Sixteen Years of Acting as Editor-in-Chief in Acta Dermatovenerologica Croatica

First of all, I would like to express due recognition to all active Editorial Board members, Correspondent Editor, Editorial Consultant, Associate Editors and Managing Editor for their participation during all these years, investing all efforts to bring Acta Dermatovenerologica Croatica (ADC) to a respectable place in the world of scientific journals. I thank cordially all the reviewers. I believe that reviewers should consider that their reporting is a way of providing objective commentary to the authors, so that they can improve their papers either for resubmission to the journal or submitting it to another one. I hope the next Editor-in-Chief will be able to publish excellent original papers in each issue starting from Volume 21, especially various research reports, thus to provide due education as part of continuing professional development.

Acta Dermatovenerologica Croatica was established in 1992 without index; in 1993 it was cited in Excerpta Medica. However, in 1996 the journal faced the risk of losing the index because three issues were not published. To resolve this problem in 1997, when I was “right hand” to formal Editor-in-Chief and in 1998, when I became official Editor-in-Chief, I managed to provide continuous financial support. After that time, my main task was to write, to encourage all colleagues to writing, both at home and abroad, collected manuscripts and published the rest of three 1996 issues. After that, we caught up with the regular publishing dynamics in 1997 and experienced no such a hazard situation for ADC ever since.

In 1998, ADC had regular publishing process with 4 issues per volume, with stronger International Editorial Board. From year to year, ADC became ever more scientific oriented journal and in 1999 achieved Index Medicus and in 2001 it appeared on MEDLINE. By Thomson Reuters ADC was included in the scientific base journals in 2007. ADC content was extended from 6-7 to 12-15 manuscripts per issue. ADC has been internationally recognized and included in scientific bases (e.g., Hrčak and PubMed) since 2001. ADC had the impact factor (IF) 0.051 in 2005, 0.265 in 2007, and 0.461 in 2009. According to IF, ADC has become one of the good biomedical scientific journals in Croatia and in Europe. It is difficult to presume what IF of ADC will be in the future. Achievement of higher IF depends on the quality of papers published in ADC, as well as on the trust of scientific medical community for publishing in our journal. Impact factor of ADC depends on citation of published papers (2 at least during two years after publishing). Until now, we have achieved this among colleagues all over Europe and the world. ADC has become more restrictive in selecting manuscripts for publishing, having to refuse many of those submitted. Only the best papers are chosen for publication. Restrictive reviewing process ensures the quality of articles appearing in ADC. During 2009 as well as in 2008 we had difficulties to get good reviewers.

All papers are pre-reviewed by the Editor-in-Chief and Correspondent Editor. Croatian reviewers are also included in reviewing every paper, reflecting their competency, knowledge and commitment to help the journal. Even if you are a potential author or reviewer, you must be educated for working according to the level of a scientific journal, tending to result in further citation of the paper. This appears to be a truly scientific problem, which we have managed in ADC in the last decade. Since 2012, ADC has free access through http://adc.mef.hr, including submission and reviewing process.

ACTA DERMATOVENEROLOGICA CROATICA (ADC), official journal of the Croatian Dermatovenereological Society, is a quarterly peer-reviewed journal, indexed in Science Citation Index Expanded (SCIE), Index Medicus/MEDLINE, Excerpta Medica/EMBASE, Chemical Abstracts Service, and Biomedicina Croatica.

It publishes editorials, history of medicine articles, medical research articles, original scientific articles,
short scientific communications, clinical articles, case reports, review articles, news and comments, letters to the editor, book reviews and announcements in the fields of dermatology and venereology.

It was my honor and privilege to be Editor-in-Chief of ADC during turbulent 16 years.

Attention should be paid to the assessment of further quality of ADC and with further efforts of getting CC inclusion in the future, which is my keen desire for ADC.

I would like to express my gratitude to Professor Branka Marinović, Correspondent Editor. In addition, it was great help in Editorial Office from Mrs. Gordana Dučkić. Without their support, my work as Editor-in-Chief would be much harder than it was!

Professor Jasna Lipozenčić, MD, PhD