

# Discussions and Materials for the History of Science Book 21 / *Salus aegroti suprema lex: The Role of Franjo Kogoj in the Development of Dermatovenerology in Croatia*

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## AUTHOR:

MARTIN KUHAR

In 1963, famous historian of medicine Mirko Dražen Grmek published the first book in the edition *Rasprave i građa za povijest znanosti* (Discussions and Materials for the History of Science). This book, dedicated to the development of dermatovenerology in Croatia through the role of Franjo Kogoj, is the eighth edited by Marko Pećina and Stella Fatović-Ferenčić and is the 21<sup>st</sup> volume in the series. It is the result of a fruitful collaboration between the Department of Medical Sciences CASA, the Division for the History of Medical Sciences of the Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science CASA and the Department of Dermatovenerology of the University Hospital Centre Zagreb.

The project gathered specialists in dermatology who had analyzed, in the context of their recent professional activities, Franjo Kogoj's role and contributions to dermatovenerology on both domestic and international levels. There are 13 authors in total who had written the following chapters: Preface (Marko Pećina and Stella Fatović-Ferenčić); A view on the prevalence of skin and venereal diseases in Croatia from Middle Ages to Kogoj (Amir Muzur); Institutionalization and professionalization of dermatovenerology at the University of Zagreb in the light of archival documents (Stella Fatović-Ferenčić); The establishment of the Department of Dermatology and Venereology at the University of Zagreb and the role of Franjo Kogoj in its development (Zrinka Bukvić Mokoš); Franjo Kogoj from the viewpoint of a recent Head of the Department – towards the one hundredth anniversary of the Department (Branka Marinović); The comparison between Kogoj's and more recent concepts in allergology (Suzana Ljubojević Hadžavdić); The meaning and conceptualization of Kogoj's pustule (Ivan Dobrić); Sexually transmitted diseases – the foundation of dermatovenerology from the times of Franjo Kogoj until today (Mihael Skerlev, Suzana Ljubojević Hadžavdić); Kogoj's research on Mal de Meleda (Ana Bakija Konsuo); A contemporary view on Kogoj's Dermatovenerology Propedeutics – General Dermatology and Therapy for Medical Students and Physicians (Lena Kotrulja); The diagnostics and therapy of melanoma in the times of Franjo Kogoj and today (Daška Štulhofer Buzina); Franjo Kogoj's role in the Yugoslav Academy of Sciences and Arts, 1947 – 1972 (Sella Fatović-Ferenčić, Martin Kuhar, Silvija Brkić Midžić and Marko Pećina); "For aging not passively endured, but actively experienced": on Symposium on Gerontology from 1958 (Sella Fatović-Ferenčić and Martin Kuhar); Franjo Kogoj's role in the establishment of the Academy's Centre for Allergology in Hvar (Sella Fatović-

Ferenčić); The memorial collection of Franjo Kogoj within the fund of the Croatian Museum of Medicine and Pharmacy CASA (Silvija Brkić Midžić); Franjo Kogoj's biobibliography (Martin Kuhar). The book is 222 pages long and contains the abstract in English, as well as the authors' biographies.

The role of Franjo Kogoj – dermatovenerologist, Vice-Dean and Dean of the School of Medicine, University of Zagreb, Fellow of the Yugoslav (today Croatian) Academy of Sciences and Arts, the first Secretary of its Department of Medicine (today Department of Medical Sciences) and the long-standing Vice-President of the Academy – is indispensable in the light of modern development of dermatovenerology as a clinical and academic discipline. The year 2020 marked the one-hundredth anniversary of Kogoj's successful completion of medical studies in Prague, and the year 2021 marked the one-hundredth anniversary of the establishment of the Department of Dermatovenerology in Zagreb, celebrated in March 2020 with an exhibition and bilingual catalogue. A detailed review of the exhibition (written by Martin Kuhar) and the catalogue (written by Mirna Šitum) can be found in issue 54-55 (2021) of this journal. The book is dedicated to a century of successful work in the Department of Dermatovenerology and deals with various aspects of this discipline, including allergology, sexually-transmitted diseases, oncology, as well as Kogoj's contributions in education at the School of Medicine in Zagreb, in the workings of the Yugoslav Academy of Sciences and Arts and in the institutionalization of dermatovenerology. In order to encompass Kogoj's activities in a broader social context, and to evaluate aspects that have insofar been seldom covered in his historiography, the project involved dermatologists, historians of medicine and the Head and the Director of the Croatian Museum of Medicine and Pharmacy CASA. The book was financially supported by the Academy's Fund and the Ministry of Science and Education. With its content and approach, this book will surely find its place as a basis for future research in dermatovenerology and related disciplines and in the history of medical institutionalization in Croatia.