

The National Conference of the Romanian Society of Surgery

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In 2023, the most important scientific event of the surgical community in Romania was the National Conference of the Romanian Society of Surgery, held in Eforie Nord, from May 24th to 27th. More than 1400 attendees- surgeons, nurses, students and medical representatives joined together, near the Black Sea, for a meeting which has proved to be the most successful until now.

There were more ingredients of this success, but the decisive one consisted of an inspired choice of two modern, up to date themes: Modern surgery- the impact of new technologies and Training of surgical residents. Progress in our society, as well as inside the medical world is paramount related to technology, which has become irreplaceable for the development of modern intra-operative methods – as immunofluorescence, for minimally invasive or robotic techniques, or even for the controversial Artificial Intelligence. Training of young specialists, the high standards of a successful surgical career and the challenges of a peculiar way of life were the main topics of the second theme. Top-ranking officials, from universities, the Academy of Medical Sciences and Romanian College of Physicians also took part and added their valuable expertise. The conference halls have been usually full or even crowded every day, and the meetings, mostly those related to learning and practical training, included large amounts of time dedicated to questions and debates.

The scientific program included 9 courses, with more than 200 attendees, 32 scientific sessions, among which one was reserved for students and a large number of satellite symposiums. 20 foreign guests allowed us to directly understand and become aware of the level of knowledge across Europe. The Romanian Society for Emergency Surgery and Trauma, the Romanian Association of Hepato-Bilio-Pancreatic Surgery and Hepatic

Transplant, the Romanian Association for Endoscopic Surgery and the Romanian Society of Coloproctology also held their annual meetings and significantly contributed to the diversity of the Conference and its high scientific and academic standards. As always, a pros and cons debate (dedicated this time to pancreatic surgery) was of an utmost interest; nevertheless, large number of participants attended the sessions of oncological and laparoscopic surgery, structured training in laparoscopic colorectal surgery, surgical management of parieto-abdominal defects in emergency, current therapeutic challenges and solutions in acute colecystitis.

The well-established reputation of the National Conference as an outstanding academic event was bolstered by presentations of new medical textbooks and also by new diagnostic and therapeutic methods, in short and catching intersessions.

New technologies were also largely represented in the Conference lobby, where 27 medical companies organized presentation points and hands-on demonstrations. In fact, they provided the most convincing proofs of the importance of the main theme and

outlined the connection between the scientific papers and the real surgical world. And the last, but not the least they also brought a welcomed contribution to the financial results of the event.

The General Assembly of the Romanian Society of Surgery allowed a comprehensive audit of the state of the society, which has now more than 800 members, of its financial status and of the accomplishments of *Chirurgia* - its official journal, which reinstated, after an interval of 10 years, the impact factor. Changes of the statute of the Society and the establishing of a branch for surgical residents were also approved.

The scientific activity was accompanied by a well-received social program. The opening ceremony, welcome cocktail, which took place outdoors, and the dinners attended by a large number of surgeons and guests were the top attractions of an unanimously appreciated conference, due to the joined efforts of the committees and of the organizing company.

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of the Romanian Society of Surgery