

EDITORIAL

Excellence in Research - The Priority of the ENT Specialty in Romania

Codrut Sarafoleanu, MD, PhD, Professor of Otorhinolaryngology

ENT&HNS Department, "Sfanta Maria" Hospital, Bucharest, Romania



Scientific research in Romania goes through a period of revival due to the increase in European funds absorption allocated for this.

The importance of medical scientific research is overwhelming in terms of discovering new pathophysiological mechanisms and, implicitly, innovative therapies.

In the ENT pathology, besides inflammatory infectious diseases and tumors with an alarming increase in frequency and severe forms of manifestation, the sensory pathology, aging, the patient with dizziness and instability (with social and professional handicap) or the obstructive sleep pathology are topics of scientific, social and economic interest.

In this regard, winning a grant for the development of the research infrastructure in the ENT Department of the "Sfanta Maria" Clinical Hospital opens up opportunities for young researchers, enabling international cooperation with similar centers in prestigious universities or medical departments.

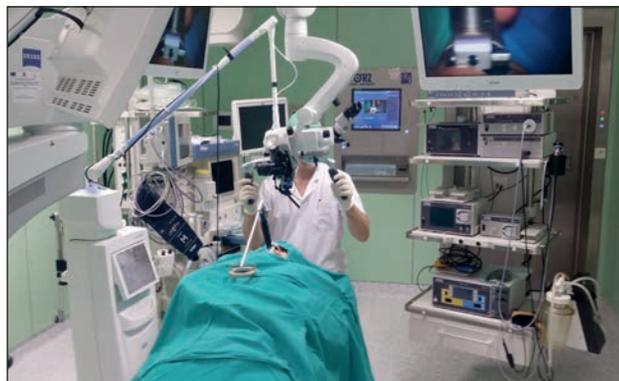
The concept of translational medicine can be more easily implemented in the Romanian medicine and medical research, and the "brain leakage" phenome-

non could be significantly reduced, encouraging young people to profess in very good conditions in their own country.

The research directions for the projects to be developed by the members of the clinic together with 4 young people who will be hired in this center are:

- Identification of new proinflammatory molecules in the pathogenesis of chronic rhinosinusitis
- Genomics and proteomics in head and neck cancers
- Recovery and rehabilitation of patients with dizziness, instability and presbyastasis
- Neuroregeneration in the neurological pathology of the larynx
- Recovery and compensation of swallowing disorders
- Development of diagnostic and treatment techniques in sleep related breathing disorders.

Currently, the team of this newly established center has outstanding scientific collaborations with the University in Siena and the team led by Prof. Desiderio Passali, the Sacro Cuore University in Rome (Prof. Gaetano Paludetti's team), the University of Edinburgh, respectively the University of Glasgow.





The integration of the ENT center of excellence from the “Sfanta Maria” Hospital in the network of medical research in our country also enables refining the methods of education and training in the ENT specialty.

Last but not least, the diversification of ENT surgical techniques, the multidisciplinary approach to the borderline pathology, the identification of biomaterials suitable for the craniofacial reconstruction or new technologies of functional recovery are currently at the disposal of this team that develops the medical research in this reference center for our country.

Our hope is that, in the near future, there will be as many such research projects as possible implemented in the Romanian medicine, which would allow for the stimulation of young people’s appetite for this fascinating field and for the international certification of Romanian doctors and researchers who have been suffering from lack of proper infrastructure.