

EDITORIAL

Professor Oehling and Professor Conde, two examples to be followed

During the International Symposium on Drug Hypersensitivity held in Logroño by the Spanish Society of Allergology and Clinical Immunology (SEAIC) a few months ago, homage was paid to two outstanding Spanish allergologists, Professor Alberto Oehling Ruiz and Professor José Conde Hernández.

The SEAIC Board of Management decided to pay homage to these two professors for their outstanding contributions to healthcare, education and research.

Many pages would be required to summarise all the professional activities of Doctors Oehling and Conde. We encourage readers to visit the SEAIC web page, www.seaic.es, to see the homage paid to them during the congress.

Prof. Alberto Oehling dedicated most of his professional life to the Allergology Department of the Clínica Universitaria de Navarra, in Pamplona. In addition to his intensive healthcare activity, he was also closely involved with education at the Faculty of Medicine of the Universidad de Navarra and complemented his healthcare and teaching activities with research.

Prof. José Conde dedicated the best part of his professional life to the Allergology Department of the Hospital Virgen de Macarena in Sevilla. In addition to his intensive healthcare activity, he was also closely involved with education at the Faculty of Medicine of the Universidad de Sevilla and also complemented his healthcare and teaching activities with research.

It is important to highlight the intense teaching activities of both professors: from medical students (pre-graduates), to residents in Allergology (postgraduate courses) and specialists in Allergology and other specialties (continuous training). Both professors have trained numerous specialists in Allergology, supervised doctoral theses and research projects, published high impact articles, presented interesting national and international conferences, directed doctorate and continuous training courses, as well as many more educational and research activities.

We do not exaggerate by saying that Allergology in Pamplona (Navarra), Sevilla (Andalucía) and many other Spanish cities, and even some beyond our frontiers, are "impregnated" by the teachings of Professors Oehling and Conde.

Throughout their lives Professors Oehling and Conde participated intensively in the activities of the SEAIC: they were members of the Board of Directors, participated in different scientific committees, were active members of the editorial committee of the society's journal and organised national and international congresses in this specialised field.

The teaching and research activity of both professors is also apparent in international agencies: EAACI (European Academy of Allergology and Clinical Immunology), SLAAI (Latin-American Society of Asthma and Immunology), WAO

(World Allergy Organization), AAAACI (American Academy of Asthma, Allergy and Clinical Immunology), etc.

Once again, many pages would be required to describe the various prizes, tributes and awards received by both professors for their merits. I once again encourage readers to visit the official SEAIC web page.

Apart from the virtues mentioned above, it is important to note the human aspect of these two men. Their ethical values enabled them to maintain close doctor-patient relationships. Technological advances, the massification of healthcare and bureaucracy often distance the doctor from the patient. Throughout their professional lives these two men knew how to make an integrated assessment of patients and consider psychological, cultural and social aspects.

The Professional Medical Organization has published a document, "The values of Medicine" (1) which reviews the values of medicine in the University, in Research and in Healthcare. Professors Oehling and Conde are outstanding examples of commitment to improving the quality of our Allergology speciality, undoubted proof of their social commitment and responsibility. Many of the values mentioned in this document are personified in these two men.

As representative of the current and past SEAIC Management Boards, I would like to publicly express their appreciation of Professor Oehling for his generosity in sharing his publishing initiatives with us, especially the Journal of Investigational Allergology and Clinical Immunology. This is now the official publication of the society.

The book entitled *El médico del futuro* ("The doctor of the future") (2) was published one year ago and one of its chapters describes the professional profile of the doctor of the future and which can be summarised as follows:

- A doctor who treats patients, not diseases
- A doctor with a critical attitude
- A doctor who can communicate and feel empathy
- A doctor with individual and social responsibility
- A doctor who makes good decisions for the patient and the system
- A doctor who is leader of the healthcare team
- A competent, effective and sure doctor
- A honourable, reliable doctor
- A doctor committed to the patient and the organisation
- A doctor who lives the values of professionalism

We can be sure that both Professor Oehling and Professor Conde meet all these characteristics and therefore are two examples to be followed by us all.

Dear and respected professors, thank you for your lives and your dedication to medicine in general and allergology in particular, you are a professional example to be followed.

References

1. Los valores de la Medicina. Comisión "Los Valores de la Medicina del siglo XXI". Ed. Organización Médica Colegial. 2009. Pág. 1-20.
2. *El médico del futuro*. Ed. Fundación Educación Médica. Enero 2009. Pág. 1-98.