

Suvremena ortopedska kirurgija

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Source / Izvornik: **Medicina Fluminensis : Medicina Fluminensis, 2015, 51, 4 - 5**

Journal article, Published version

Rad u časopisu, Objavljena verzija rada (izdavačev PDF)

Permanent link / Trajna poveznica: <https://um.nsk.hr/um:nbn:hr:184:767054>

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Download date / Datum preuzimanja: **2025-02-17**



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Contemporary orthopedic surgery

Suvremena ortopedska kirurgija

Medicina Fluminensis, the journal of the Rijeka branch of the Croatian Medical Association, marked a great anniversary: 50 years of continuous publication. Over the years, the journal has seen significant changes, both in design and content, but its importance in the professional medical field has remained constant and even, we dare say, increased. This assertion is based on the fact that in recent years, since it first appeared on the Internet in an open form, it has recorded over 500,000 visits and approximately 350,000 downloads¹, which points to the importance of this journal for the development of the overall medical profession in our area.

Medicina Fluminensis is printed in circulation of 1500 copies and distributed to all our members, but also to all hospitals and medical schools across Croatia and in the neighboring countries.

Aware of the significant role of journals that present in review form the latest knowledge in a specific field for the scientific and professional development of individuals, and thus the general medical profession as well, in 2003 Professor Gulan proposed to the then editor-in-chief of *Medicina*, Professor Igor Prpić, that we start editing thematic issues. That very year saw the publication of the first thematic issue of *Medicina* dedicated to orthopedics, coinciding with the centenary of the construction of the building which now houses the Orthopedic Clinic of Lovran and the 50 years of the establishment of this hospital². This first thematic issue of *Medicina* was well received in professional circles and internationally recognized by many orthopedists, but also by experts in other medical professions, review papers published in it having often been used as teaching material in undergraduate and postgraduate doctoral and specialist studies. Moreover, colleagues of other specializations have also recognized the significance of thematic issues and since then *Medicina*, today's *Medicina Fluminensis*, has published thematic issues.

In early 2014, we were once again given the privilege, this time from the editor-in-chief Professor Saša Ostojić, to edit another, third thematic issue dedicated to orthopedics on the occasion of the journal's golden jubilee^{2,3}. We accepted the offer with great gratification, but also with a desire to enhance this thematic issue with some new insights which would significantly contribute to the quality and recognition of our profession and our journal.

<http://hrcak.srce.hr/medicina>

Being orthopedic surgeons ourselves, we came to realize the great importance of imagery in learning and mastering certain surgical techniques, which made us think time and again of the saying that a picture is worth a thousand words. It is this thought that has inspired us to include filmed presentations of various surgical techniques in this issue, a novelty in *Medicina Fluminensis*, which brings richly illustrated reviews and other papers supplemented by DVDs, thus following the latest trends in the world-famous and recognized journals.

In addition to contributions by some leading national experts in the field of orthopedics whose professional and scientific work has long been recognized in our region, this issue also presents the papers and video materials of some world-famous, highly recognizable and recognized orthopedic experts and their collaborators from abroad. The fact that these professionals of world renown have responded to our call for papers with pleasure and without delay despite their numerous commitments gives this issue of *Medicina Fluminensis* additional importance and exclusive quality.

It is with great pride and pleasure that we can say that these are the world's leading experts and scientists from various fields of orthopedics, whose work has made a significant impact on global orthopedic surgery, physicians whose professional work and scientific results form the basis of modern orthopedics and determine the direction and pace of development of our profession and whose innovations in the area of surgical techniques and instruments we all use in the treatment of our patients, people who constantly push the boundaries in the field of orthopedics, thus making real and feasible what many

thought was impossible and impracticable. They are authors of numerous papers, many of which have already become classics in the orthopedic profession and science and many of others will no doubt become it. Anyone writing an orthopedic paper in their area of interest cannot but rely on their research results and knowledge. They are also authors of a large number of textbooks used in the teaching of orthopedics nowadays but undoubtedly also for many years to come. They have been organizers of numerous reputable scientific conferences, participating as invited speakers and instructors in others, founders and presidents of the most respected professional societies, winners of numerous international scientific and professional awards – in a word, global authorities in their respective field of expertise.

This is by no means the end of the list of their role and merits in the field of orthopedics but this is perhaps where we should invite you to read their contributions to this issue.

This thematic issue of *Medicina Fluminensis* is dedicated to contemporary orthopedic surgery and is the result of work and very good cooperation between orthopedic experts from all over the world. As it is issued entirely in English and for the first time supplemented with video material, we are confident that it will attract the attention of many readers.

Prof. Gordan Gulan, MD, PhD
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REFERENCES

1. *Medicina Fluminensis* 2014;50(4):376-90.
2. *Medicina* 2003;40(2):61-164.
3. *Medicina* 2007;43(3):179-249.