



SLOVAKIA 1958

# SSKB Slovak Society of Clinical Biochemistry - Slovak Medical Association

The Czechoslovak Section of Clinical Chemistry, which was later renamed the Czechoslovak Society of Clinical Biochemistry (ČSKB) was established on December 6, 1958, when it was approved by Jana Ev. Purkyně of the Bureau Czechoslovak Medical. The first chairman of ČSKB was Prof. Horejsí and first vice chairman was Dr. Niederland. Also, in 1961 the Slovak Society of Clinical Biochemistry (SSKB) was established at Czechoslovak Medical Association Jana Ev. Purkyně. The first Chairman elected of the Slovak Society of Clinical Biochemistry was Dr. Niederland. Other members of the committee of SSKB were Drs. Jacina, Cicvarek, Bielik, Labus, Stancakova, Brixova, Dzurik, Simko and Matisko.

In the beginning effort was devoted to the education of association members and laboratory technicians working at the departments of Clinical Biochemistry. Major themes were polarography, toxicology, isotope laboratory equipment, clinical enzymology and immunoelectrophoresis. These efforts were carried out in partnership with the Czechoslovak chemical company. At the same time conferences were organized for biochemical laboratory technicians. The First National Congress of Clinical Chemistry was held in the High Tatras in 1966 and now occurs regularly every year in either the Czech Republic or Slovakia. In 1968 it was decided that the Czech and Slovak associations to be independent and include a section for biochemical laboratory technicians. At that time, it was agreed that the committee would be represented by companies and non-physician university-educated workers.

In 1969, a new committee of the Czechoslovak Society of Clinical Biochemistry was elected and the first term Chairman was Dr. Cicvarek and vice chairman was Dr. Homolka. Under the new statute in the second half-year term of office, the chair and vice chair exchanged.

The Association has been a member of IFCC since 1970. In September 1971 a Congress of Clinical Biochemistry was held in Prague with international participation. The main focus was polarography in clinical biochemistry, control precision and accuracy, clinical chemical diagnostics in intensive care, CSF biochemistry, clinical immunology, enzymology. The Congress was attended by 440 participants. The President of IFCC, Prof. M. Rubin was in attendance and endorsed the success of the congress.

Education of our members have been organized regularly through regional district workshops. During the 1980's and 1990's, several dedicated Working Groups and Committees were appointed that focused their activities on development and improvement of laboratory testing. In 1986, the Slovak Society of Clinical Biochemistry established the Steering Committee on Standardisation, which has since been assisting with standardization and harmonization of laboratory methods in clinical biochemistry. We wish to remember the contributions of past and present colleagues, namely Drs. Hajzer, Cebecauer, Spacek, Kohut, Zacharova, Koskova, Volarova, Schmidtova, Farkas, Balla, Kovac, Volmut, Hlavata and Rozicka. A Steering Committee for Laboratory Rationalisation and Quality Control (CLRQC) was appointed in 1992 to promote strategies on how to improve quality in clinical laboratory performance. During the period 1996 – 2000 the CLRQC initiated projects devoted to the development of the new Slovak Nomenclature in Laboratory Medicine (SNOLAMED). Later, this sole Slovak terminology SNOLAMED was implemented into a DRG system in the country. In ČSKB we publish the journal *Biochemia Clinica Bohemoslovaca*. We held regular congresses of ČSKB until 1992 when the last was held in Kosice.

In 1993, Czechoslovakia split and formed the Czech Society of Clinical Biochemistry at Czechoslovak Medical Association Jana Ev. Purkyně and Slovak Society of Clinical Biochemistry at the Slovak Medical Association.

In 1993, the congress "LABKVALITA", a forum for professional exchange of knowledge and skills related to current





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trends in medical laboratories, was created. Since its foundation, initiative has been taken to organize the event with international participation on a biennial basis for Medical Laboratory Specialists. LABKVALITA has allowed a wide range of contributions from biochemists, microbiologists, haematologists, immunologists, pathologists, laboratory directors, quality managers, clinical laboratory scientists, medical technologists, medical laboratory technicians, medical laboratory assistants, hospital administrators, referring physicians and allied professionals from the diagnostics industry and those involved in laboratory accreditation and regulatory issues and policy makers especially from Slovakia but also from neighbouring countries of Eastern and Central Europe.

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SSKB regularly organizes congresses of clinical biochemistry, in 2014 it was the XI Congress of SSKB with international participation. A LABKVALITA Congress on Quality Control will be held in 2015, also with international participation.

Since 1994 we have published a journal for laboratory diagnostics. The first chairman of the editorial board was prof. Pechan and first scientific secretary was Dr. Blazicek. Besides members of our society, Presidents of SSKB (Drs. Valovicova, Pullman and Pechan) have contributed greatly to the development of clinical biochemistry.

