



CROATIA 1953

CSMBLM Croatian Society of Medical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine

The Croatian Society of Medical Biochemists (CSMB) was founded in 1953 as a voluntary and non-profit professional association of medical biochemists. Until 1988, CSMB had been part of the Croatian Pharmaceutical Society and afterwards became an autonomous association. In 2012, it changed its name to the Croatian Society of Medical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine (CSMBLM), in line with the current trends within the profession and with the recommendations of European and global professional associations. Today, we have around 630 members, masters in medical biochemistry, specialists, masters or doctors of science, assistant professors and professors involved in the healthcare system, research, education or commerce. Clinical chemistry has been a separate professional field in Croatia since 1937 when the first medical biochemistry laboratory was founded as an independent unit at the Clinical Hospital Merkur in Zagreb by Professor Ibrahim Ruždić. The starting point in the undergraduate education of clinical chemists was the introduction of clinical chemistry as a subject into the academic curriculum of the study program of pharmacy in 1946 by Professor Marijana Fišer Herman.

CSMBLM has been a full member of the International Federation of Clinical Chemistry (IFCC) since 1972, first as part of the Yugoslav Society of Medical Biochemists and since 1992 as an independent party. In 1993, CSMBLM became a member of the Forum of the European Societies of Clinical Chemistry, nowadays the European Federation of Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (EFLM).

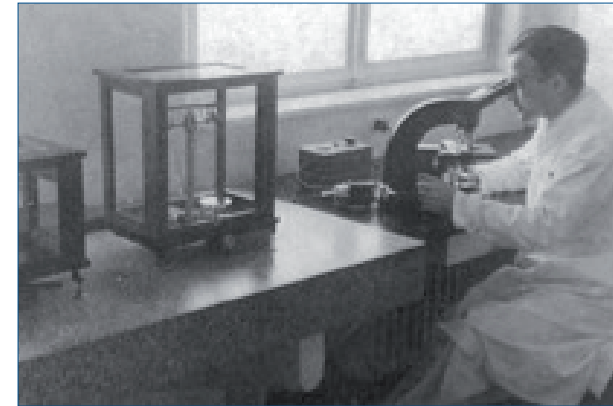
In 2013, CSMBLM celebrated its 60th anniversary. The celebration was held on 4th of October 2013 in Zagreb and was organized under the auspices of the President of Republic of Croatia. The gala party was attended by 250 members of our society as well as by honored guests and dear friends from abroad. Monograph in honor of this big anniversary was presented.

CSMBLM organizes monthly meetings of its members in its branches, annual symposia in cooperation with the Slovenian association for clinical chemistry and a national congress with international participation every three years. It also organizes monthly educational webinars, in order to support training and provide opportunities

for distance learning for all members. During the last two years, CSMBLM has established various working groups (preanalytical phase, acid-base balance, laboratory diagnosis of autoimmune and chronic kidney diseases, capillary blood sampling, method validation, etc.) whose main tasks are to assess the quality of the current practices in that field and develop an evidence-based recommendation to facilitate standardization of respective laboratory policies and procedures.

CSMBLM has always been active in international collaborations, so it organized 6th Alpe-Adria congress of clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine in Opatija (2000) and General assembly of IFCC in Dubrovnik (2001). Starting with 2001, CSMBLM has launched Continuing Postgraduate Courses in clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine under the auspices of EFLM. As additional proof of international recognition of our members, many of our members are full or corresponding members within different working groups and committees in IFCC and EFLM.

A significant task, regularly carried out by CSMBLM since 1970, is the external assessment of the performance quality of all medical biochemistry laboratories in the Republic of Croatia. The external evaluation programs are updated and continually expanded according to the needs of the profession and in line with the European organizations for external quality assessment (EQAL). Assessment results are the basis for the rating of medical laboratories carried out by the Croatian Chamber of Medical Biochemists. CSMBLM publishes a scientific journal



First medical biochemistry laboratory was founded in 1937 in Zagreb by prof. Ibrahim Ruždić



Celebration of the 50th anniversary of the CSMBLM was organized under the auspices of the Croatian parliament and attended by the President of parliament, Dr. Zlatko Tomčić (Zagreb, 23rd of April 2003)



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All news and notifications are available to our members on the CSMBLM website (www.hdmblm.hr) or via regular newsletter. More information about our organization and activities can be found at CSMBLM bilingual (Croatian/English) website.

Prepared by: Prof. Jasenka Wagner, Chair of the CSMBLM Committee for information and public relation.

