

ОПШТА БОЛНИЦА
„СВЕТИ ЛУКА”
СМЕДЕРЕВО

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150 ГОДИНА
БОЛНИЦЕ
У СМЕДЕРЕВУ

1866–2016.

150 YEARS OF SMEDEREVO HOSPITAL

It is a strange history of the town on the Danube. Only a few cities were formed in such a way as Smederevo was appointed by despot Đurađ Branković. Unlike cities that have grown from villages or other settlements, Despot raised the city of Smederevo with the intention to be the capital of medieval Serbia.

About grandeur of the medieval Smederevo data testify that at Despot's court were written twenty-four books; that Đurađ, one of the most educated European rulers of the time, had his own, at that time, a rich library; that Kir Stefan the Serb composed spiritual music, as well as the record that „... such as the ancient theater ... ” was a spectacular welcome the relics of St. Luke that are kept in until the fall of Smederevo. At the court of Despot constant were Italian doctors who treated in Smederevo. Unfortunately, the fall of Serbian medieval state Smederevo lost the importance that it had until then. Karađorđe Petrović will bring back the capital's shine to it and Smederevo, from 1805 to 1807, became the capital and seat of the Serbian Uprising Soviets. It was visited by Vuk Karadžić and Dositej Obradović. Later, during the nineteenth century, Smederevo developed along the walls of the fortress under Turkish rule as the trading and residence borough.

In the thirties of the nineteenth century several doctors passed through Smederevo but none tarried for a long time. In 1839, Smederevo received the first of the county physician appointed by Decree. It was Dr. Konstantin Mihajlović. Twelve years he successfully treated the inhabitants of Smederevo district, and then in 1852 moved to Pozarevac for the county physician. In Smederevo, immediately after his departure, came a district physician Dr. Jovan Valenta during whose time Smederevo was ravaged by several epidemics. And not all the Turks came out of the city of Smederevo, the district began to prepare for the establishment of the hospital. Spital (hospital) fond of the district of Smederevo had fairly increased but no conditions were attained to establish a hospital. Prince Miloš himself insisted on raising hospitals in Serbia.

The turning point occurred in 1865 when, under Prince Mihailo Obrenovic III was enacted the Law on the organization of hospitals. In April 1866, the Ministry of Internal Affairs issued an order to some districts to begin with the establishment of District hospitals intensively. Minister of Internal Affairs ordered to the district offices of Krajina, Pozarevac, Smederevo and Krusevac „to find and rent the municipal building or a private house and set up District Hospital” while in these districts did not build hospitals. Then, on November 21st 1866, by Decree, District Hospital was founded in Smederevo. Onerous were the first years of our hospital. It was located in a private house on the outskirts of the city, in the house that was not built according to the standards for hospitals. In the first report on the state of health in Serbia from 1879 district physician and hospital administrator Dr. Vasa Bulić wrote at length about the situation in the hospital: „District Hospital does not fit the general hygiene regulations,

but is perfectly clean and preferably all removed, which could cause any harmful interference. In addition to many minor flaws, the main two are: lack of space, for which the Administration gets into trouble when more the number of patients occurs and when they can not be divided by type of a disease, as there are few usable rooms. Another flaw is the channel in the courtyard from which spreads outrageous stench although every day vitriol is poured in it”.

Moscow old rituals receiving the priesthood provided 30,000 rubles in silver for the establishment of hundreds of hospital beds to friendly and brotherly Serbian people before the start of the first Serbian-Turkish war. They formed a „Lazaret Moscow old rituals who receive the priesthood” in Smederevo, which began its work on August 6th 1876. Lazaret referred to the first surgeons who worked in Smederevo area, Dr. Markonet and Dr. Bradelj. 1200 wounded and 200 patients passed through the Lazaret, and 136 operations were performed. The English then erected a medical tent on the dock in Smederevo, creating from Smederevo a medical center for transport of the wounded to Belgrade. Lazaret ceased to exist on November 26th 1876, after the cessation of war activities. In accordance with the wishes of the donor, a complete hospital equipment was handed over to the Serbian government, provided that it necessarily in Smederevo establish a municipal hospital under the name „Hospital of the Moscow old rituals who receive the priesthood.” Unfortunately, the establishment of this hospital did not occur.

Fight for building a District Hospital in Smederevo ended in September 1882, when a bid for building hospitals in Smederevo, Pozarevac and Valjevo was published. Four bids failed and finally the Minister of Internal Affairs in the negotiations agreed with Paminger and Bikofen from Vienna to build these three hospitals. Paminger and Bikofen had recommendations of the Consortium for sanitary buildings Felkner and Groder from Vienna to be reliable and professional entrepreneurial firm. All the three hospitals were built in 1884 and Smederevo gets a District Hospital in 1885.

District hospital in Smederevo was built on the site of today’s hospital and served the people of Smederevo until the beginning of World War II. The hospital was a pavilion type with three buildings. Two buildings were designed to accommodate patients, and the third was the Hospital Administration. In the Hospital administration were located the following rooms: room for a manager which was also used to check patients, flat for a barnyard worker, the kitchen for a cook and laundry service. Reports on hospitals at the end of the XIX century mention this hospital as the only one made by the standards for District Hospital.

At the end of the XIX century, trustee of the Hospital and district physician was Dr. Laza Dimitrijevic. He participated as a volunteer paramedic in the Serbian-Turkish war in 1876. After the war, he enrolled at the Faculty of Natural History in Jena. Soon he moved to the School of Medicine in Graz and then in Vienna. He returned to his homeland and, as a district physician and the head of the hospitals, treated the Serbian nation. When he had time after a hard medical work, he wrote the book „How live our nation.” Critics of his work reproached him that he ruthlessly and sharply criticized the Serbian character but loved Serbian soul. The book testified to the Serbian missed opportunities to improve the lives of the people. He criticized the Serbian tendency to exaggerate and eulogy, finding justification in ignorance and superstition. Not writing about golden spoons in Smederevo medieval palace, he wrote in his book about the poor Serbian peasant who needed the blanket to warm up during long winter nights. His testimony about the hygiene conditions in which the Serbian people lived were terrifying and uncompromising. He ignored the fact that his book might offend Serbian vanity.

His boldness was not small as he described in the book that the visits to the Serbian people came from the poorest huts to the most decorated houses and saw that one suffer from deprivation, fatigue and a lot of work while other from boredom and various illnesses due to the riotous life. So, one can rightfully say that Dr. Laza Dimitrijević is an author of the first Serbian bestseller which, at that time long ago, experienced three editions and was sold in over 1600 copies. In 1902, under his influence was founded the Society for the preservation of public health whose president was Milan Jovanović Batut. Unfortunately, he had not met since, as soon as he turned 40 years old in August 1899, drowned in the Danube near Smederevo quay.

During World War II Hospital in Smederevo was badly damaged and patients were treated in a makeshift space in Smederevo gymnasium and immediately after the war, the hospital was temporarily placed in municipal court 100 years old, in the northeast of the city next to the brick factory, almost in the center of the town. Again Smederevo remained without a real hospital. People were treated in a temporary hospital for another whole twenty years. The hospital consisted of two buildings: a two-storey one, in which there were hospital rooms, hospital side premises and the kitchen and other building in which there was a barnyard. In the hospital there were seven patient rooms, four rooms had been designed for men and three for women patients. There was only one general department that was called the internal department with three rooms for internal medicine patients, two for patients with skin-venereal diseases and two for patients with infectious diseases. The hospital had 81 patient beds: 53 for Internal Medicine, 24 for venereal as well as four infectious sick bed. People were rarely treated in this hospital, so the hospital occupancy rate was only 50%. Smederevo was the most populated area in Serbia, with a lot of poor people, therefore, it could be expected higher bed occupancy. However, technically unprepared hospital, with very poor conditions for accommodation of patients, in the absence of surgical and other hospital departments made the nation's aversion for treatment in it.

Then came the years in which Smederevo received several important health facilities. First in 1928, within the old hospital, it was opened House of Public Health. The House of Public Health was placed in a two-storey barracks received from German reparations as a compensation after the First World War. The following year was built the Infectious Diseases Department. Dedicated projected this single-storey building was designed in the spirit of renewal of national architecture school (with a touch of classicism and neo-baroque). By its aesthetic style values, it is allocated northwestern street façade with pronounced main entrance above which is a stylized baroque frontispiece.

During the postwar years, the hospital director was Dr. Ilija Mirčić. He was a good and capable physician, and in 1932 was appointed as a warden of the General State Hospital in Belgrade. Beside him in the hospital worked others like Živadin Stefanović Somborac and Ljubica Milić, whose husband, Dr. Miladin Milić, was the district doctor. In 1932, to the hospital came Dr. Dragoš Popović, who was appointed to a position of a warden and a chief of the internal department. When in 1934 Dr. Milivoje Dimitrijević, a surgeon, came to the hospital, it was formed a surgical department as a part of the internal department. For the purpose of surgery, it was taken to lease a part of the property of the Mijalković bakery, the department in the yard, where 15 beds were placed as well as a special department for operating theater.

In those years, some intensive work began on the construction of a new building of Banovinska hospital in the old hospital yard, on the ruins of the old hospital from 1880. After long anticipation, Smederevo, in 1938, got a modern hospital, which could

fully meet the needs of Smederevo and its surroundings, and thus much had been done for the improvement of public health in the Danube area. There is no doubt that for its erecting and decorating most of the credit went to the warden Dr. Dragoš Popović. The new hospital building had a ground floor and one floor, and also very nicely decorated basement. On the ground floor, next to the Administration Hospital, was located internal division, whose chief was the warden Dr. Dragoš Popović. There were located laboratory, pharmacy and radiological hall, where was installed an X-ray machine. The first floor contained a surgical ward with a large operating room with a glass roof. The hall was divided into three parts: the main operating room, the operating room for gynecology and room for aseptic interventions. The head of the newly formed department was Dr. Milivoje Dimitrijević. Smederevo hospital had installed central heating in all departments. In the basement there were two rooms designated for temporary accommodation of mentally ill patients.

Inhabitants of Smederevo were proud of a new Banovinska hospital, but the beginning of the Second World War would bring new troubles to Smederevo hospital. The war had not even begun when Smederevo was struck by an explosion of ammunition in the Fortress on June 5th 1941. The explosion was so strong that it made a crater 50 long and 9 meters deep and thereby destroyed almost the entire city. Neither Banovinska hospital was spared from destruction. The windows were cracked, a large glass roof over the operating room was destroyed, and many hospital rooms were completely demolished. Data on the suffering are varied and range from several hundred to 2500 dead. Injured people were much more. Although the hospital was severely damaged, the staff were immediately involved in the care of the wounded.

All doctors at the time, Dr. Milivoje Dimitrijević, a surgeon, Dr. Dragoš Popović, an internist, Dr. Miladin Milić, Dr. Milutin Vlajković, Dr. Ljubica Milić and Dr. Jelena Stanić Kulbahin gathered immediately after the explosion in the hospital and pointed aid to injured and frightened residents of Smederevo. In the care of the wounded was also included Dr. Živadin Stefanović Somborac who lost in the explosion brother Dr. Bozidar Stefanović Somborac, a municipal doctor. In the afternoon, doctors from Požarevac and Belgrade arrived in Smederevo. German planes were throwing medical supplies. The curfew was introduced in the town at 18 p.m. A hospital ship from Belgrade as well as a hospital train from Požarevac arrived in Smederevo and the wounded were evacuated by a small little boat to the unloaded Hospital department in Kovin. 500 wounded were transported to Belgrade, 300 to Požarevac and the hospital itself took care of about 3,000 wounded. The hospital had already been renewed in December 1941 and during the war years more or less managed to take care of the sick.

At the end of the war, the Supreme Command made the decision to be formed in Smederevo a Hospital center that would be used for the evacuation of wounded from Belgrade. Creating a new hospital capacity was very difficult. Despite the great damage caused by the explosion of 1941, Smederevo was three more times bombed from the air during the war.

In the short term were equipped four facilities which then were designated as the hospital number 1, number 2, number 3 and number 4. The existing hospital had about 100 beds and was heavily damaged. It was quickly repaired, the dry chamber and the bathroom were built-in, and a number of beds increased to 200. The second part of the hospital was located in the school at Maidan, the third in the school at „Gornja vaga” and the fourth first in the building of the Customs Office, and then in the warehouses of Monopoly. All the equipment - bedding, sheets, blankets, pillows and kitchen utensils

was donated by the citizens of Smederevo and counties of the Danube, Grocka, Kovin and Veliko Orašje. Through this Hospital passed close to 10,000 wounded and sick.

After closing the Hospital Center at the end of 1945, the District Hospital continued to work in the original space. During the fifties and sixties, new health care facilities were being built in the hospital area. The first built building was the Center for Rehabilitation in 1959, then ATD building (1962), the building of Polyclinic (1963) and the Dispensary building (1968). The old Banovinska hospital, polyclinic and dispensary were reconstructed later and merged into one entity.

The hospital passed through different forms of functioning: it was independent, then a part of the Medical Center „Milivoje Stojković Mića” and the organizational unit of the Health Center „Sveti Luka” Smederevo. In March 2011, by the decision of the Government of the Republic of Serbia, General Hospital „Sveti Luka” in Smederevo was excluded from the composition of the Health Centre as an independent institution.

Today, General Hospital „Sveti Luka” provides secondary care to the residents of the City of Smederevo and partly to the inhabitants of the Danube administrative districts and Kovin. According to the last census, Smederevo has 114.436 inhabitants.

General Hospital is located in the center of Smederevo on an area of 2 hectares, under construction buildings is 17.651 m². Central Hospital is a three-storey building in which are located surgical and internal medicine services, gynecology and maternity ward. On the ground floor of this building there are sterilization, biochemical laboratory, pathology and microbiology. On the second floor there is a central operational block with 3 operating theatres, a room for premedication and awakening and intensive care unit with 8 beds. In addition to the central operational blocks there are orthopedics surgery ward with two operating theaters, a joint operating room of the ear and eye care department, operating room for plastic surgery and the operating room in the maternity ward. In the hospital yard there are special objects containing the division of infectious diseases, psychiatry, rehabilitation and pediatrics, diagnostic radiology and pathology.

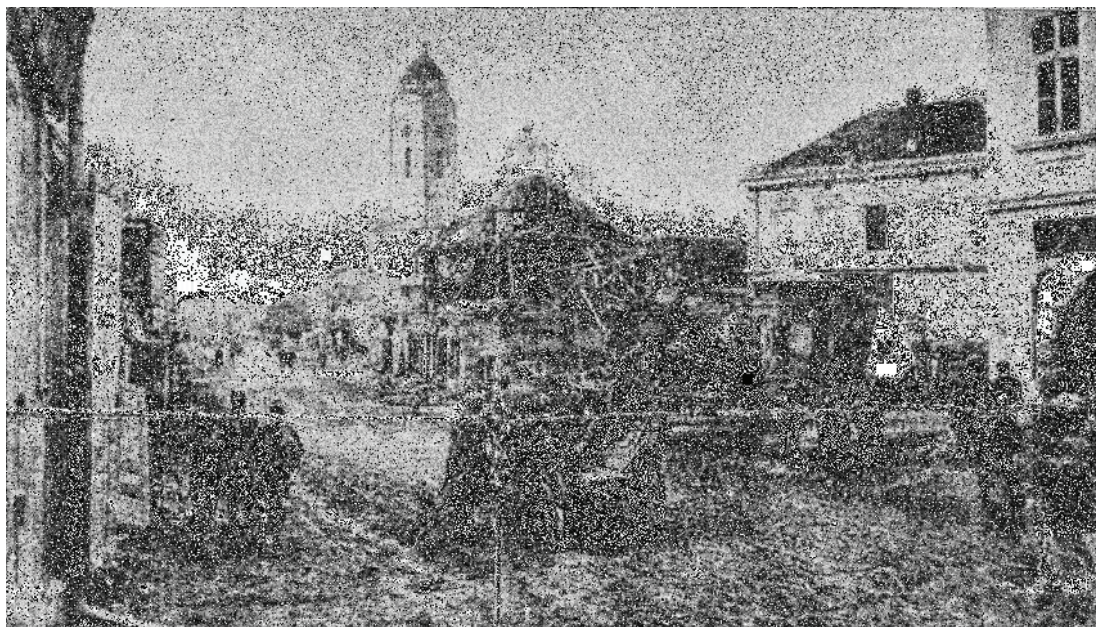
According to the health institutions network plan, the hospital has 399 beds. Sector for Internal branch has 139 beds (Internal Ward - 69, Coronary Care Unit - 8, Department of Pneumo Phthisiology - 30, Neurology - 22 Infectious Department - 10), the Division for the Surgical branches has 130 beds (General Surgery - 60, Orthopedics and Traumatology - 26 Urology - 20, Ophthalmology - 12 ORL - 12), Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology has 50 beds, Department of Pediatrics - 25, Department of Psychiatry -25 and Department for prolonged hospital treatment and care - 30 beds. Day hospitals have a total of 22 beds (four on Oncology, three on Pediatrics and Infectious Department and 12 in the Emergency Admission Block).

The hospital employs 753 workers, 124 are specialist doctors, 19 clinical and doctors in residency, 3 pharmacists and 436 nurses-technicians, of which 51 have high or higher education. In the sector of non-medical services are employed 171 workers.

In 2015, General Hospital „Sveti Luka” Smederevo received a three-year accreditation from the Agency for Accreditation of Health Care Institutions in Serbia.



Окружна болница Смедерево 1893. године



Болница у згради Гимназије 1916. године



Особље Опште болнице 1959. године



Особље Одељења за гинекологију и акушерство почетком седамдесетих година



Главне сестре Медицинског центра седамдесетих година



Колегијум главних сестара Здравственог центра



Зграда Дома здравља 1998. године



Главни улаз Опште болнице



Хирушка операциона сала крајем деведесетих година



Отварање реновираних операционих сала крајем 2008. године



Запослени на Интерном одељењу данас



Запослени у Биохемијској лабораторији данас



Запослени у Организационој јединици анестезија са реаниматологијом данас



Особље Дечијег одељења данас



Отварање Дневне болнице онкологије



Уручење сертификата о акредитацији



Нова Коронарна јединица



Панорама Смедерева (болнички комплекс је означен елипсом)

Издавач:
Општа болница „Свети Лука” Смедерево

За издавача:
Prim. mr sc. med. dr Ненад Ђорђевић

Штампа:
SD Press d.o.o. Смедерево

Тираж:
500

ISBN 978-86-920551-0-2

CIP - Каталогизација у публикацији
Народна библиотека Смедерево