



MLADEN DEBELIÆ (1993-1998)

A few days after his retirement, our founding member and dear college and friend, the well-known allergologist, Head of the Clinic for Lung, Bronchial and Allergic Diseases Auguste-Viktoria and Cecilienstift in Bad Lippspringe (Germany), Dr. Mladen Debeliæ died unexpectedly in Chur (Switzerland) on August 7, 1998.

He finished his medical studies in Zagreb in 1959 and after basic medical training in his homeland, he joined Asthma Clinic and Allergy Research Institute in Bad Lippspringe (Germany) in 1962 as a research fellow under Professor Wilhelm Gronemeyer, who had great influence on his further work. Two years later, Dr. Debeliæ continued his education in the Asthma and Allergy Clinic in Davos-Wolfgang (Switzerland) under Professor Christian Virchow and worked there first as an assistant doctor and later as deputy senior consultant. In 1976 he returned to the Cecilienstift in Bad Lippspringe as a senior medical consultant and was quickly promoted to head consultant, a position he retained until his retirement in 1998.

From 1978 to 1987 he was the Secretary of the German Society of Allergy and Immunity Research and the President of European Academy of Allergology and Clinical Immunology from 1989 to 1992. From 1989 to 1992 he was the Chairman of the Pharmacia Research Foundation and finished his engagement as the President of the Rhein-Westfalen Association of Lung- and Bronchial Diseases. His clinical work was strongly connected to his scientific research. In the late sixties he started the clinical application of immunoglobulin IgE, which brought him recognition at home and abroad and acceptance from the scientific world.

His scientific works consist of more than 250 publications, mostly in the field of clinical allergy (diagnosis and therapy of lung and bronchial diseases). Special mention deserves the modern asthma textbook for which Dr. Debeliæ was co-editor.

He was awarded the Allergy Staffel Prize in 1998 for his long and successful work at the Auguste-Viktoria Clinic in Cecilienstift.

Unfortunately, he was not able to receive his second award (Ernst Bergmann Plakette) on September 26, 1998 due to his sudden and untimely death.

Ivo Baæa
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