

EDITORIAL

The Second Congress of the Romanian Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery, connected to The Annual Conference of the Romanian Retina Society took place in the middle of June at the seaside, in Eforie Nord.

The conjunction of these two conferences was an experiment that wanted to solve an older issue of the Romanian Society of Ophthalmology: the increasing number of congresses and the limited time to attend them all.

I think this association was a great success, with a numerous audience of more than six hundred ophthalmologists from Romania and also from abroad.

The event started on Thursday with a very interesting session of the Annual Conference of The Romanian Retina Society about anti-VEGF therapy in retinal diseases. Ophthalmologists famous for their interest in this field presented an update regarding the possibilities and limitations of this therapy that has had such a dynamic development.



Fig. 1 Florian Balta, MD., President of the Romanian Retina Society

The following day began with a session addressed both to anterior and posterior pole surgeons: Combined pathology of the anterior segment-posterior segment. Modalities to solve complications of the anterior segment surgery, by using different techniques of posterior vitrectomy were shown.

The last session of this congress demonstrated the high level of competence of Romanian posterior segment surgeons in solving traumatic pathology.

In the same afternoon, the Congress of the Romanian Association of Cataract and Refractive Surgery began.

The first session was dedicated to cornea and corneal transplantation. During this session, Thierry Chazalon, MD., (Nantes, France), a friend of the Romanian Society of Ophthalmology, shared his experience in modern techniques of corneal transplantation, especially DSAEK, with his Romanian colleagues. All these were followed by a very informative symposium on corneal cross-linking.



Fig. 2 Thierry Chazalon, MD

Although Saturday was a day with a very dense schedule, exciting topics were approached: complications of cataract surgery, refractive surgery of the lens, special cases in cataract surgery, which managed to keep a vivid interest and to incite to active participation from the audience.

A very special event that I wish to point out was the launching of the new format of our journal, "Oftalmologia". Calin Tataru, MD., the President of the Romanian Association of Cataract and Refractive Surgery and Vice President of the Romanian Society of Ophthalmology made a short, but comprehensive presentation of the reasons why this had to happen. Our review will have a new name: "Romanian Journal of Ophthalmology", a new graphic format, and it will be printed by another publisher. Times of great changes require us to deliver great things!



Fig. 3 Calin Tataru, MD., President of the Romanian Association of Cataract and Refractive Surgery

Finally, the last day of the congress was entirely reserved to refractive surgery, a modern field with a spectacular development.

The international participation was even greater than mentioned previously, with interesting presentations from: Thierry Chazalon, MD., on corneal transplantation and refractive surgery, Rhonda Waldron, MD., (USA), on special techniques of biometry, P. Gomez, MD., (Mexico), on epidemiology of diabetic retinopathy and also others. A special mention goes to the course on ocular ultrasound examination (for beginners and advanced users) held by Tatiana Kisseleva, MD., (Russia).



Fig. 4 Pool Party

Taking into consideration the duration of the congress, the dense schedule and the high number of participants, I can also say that all the organizing details were carefully managed; from choosing the Conference Center to planning the social events, in order to provide ample space and adequate conditions for presentations, and also to create a relaxing and friendly environment for the participants, by the beautiful pool side in the evenings.

As a long time member of different Organizing Committees of many congresses, I would like to congratulate my colleagues: Florian Balta, MD., Calin Tataru, MD., Horia Stanca, MD., Constantin Mihai, MD., and others, for the great success of this congress.

Overall, this congress managed to show that with great effort and good organizing skills, we could manage to address the issue of lesser time and increasing number of congresses successfully. I can only hope that next year's congress will rise to the level of this one, and so, a great tradition will continue.

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