



## PERSONALIA

### **Associate Professor, MUDr. František Tecl, CSc. – Septuagenarian**

In 2005, an outstanding Czech surgeon and teacher at the Faculty of Medicine of Masaryk University in Brno, Assoc. Prof. MUDr. František Tecl, CSc., celebrates his seventieth birthday. Born on 10 February 1935 in Nové Veselí, he completed his studies at the Faculty of Medicine with honours in 1967. He started working at the surgery ward of the hospital in Nové Město na Moravě, where he acquired wide medical knowledge and obtained his first-degree medical diploma in Surgery. In 1972 he moved to the Department of Paediatric Surgery of the Children's Hospital in Brno, which later on became a clinic. Holding the post of a resident surgical officer and later a registrar for Clinical Oncology, he obtained his second-degree medical diploma in Paediatric Surgery and defended his Candidate of Science thesis in 1984. He also took active part in the instruction of nurses and medical students.

From 1986 to March of 1990 he worked at the Research Institute of Clinical and Experimental Oncology (now called Masaryk Oncological Institute) as an oncology

surgeon, head of the Department of Diagnostics and deputy head for science and research, where he was mainly concerned with problems of colorectal carcinoma.

Having defended his habilitation thesis entitled "Emergencies of the Thorax and Abdomen in Newborn Infants and Their Surgical Solution" in 1990, he was appointed head of the Department of Paediatric Surgery and Traumatology at the Faculty of Medicine of Masaryk University in Brno. In this function he acted for ten years. The Department provided fundamental surgical care for the child population of the southern Moravian region and also developed highly specialised services in the areas of neonatal surgery, paediatric urology, neurosurgery, oncological surgery, and surgery of the thorax. A traumatological centre and a department of mini-invasive methods were founded as training institutions for the Czech Republic - the Clinic became a pioneering institution for laparoscopic operations, including newborn infants. Dr. Tecl was always anxious to apply principles of democracy in heading the institution; he insisted on precise work of all his colleagues. Having enabled professional growth to all of them, he was supervisor of 8 doctors at the clinic, who defended their Ph.D. degrees; one of the doctors qualified as an associate professor. He always appreciated very much the fact that he had good teachers and reliable co-workers in the ranks of doctors and nurses.

In the last years, he devoted himself particularly to neonatal surgery, abdominal surgery, and oncological surgery. He delivered 170 lectures, published more than 70 articles in both domestic and foreign press, and 9 university textbooks. He held a number of professional and paedagogical positions. He acted as vice-chairman to the Czech Association of Paediatric Surgeons, member of the Editorial Board of *Rozhledy v chirurgii* (Review of Surgery), chairman of the Board of State Final Examinations in Surgery, member of the Board for the Award of Specialist Medical Diplomas in Paediatric Surgery and for Defences of Doctoral Theses in Surgery, member of two scientific councils, and member of the Academic Senate of the Faculty of Medicine. He took great credit for the building of new operating theatres and for completing the erection of the Children's Hospital.

How highly his place of work and he himself were esteemed by the other surgeons is attested by the fact that he was decorated by the highest surgery honours - a Memorial Medal in Honour of Dr. J. Žucha from the Slovakian Society of Paediatric Surgery, Professor Kafka Medal from the Czech Association of Paediatric Surgeons, and Professor Karel Maydl Medal from the Czech Association of Surgeons.

Having finished his hospital work at the age of 67 years (in 2002), he has continued to participate in providing surgical services at the Masaryk Circuit in Brno. Associate Professor Dr. Tecl is an example of a surgeon who has covered the whole spectrum of both General and Traumatological Paediatric Surgery. On account of his correctness, respectability, and fairness he has enjoyed great popularity not only among children but also among doctors and the other employees.

*L. Chváta, P. Gál*