LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor-in-chief, *Prilozi*


In the section on Prof. Branko Oberhofer it says that he performed open-heart surgery in Skopje, which is not correct, because during his stay in Skopje from 1954 to October 1956 open-heart surgery was not performed in former Yugoslavia. Professor Branko Oberhofer performed such surgery in late October 1967 in Zagreb. I think that the part about Professor Oberhofer should include that his contribution, apart from the profiling of the previously existing organization of the clinic, is that he reorganized it so that it was divided into sub-specialist departments. Moreover, he began to send specialists in surgery to specialise in specialisations which had not existed until his arrival in Skopje. In that way, he sent Dr. Peter Tofovic to specialise in neurosurgery in the neurosurgery department with Prof. Dr. Matija Kozic and his associate Dr. Hamersak. The Neurosurgical Department in Zagreb was part of the Rebro Surgical Clinic in Zagreb, at that time led by Prof. D. Juzbasic. Also, Dr. Dusovlad Denovski was sent on a specialization in plastic surgery to Dr. Delak in Banja Luka, who came from the Surgical Clinic in Zagreb.

The cooperation with and assistance of Prof. Branko Oberhofer lies also in the fact that during his work in the Dr. Ozren Novosel Hospital, several of our doctors continued, while others began specialization in surgery.

In addition, I would like to inform you of the fact that Dr. Rudger Novak, who came to Skopje upon the invitation of Prof. Oberhofer, made a large contribution to the development of modern urology. He introduced new operating methods in the surgical treatment of the prostate. When Dr. Novak later became Professor at the Medical Faculty in Osijek, he worked closely with...
the urologists at the Skopje Military Hospital. He often came and was involved in educating colleagues performing operations on attenuated stenoses of the urethra.

As for Dr. Djurdja Klaic, she was the founder of the department of anaesthesia and resuscitation at the Skopje Surgical Clinic. She educated and created a large group of assistant anaesthetists, and also several of our doctors began their specialization in anaesthesia with her.

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