IN MEMORIAM

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Prof Kasim Muminhodzic, MD, PhD (1941-2017)

In December of the 2017 passed away Kasim Muminhodzic, professor emeritus of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Tuzla, on the subject of Gastroenterology. He was born in Lukavac near Tuzla in 1941. Graduated at the Medical Faculty in Belgrade, then the capital of former Yugoslavia. Completed specialization in Internal Medicine at one of the most prestigious

medical institutions in the former Yugoslavia—the Military Medical Academy (MMA) in Belgrade. As a young doctor, he started his professional career in health centers in Lukavac and Gradacac. However, he spent most of his professional career at the Department of Internal Medicine of the Regional Health Care Center in Tuzla, and then at the Clinic of Internal Medicine of the University Clinical Center (UCC) in Tuzla, as one of the close associates of the then founder and doctor of Internal Medicine not only in Tuzla, but also in the former Yugoslavia, professor Ibro Pasic. Professor Mumindozic started to deal with gastroenterology, and then with ultrasound and endoscopic methods in diagnostic and treating digestive system diseases among the first internists. He was one of the pioneers in the application of flexible endoscopy, thanks to which significantly improved insight into the structure and function of the digestive tract. In this segment of medicine, professor Muminhodzic has made a significant contribution, making him recognizable beyond the territory of the Tuzla region. He was a long-time doctor of the Gastroenterology Department, later the same UCC Clinic in Tuzla. He was among the first doctors who introduced the UCC in Tuzla the following methods: rectoscopy, gastroscopy, colonoscopy and one of the most demanding endoscopic procedures—ERCP, for which during the 80's was one of Yugoslav authorities. During this time, these procedures and endoscopic skills were established the Professor Muminhodzic as the very top of the experts and practitioners in this segment of medicine, as well as the summon expert of endoscopy in the area of Bosnia and Herzegovina (B&H).

Professor Kasim Muminhodzic was appointed as the Minister of Health of Tuzla

Canton, then as Director of Medical Affairs of UCC in Tuzla, thanks to the above-mentioned achievements, the tendency to organize his profession and personal characteristics as a human being and a health professional. Professor Kasim Muminhodzic was the first President of the Association of Gastroenterologists and Hepatologists in B&H. Pro-

fessor Muminhodzic did not write much, just as much as he needed for the academic promotions for which he built his academic career. But there is one monograph in which we were co-authors worth mentioning, because it is one of the first to be developed according to the concept that advocated the Bologna principle of medical education, which personally edited by myself. The authors were: Nizama Salihefendic, Muharem Zildzic, Zoran Licanin, Kasim Muminhodzic, Enver Zerem, Izet Masic, under the title "Acute abdominal pain". Unfortunately, two of the co-authors of this monograph died—Kasim Muminhodzic and Zoran Licanin, both of whom were excellent in diagnostics, recognizable by the use of diagnostic medical procedures.

From professor Nermin Salkic's text on Kasim Muminhodzic, written on the web site www.tuzlarije.net, in which the professor is Muminhodzic described in a very nice, collegial, human and very empathetic way and tone, I quote the following as the first excerpt of this text: "It is a real pity that professor Kasim was more of a man than the action and the procedure, and a lesser man of a feather, and we were deprived of his experience and expertise in writing, but we who learned and worked with him knew of what the encyclopedia of gastroenterology and endoscopy he was. We, Tuzla and Bosnian gastroenterologists, will remember him as someone who laid the foundations of modern gastroenterology in BiH, as a pleasant and fun person in society, as a teacher and a man from whom he could hear life and professional wisdom in the most informal conversation".

Sarajevo, June 2018

Prof Izet Masic, MD, PhD

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