carl Zeiss Surgical for their support. The commitment of their representatives in Serbia: INEL, RANEX und ZEISS BELGRADE was exemplary.

To **Speech Therapist Ms E. Walde** go our thanks for her donation for the covering of the costs of the escrow service.

(Signed) M. Podvinec
President of the Society of Friends of ORL
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