FIRST ROMANIAN MARITIME MEDICINE CONFERENCE, HELD IN CONSTANTA

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The more and more intense maritime activity and the increased need of security in a globalized context have led to the initiative to outline a distinct concern for maritime medicine, in Romania, as well as worldwide. Including elements of occupational medicine, tropical medicine and traveler’s medicine, maritime medicine includes studies related to health problems of seafarers.

Examples of topics of the most diverse include: navigation environment (micro/macroclimate effects; the noise and vibrations felt on board by seafarers, other exposures related to the job); working and living conditions on board passenger, commercial, fishing and offshore vessels; health problems on board; nutrition and food hygiene on board; staff pathology on board (illness, accidents); seafarer’s toxicology; exotic diseases; health problems of seafarers; crew vaccinations and other preventive medical services; seafarers’ training for healthcare and first aid on board during the voyage; health standards for work at sea and seafarers’ examinations, medical advice provided to the crew by radio.

Currently, a high influence of the environment on human health is more than obvious. The marine environment has a direct influence through the quality of its components, increasingly affected by human impact, but also indirectly through its vectors. A more general audience is interested in water and sediment quality, health and biodiversity of aquatic organisms. Therefore, considering the “health” of the marine environment along with seafarers’ health is a major gain for everyone.
This particular signal has been transmitted at the First Conference on Maritime Medicine, organized under the aegis of the “Ovidius” University of Constanta, during 1 - 3 September 2014, in partnership with the Constanta Maritime University and the “Black Sea Tourism Medicine Center”.

It was the first event of this kind in the country, enjoying the valuable participation of both organizing universities and also of the “Mircea cel Batran” Naval Academy, NIRDEP - National Institute of Marine Research and Development “Grigore Antipa”, the Museum of Natural Sciences, the Sanitary - Veterinary Directorate of Constanta and the Chamber of Commerce, Industry, Navigation and Agriculture of Constanta.

These efforts reveal the willingness of cooperation between these institutions, the common interest of finding new bridges in forming partnerships to a more efficient exploitation of the Black Sea potential.

The very interesting topics that were discussed during this conference will be the basis of achieving national and international research projects. From all the communications presented during the conference, the following can be mentioned:
30 years of travel medicine in Constanta - Professor Doctor Sorin Rugina
Maritime Medicine as a Concept in Constanta. Institute of Maritime Medicine, the fruit of collaboration between the Ovidius University of Constanta and Constanta Maritime University - Professor Doctor Sorin Rugina, Professor Doctor Cornel Panait
What are the objectives of Maritime Medicine? - Professor Doctor Sorin Rugina
HIV infection and traveling - Professor Doctor Sorin Rugina
Maritime Medicine: current amendments - Dr. Daniela Diculescu
Seasickness (clinical manifestations , prevention, treatment)- SL.dr. Irina Magdalena Dumitru
Hemorrhagic fevers? How do you prepare for Ebola? - Professor Doctor Adrian Streinu Cercel
Gastrointestinal disorders: acute diarrheal illness and travel - Professor Doctor Sorin Rugina
What are the sea risks? What kind of problems can develop those traveling by the sea? - Dr. Roxana Carmen Cernat
Acclimatization - its analysis tools and preventive measures in maritime medicine - Professor Doctor Engineer Remus Zagan
Oscillations, vibrations and noise in naval engineering. The consequences of noise on hearing function - Associate Professor Dr. Gori Mihaela Chit, Dr. Eduard Tofan
Interactive technologies in sea medicine. Virtual transfer of expertise - Professor Doctor Gabriel Raicu
Modern technologies of telepresence. Teleinvestigations - Professor Doctor Engineer Gabriel Raicu, Professor Doctor Engineer Remus Zagan
Psychosocial issues related to traveling by sea - Psychologist Claudia Fodor
Recent data regarding the quality status of the marine environment - Dr. Engineer Simion Nicolaev, NIMRD director
Establishing indirect contamination with heavy metals, organochlorine pesticides and PCBs ecosystem of the Black Sea on samples taken from dolphins stranded along the Romanian coast - Dr. Nicoleta Marin, Ch. Marilena Canuta, Ch. Leila Ali, Dr. Daniela Lipoveanu, Dr. Geronimo Branescu, Dr. Nicolae Marin, Biol. Razvan Popescu-Mirceni
Resistance of E. coli in the waters of the Black Sea - Dr. Roxana Cristina
The effects of nutrient excess arrived in the Black Sea through the Danube river intake in the Danube Delta - Dr. Adrian Balba
Drought and its effects - Professor doctor engineer Carmen Maftei
Fish parasitosis - Dr. Daniela Lipoveanu, Dr. Nicoleta Marin, Dr. Geronimo Branescu, Dr. Nicolae Airinei
Parasitosis that can be transmitted to humans through consumption of fish and seafood - Clinical manifestations, treatment, prevention - SL. Dr. Irina Magdalena Dumitru
Factors of exposure to ionizing radiation in the Romanian coastal zone; comparison with legal limits - Dr. Eng. Vasile Patrascu
Overview of therapeutic resources in Dobrogea. Thalassotherapy - a forgotten concept - Associate Professor dr. Olga Surdu

Foreign students and the pathologies associated to the countries of origin - Professor doctor Mihai Girtu

Maritime Medicine, diving and snorkeling - Professor doctor Sorin Rugina

Research in the Black Sea: Presentation of research projects in collaboration with Romanian and foreign partners - Constanta Maritime University - Professor Doctor Engineer Remus Zagan, Professor Doctor Engineer Raicu Gabriel, Associate Prof. Dr. Eng. Bogdan Hnatiuc; “Ovidius” University of Constanta - Professor Doctor Engineer Carmen Maftei, SL. Dr. Irina Magdalena Dumitru; National Institute for Marine Research and Development “Grigore Antipa“ Constanta, dr. Tania Zaharia, scientific director; „Enterprise Europe Network - services in research and innovation” - Irina Gaitanaru; Black Sea Universities Network (BSUN) - Professor Doctor Eden Mamut BSUN general secretary

Horizon 2020 opportunities and perspectives - Tool for SMEs - first results- Irina Gaitanaru; “Joint Technology Initiative Biobased Industries” - Dr. Eng. Vasile Patrascu; “IMI2 - Horizon 2020 initiative” - SL dr. Irina Dumitru

The authors and participants to the First Maritime Medicine Conference urge to continue these concerns, as this event marks an important reference point regarding the collaboration between the stakeholders and decision makers in public health and environmental protection.