



Dear Colleagues! Dear friends,

Welcome to Novi Sad! Welcome for our first meeting! Welcome for the first French-Serbian Oncology Meeting!

I am sincerely happy to see you here! The idea of this meeting came last year during one of my stay, just after the realization of the first autograft by the Medical Oncology Team of the Oncology Institute of Vojvodina. I have to say that I always was confident in the success of the high-dose chemotherapy program and the success of this first meeting.

The first topic we choose together concerns the treatment of early breast cancer. Each year, 4.000 new cases are diagnosed in Serbia, and 1.300 of these women will die. Breast cancer represents 29% of all malignancies in women. Real progress has been made but more has now to be done. New drugs are available, sometimes since more than ten years, in all developed countries. These drugs must now be available for all the Serbia patients, as well as in adjuvant setting, i.e. the taxanes and mainly Docetaxel than in metastatic setting, i.e., Bevacizumab and Trastuzumab. The will of our Serbians colleagues is there, means must nowadays be provided, so that serbian patients could be treated according to the International Consensus Conferences of St-Gallen and Nice-St-Paul de Vence gold standards, as European or US patients are!

To be convinced, we asked to the AROME Group (**A**ssociation of **R**adiotherapy and **O**ncology of the **M**editerranean **a**r**E**a – www.armacancer.org) to attend the first day of the Congress. It is a real pleasure to welcome Prof. dr Yazid Belkacemi, President of the Group, Prof. dr Moise Namer and Dr Joseph Gligorov, Vice-president of the Group (and more than a colleague, my right arm and my friend) for the plenary session.

For the second day of the congress, we decided to address several issues: general aspects (epidemiology, risk factors, hereditary breast cancer, and pathological gold standards), surgery and radiotherapy, and finally systemic therapy. Dr Gligorov will close the program by reporting the data of the two International Consensus Conferences. Dr Dragutin Donat and I will conclude the whole sessions of the meeting.

Many thanks to each speaker, to each member of the Congress Secretariat (Dr Tatjana Roganovic, Dr Dragana Petrovic, Dr Ivana Kolarov-Bjelobrk, and Dr Lazar Popovic) for their help, and to all Organizing Committee Members. Many thanks also to the pharmaceutical laboratories for their help and financial support. To conclude, I thank Prof. dr Darjana Jovanovic and Prof. dr Dusan Jovanovic for their confidence and I look forward to seeing you for the 2010 Oncology Congress in Novi Sad!

Prof. Dr. Jean-Pierre Lotz
Hôpital Tenon, Paris, France



Dear Colleagues, ...dear friends,

The idea for this Congress, the exchange of new findings and knowledge arose spontaneously as the crown of our cooperation with Professor Jean-Pierre Lotz and his French colleagues.

Even I, myself, am not entirely aware how this all began, but the idea turned into realization and now, here we all are together to learn, exchange experience, create new friendships and gain hope for better tomorrow in the interest of all our patients, as well as the work that we have knowingly and devotedly practiced for years.

I am immensely grateful to Professor Jean-Pierre Lotz, to his French team, to all of our dear lecturer oncologists from Belgrade, Niš and Sremska Kamenica.

I most sincerely wish for this kind of companionship to continue and to last forever, in the same way as our profession does.

Prof. Dr. Darjana Jovanović