



BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

*XXI Congress of the Doctors of the
Republic of North Macedonia*

With International Participation



*Macedonian Medical
Association*

*Македонско Лекарско
Друштво*

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НА РЕПУБЛИКА СЕВЕРНА МАКЕДОНИЈА СО
МЕЃУНАРОДНО УЧЕСТВО
XXI CONGRESS OF THE DOCTORS
OF REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA WITH
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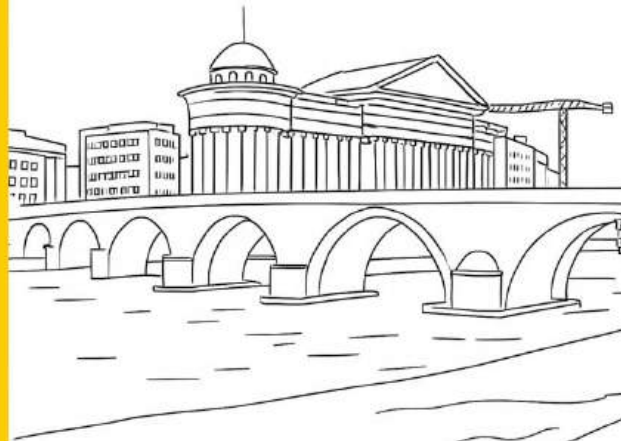
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Професионална организација на докторите по медицина

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Professional organization of the medical doctors

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Welcome Speech

It is my great honor to welcome you to the XXI Congress of Doctors of Macedonia, organized by the Macedonian Medical Association. This abstract book represents the scientific core of our congress, gathering the contributions of colleagues from different fields of medicine, united by their dedication to knowledge, research, and clinical excellence.

This year holds a special meaning for all of us. We proudly mark **80 years since the foundation of the Macedonian Medical Association** — eight decades of commitment to the medical profession, continuous education, and the advancement of healthcare in our country. Throughout these years, our Association has been a pillar of support for generations of doctors, fostering collaboration and encouraging the highest standards in medical practice.

The abstracts collected here are not only scientific works but also a reflection of the energy, enthusiasm, and progress within our medical community. They stand as testimony to the importance of research, exchange of experiences, and the role of science in improving patient care.

On behalf of the Macedonian Medical Association, I extend my gratitude to all participants, lecturers, and contributors who have enriched this congress with their work. May these pages serve as inspiration, motivation, and a foundation for future achievements in Macedonian and international medicine.

With respect,

Prof. Dr. Goran Dimitrov

President of the Macedonian Medical Association

Note from organizing committee

Dear colleagues,

It is my distinct pleasure, as President of the Organizing Committee, to welcome you to the XXI Congress of Doctors of Macedonia. This congress brings together physicians, researchers, and experts from across our country and abroad, creating a unique space for sharing knowledge, building collaborations, and inspiring progress in medicine.

The preparation of this event has been a journey of dedication, teamwork, and vision. Our goal was to design a program that balances tradition and innovation — reflecting the rich history of Macedonian medicine while also embracing the challenges and opportunities of modern healthcare.

The abstract book you hold is a symbol of this effort. It presents the scientific contributions of our colleagues, with topics that span across disciplines, generations, and perspectives. Each contribution adds value to our professional community and reaffirms the importance of lifelong learning and scientific exchange.

I would like to sincerely thank all members of the Organizing and Scientific Committees, our collaborators, and partners whose tireless work made this congress possible. Above all, I thank you — the participants — for your presence and contributions, which are the true heart of this event.

Let this congress be not only a scientific meeting but also a celebration of unity, dialogue, and the future of medicine in Macedonia and beyond.

With warm regards,

Dr. Onur Dika

President of the Organizing Committee

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OPHTHALMOMYIASIS EXTERNA – A REPORT OF THREE CASES

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Abstract: Ophthalmomyiasis caused by *Oestrus ovis* was first documented in 1974. While human cases of myiasis are uncommon, they are more frequently observed in areas with inadequate hygiene and in regions where sheep and goat farming is widespread. The condition tends to occur more often during the spring and summer months. The larvae of the sheep fly, *Oestrus ovis*, are the primary cause of ophthalmomyiasis, a zoonotic disease. The female *Oestrus ovis* keeps her eggs inside her body until they hatch, after which she usually puts her larvae in sheep and goats. The condition is primarily caused by *Oestrus ovis* and presents in two forms: external and internal. Internal ophthalmomyiasis occurs when the larvae penetrate the eyeball, potentially reaching and damaging the retina. While the external form is self-limiting, the internal form may lead to severe vision loss. This study presents and analyzes three cases of external ophthalmomyiasis along with their management approaches. The skin, eye, nose, paranasal sinuses, throat, intestine, and urogenital tract are among the anatomical locations where it is known to occur. The most prevalent kind of ophthalmomyiasis is conjunctival myiasis, which is a benign, self-limiting condition that is comparatively mild. Roughly 5% of all human myiasis cases involve an ocular manifestation. Ophthalmomyiasis externa can present with a variety of clinical signs, including typical conjunctivitis, pseudomembranous conjunctivitis, blepharoconjunctivitis, punctate keratitis, and keratouveitis. Based on the symptoms, eye pain is typically preceded by itching (pruritus), conjunctival redness (hyperemia), a sensation of a foreign body in the eye, and excessive tearing (lacrimation). These early ophthalmomyiasis externa symptoms could be mistaken for conjunctivitis. Since the larva can be seen moving in all directions from the side, detection and diagnosis are made much easier. The foundation of the treatment is the manual extraction of every larva under local anesthesia, which is followed by eye washing or rinsing and local therapy. It's always better to prevent than to cure. Significant ophthalmomyiasis complications can be avoided with proper personal hygiene. Three cases of ophthalmomyiasis were identified and treated at the Shtip Clinical Hospital in the Republic of North Macedonia in 2025. It is typical that all of the patients are men from rural areas who work in agriculture and animal husbandry. For farmers and shepherds, myiasis should be regarded as an occupational disease.

Keywords: Ophthalmomyiasis, *Oestrus ovis*, pruritus, therapy.