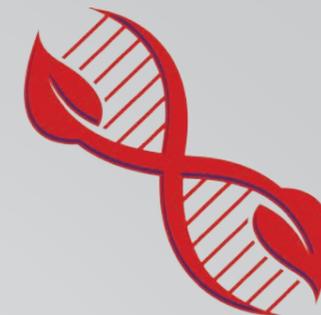




PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTION FOR THORACIC AND

UNIVERSITY CLINIC VASCULAR SURGERY



Director
Prof. Dr. Zoran Spirovski MD PhD

Prof. Dr. Zoran Spirovski was born in 1957 in Skopje, Republic of Macedonia. He finished Medical Faculty in Skopje, and in 1983 he was employed at the Department of Thoracic Surgery within the Surgical Clinics – Medical Faculty in Skopje. He finished his specialist examination in general surgery in 1988. This same year he was elected an Assistant at Surgery at the Medical Faculty in Skopje. From 1989 until 1991 he stayed at the Military Academy in Belgrade, where he pursued the rotations from subspecialization in thoracic surgery. From 1991 until 1992 he stayed in Madrid, Spain, and the purpose of his stay was education at the Department of Thoracic Surgery within the University Hospital “Puerta de Hierro”. Upon his return to the Republic of Macedonia, in 1992 he passed the subspecialist exam in thoracic surgery. At the beginning of 1998 he obtained a doctor’s degree at the Medical Faculty in Skopje, with the topic “Evaluation of the preoperative stage of the disease and the operative TNM (tumor, node, metastasis) finding in radical lung resections due to non-small cell lung cancer”. At the end of

1998 he was elected Docent of Surgery at the Medical Faculty in Skopje. In 2001 he was the Deputy Director of the Clinical Center in Skopje. In 2002, together with a group of authors, he won the award “Clement of Ohrid”, an award which is particularly important in the Republic of Macedonia, for special achievements in the health care system. In 2003 he was elected Associate Professor of Surgery at the Medical Faculty in Skopje. In 2005 he was elected a Regent of the Republic of Macedonia in the European Society of Thoracic Surgeons. This same year for the first time he started with the radical surgical intervention of esophagus and trachea. In 2007 he was appointed Director of the PHI Clinic of Thoracic and Vascular Surgery in Skopje. In 2008 he was elected Professor of Surgery at the Medical Faculty in Skopje. This same year he was elected President of the Macedonian Surgical Society. In 2008 he received a Medal for an honorary member of the Bulgarian Surgical Association and an acknowledgement for development of the scientific thought in the interest of the development of surgery in Bulgaria. In 2011 he was the promoter of the textbook for thoracic surgery at the Medical Faculty in Sofia – Bulgaria. In 2014 he was invited lecturer to a course of thoracic surgery for thoracic surgeons from Serbia – Military Medical Academy, Belgrade, where he taught about the surgical treatment of esophagus cancer. In October 2014 he was also an invited lecturer about surgery of esophageal cancer in Sofia, by the Bulgarian Association of Surgeons. In December 2014 he was an invited lecturer to the course of thoracic surgery in Sremska Kamenica, in the vicinity of Novi Sad, about the treatment of bronchopleural fistulas after pneumonectomy. He is the co-author of three books: “Clinical Traumatology” – a textbook on trauma at the Medical Faculty, Skopje, “Thoracic Surgery” – Medical Faculty in Belgrade, Serbia, “Pneumothorax” – Medical Faculty Tuzla. He has published more than one hundred works in domestic and foreign professional and scientific magazines. He is a member of the European Respiratory Society, the Macedonian Respiratory Society, the Serbian Association of Thoracic Surgery, the European Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery, the European Society of Thoracic Surgeons – Regent for Macedonia. Professionally he deals with surgical treatment of pulmonary pathology and pleura, mediastinum and esophagus, surgery of breast, thyroid and parathyroid gland, urgent thoracic surgery. In October 2016 in Istanbul, the so called Turkish-Balkan Days of Thoracic Surgery were held, when the Balkan Association for Thoracic Surgery was established. Prof. Dr. Zoran Spirovski was unanimously elected first president of the Association.

The PHI University Clinic for Thoracic and Vascular Surgery operates as an independent health care institution within the Clinical Center “Mother Teresa”, the greatest educational, scientific and health care medical organization in the Republic of Macedonia. The Clinic for Thoracic Surgery started to operate ever since the establishment of the Medical Faculty in 1947 within the newly founded surgical clinic. The beginnings of thoracic surgery in Macedonia are related to Prof. Oberhoffer, later on to Prof. Nacev, while the foundations of modern thoracic surgery in the Republic of Macedonia were laid by Prof. Dr. Dimitar Kaftandziev who was then one of the most famous thoracic surgeons in the SFRY, and beyond its borders.



Prof. Dr. Kaftandziev was recognizable for his exceptional manual dexterity, exactness and precision in the technique of his surgical work. He also laid the foundations of cardiovascular surgery by performing the first independent surgery of mitral valve stenosis without the use of extracorporeal circulation (closed commissurotomy), it was the first performed surgical intervention of such type in the country at the time. Ever since then, the development and the progress of thoracic surgery were built with enthusiasm, love and knowledge by generations of doctors-professors, docents, assistants, primarius doctors, numerous nurses and other employees in logistics.

The surgical team at Thoracic Surgery at the time included, now late Prof. Dr. Vasko Cholancheski, Primarius Doctor Aleksandar Vitanov, Prof. Dr. Radoslav Chaparoski, and later on Prof. Dr. Tihomir Krckovski and the recently retired Prof. Dr. Tatjana Andreevska. Prof. Dr. Cholancheski was adorned with an incredible enthusiasm, love of the written medical word and of course, a huge merit for the introduction of modern techniques of surgery of thoracic patients, always prepared to help the young doctors. He has a great merit for the education and preparedness of the present medical staff at the Clinic, so that they can cope with the greatest surgical challenges in this field. It is worth to mark the great enthusiasm of Prof. Dr. Vasko Cholancheski, particularly quite the number of open heart surgeries which were performed in the Clinic in this period. Primarius Doctor Vitanov was adorned with an extraordinary surgical technique, dexterity and speed in the performance of surgeries.



In this period from 1983, Dr. Zoran Spirovski and Dr. Goran Kondov came to the Clinic, who are now full professors at the Medical Faculty in Skopje, as well as Dr. Mitko Karagjozov, Dr. Aleksandar Josifov, Dr. Andrea Arsovski, now also a professor, Dr. Borche Antevski, Dr. Sashko Jovev, now a professor in the new state cardiosurgery, Dr. Risto Cholancheski, now a research associate at the Department of Surgery, Dr. Dragan Smilevski, Dr. Aleksandra Simeonova and Dr. Vladimir Makalovski. After part of the doctors left the Clinic, new, young doctors were employed such as Ass. Dr. Natasha Toleska – Dimitrovska, Ass. Dr. Ilir Vela, Ass. Dr. Borislav Kondov, Dr. Igorche Dzikovski, Dr. Nikola Gramatnikovski and Dr. Dragan Tomovski who were employed at the Clinic after the completion of their specialization in cardiovascular surgery at the Military Medical Academy in Ankara, and recently also Dr. Nedzati Jakupi, Dr. Despot Despotovski and Dr. Roland Duka, who are ahead of a difficult task to continue what the previous generations set as an imperative so that this Clinic would always remain on the top of Macedonian surgery and beyond. Here we would also mention Dr. Hamza Abdulai and Dr. Avni Abdulai who work abroad after a short stay at the Clinic.



The Department of Thoracic Surgery disposes of the most modern medical equipment and instruments, and the most modern surgeries are performed at the Clinic, such as surgeries of the lungs, the mediastinum, the esophagus and the chest wall, which are being performed everywhere in the world with the exception of lung transplantation. Since 2000 onward, radical surgeries of the trachea and esophageal cancer have been introduced in the Clinic, which is a characteristic only of great surgical centers. In this regard, Prof. Dr. Zoran Spirovski, being the current Director of the Clinic for Thoracic and Vascular Surgery, he is a frequently invited lecturer in courses for young thoracic surgeons in the surrounding countries. He also has a great contribution in the professional communication with most hospitals in the region, affirming the Clinic and its doctors. In regard to surgery of pulmonary echinococcosis, the thoracic surgery in Skopje is a leader at the European level, according to the number of operated patients, as well as according to the introduction of original techniques in the treatment of this disease. The beginnings of vascular surgery that functions as an independent department at the Clinic, date back to the distant 70's of the past century, as this is related to Prof. Dr. Radoslav Chaparoski, upon the termination of his education at the famous professor at the time, Prof. Haycole in Prague. Prof. Dr. Chaparoski was adorned with an extraordinary intelligence, experience and criticism in the surgeries in the part of peripheral vascular surgery, surgery of the arteries and veins of the extremities and the neck.





All this resulted in the first modern doctoral work of Prof. Krckovski, about arterial bypasses by using an autologous vein. The tradition of a good peripheral vascular surgery is continued to this date by Dr. Aleksandar Josifov, Dr. Aleksandra Simeonova, Dr. Nikola Gramatnikovski and Dr. Dragan Tomevski. The Department of Vascular Surgery is about to start modern hybrid procedures in vascular surgery. In addition to the indicated interventions in surgery of the thorax and the peripheral blood vessels, the Clinic traditionally continued the performance of surgeries of the breast and the thyroid gland, which started ever since the establishment of the Clinic. The most modern surgeries are also being performed in this surgical part of the Clinic, by using the most modern apparatus that is actually being applied in the most famous world clinics. While conducting its activity, the Clinic of Thoracic and Vascular Surgery operates according to determined protocols and most modern multidisciplinary procedures. All this would not be possible without the incredible anesthesiologists who work at the Clinic and monitor its development. The high achievements of the Clinic would hardly be reached without good anesthesia and resuscitation. The foundations of this approach were laid by Prof. Dr. Trajanka Trajkovska, and now they are successfully upgraded by Dr. Anita Kokareva, Dr. Sasho Popovski, Dr. Anita Popovska, Dr. Marija Srceva, Dr. Darko Angjushev and many others who contributed for the surgical procedures in the Clinic. Such positioning provides performance of the most complex interventions in the field, with a high level of success.

Teamwork and use of modern medical apparatus contribute to minimize the risk of surgical complications, to reduce the rate of undesired outcomes and to increase success in the treatment of patients. These rates do not deviate from the rates in the large surgical centers in Europe. The Clinic, being the only one in the Republic of Macedonia shows great successes also in the resolution of urgent pathology out of which numerous works arise, as of course, the book "Clinical Traumatology", which received the highest award in the Republic of Macedonia – "Clement of Ohrid". In addition to numerous scientific papers presented in many congresses in the country and abroad, the Clinic also gave birth to several books such as "Thoracic Surgery" and "Breast Surgery", and many students and doctors who specialize and sub-specialize study from these books. Also numerous students and doctors who specialize and sub-specialize are being educated at the Clinic, which speaks of the high level of scientific-educational activity.



There are 75 employees at the Clinic, of which there are two full professors, one research associate, 3 assistants, 5 sub-specialists, and 5 specialists in their fields. There are 55 beds in both departments, nine hospital rooms in the part of the dispensary, semi-intensive care unit with 4 beds and two apartments for above-standard accommodation. The Clinic disposes of three modernly equipped operating rooms where 8 to 10 patients have a surgery every day. Today the Clinic is modern and well-equipped health care institution with educated medical staff, which in addition to everyday surgical work, also participates in the raising of health awareness among the population, whereby it represents one of the most important pillars of the public health sector in the Republic.

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