

Coman Tănăsescu (1942-2018)



Professor Coman Tanasescu was born in 1942. He graduated from the „Carol Davila” University of Medicine and Pharmacy in 1966, when he also won the contest for grade 3 researcher at the „N. Gh. Lupu” Institute of Internal Medicine, based in Colentina Clinical Hospital. This would become his „second home” for the rest of his life.

As a researcher, he was the first to identify in Romania the HBs antigen (Australia antigen at the time). He published the results of this work in the Romanian Journal of Internal Medicine. Apart from this research project, during his career, he studied and encouraged those around him to study liver diseases and rheumatic diseases, especially chronic viral hepatitis and antiphospholipid antibody syndrome, being a pioneer in this field: the first and single monograph concerning this disease was coordinated by him. His research career resulted in more than 400 publications.

He was also a very respected teacher; he worked his way up from Junior Assistant to Professor. More than 40 generations of medical students and residents had the privilege to be taught by Professor Tanasescu. Many of them kept in touch with him and continued to refer patients to him. He was a very respected member of the medical community and his opinions were valued by all those who knew him.

Professor Coman Tanasescu was also member of numerous professional societies: the Romanian Internal Medicine Society (of which he was, for some time, vice-president), Romanian Rheumatology Society, Romanian Association for the Study of the Liver, Romanian Osteoporosis Society, European Society of Internal Medicine. He was Editor, then Editor in Chief of the Romanian Journal of Internal Medicine and Peer Reviewer for the European Journal of Internal Medicine.

Our Professor was also an exceptional physician and a remarkable clinician. He was also a good, kind and generous person, always willing to give good advice whenever required and ready to help anyone who needed it.

We deeply regret his early passing, with so many more projects he wanted to finish and so many achievements in front of him.

Nevertheless, his legacy will continue on through all those he influenced and taught, many of whom will continue his work and will keep his memory alive.

Professor Tanasescu will never be forgotten!

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