



# IN MEMORIAM

## Prof. dr Vladimir V. Baltić

### 1947-2021



It has been two years since we lost my mentor and professor, our dear colleague, Professor Dr. Vladimir V. Baltić. This year, which is the anniversary year of the "Archive of Oncology" journal, we commemorate the memory of this exceptional individual and his rich legacy.

Vladimir V. Baltić was born in 1947 in Ušće, near Kraljevo. He completed his medical studies in 1972 and specialized in internal medicine in 1978. He obtained his master's degree in 1982 at the Faculty of Medicine in Novi Sad and defended his doctoral dissertation at the Faculty of Medicine in Zagreb in 1985. He began his career at the Institute for Pulmonary Diseases and worked at the Institute of Oncology of Vojvodina from its establishment until his retirement.

In his clinical work as an internist, immunologist, and oncologist, he was deeply involved in the immunobiology and genetics of human tumors, particularly lymphomas, and immunotherapy.

At the University of Novi Sad, he taught as a professor at the Department of Internal Medicine. He introduced many colleagues to scientific research and directed them towards attractive research directions and interests worldwide. He led projects, was a professor and mentor, always ready to share the workload with his proteges and students. It was an honor to be his student, and we took pride in adding "mentored by Prof. Dr. Vladimir V. Baltić" to our master's or doctoral theses.

He authored several monographs, textbook chapters, and books, and published over 140 scientific papers in the field of medicine.

Prof. dr. Vladimir Baltić was the head of the Department of Immunobiology. From 1988 to 2001, he was the Director of the Institute of Oncology of Vojvodina.

He will be remembered for transforming the Institute into a "comprehensive oncology center" where all oncology activities were brought under one roof. Prof. Baltić was the founder and editor-in-chief of the "Informator for Cancerogenesis," "Archive of Oncology," and "Annals of the Studenica Academy" journals. He was also a co-founder of Aristotle's School in Thessaloniki and the founder and president of the Studenica Academy.

For his work, he received numerous awards between 2000 and 2007 in the field of medical informatics, particularly related to hospital information systems, telemedicine, teleconsultations, and training technical science students for the use of medical equipment. He was the recipient of the Millennium Gold Award as an eminent scientist by IRCP in 2000 and was also named International Scientist of the Year in 2002. He was honored with the Order of St. Sava of the Serbian Orthodox Church, the Greek Order of the Golden Star of Philip II of Macedonia from Aristotle's School, and the Plaque for a lifelong dedication to the continuous battle against cancer and the improvement of oncological patient treatment, marking the 50th anniversary of the Institute of Oncology.

Furthermore, he was a member of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts (SANU), the Serbian Medical Society, and the President of the Alliance of Cancer Societies of Vojvodina. He was also a member of several international associations: ESMO, UICC, BUON, and the Nikola Tesla Foundation in the United States.

Professor Vladimir V. Baltić was a good man, dignified, straightforward, and open, with a large number of friends. Always ready to help, he was a strong support for all his colleagues. We learned from him what is important in professional work and life because he selflessly shared his knowledge.

His professional work has left an indelible mark on the development of the Institute of Oncology of Vojvodina, the oncology profession, and the publication in the field of oncology in our region and beyond. Therefore, we immensely respect his knowledge, professional and scientific achievements, and, above all, his character. Having such a person as a teacher, mentor, colleague, and friend was a great privilege because a person is valued by deeds that surpass physical existence.

Thank you, dear colleague, professor, friend.

dr Svetlana Salma, longtime associate of Prof. dr Vladimir Baltić  
Sremska Kamenica, November, 2023