

MEDICAL OLYMPICUS ASSOCIATION

51 Hermou Str., P.C. 54623,

Thessaloniki, Macedonia-Greece

Tel: + 30 2310 229133, E-mail: molympicus@gmail.com

Website: www.medolympicus.gr

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The Foundation of the International Medical Olympicus Association

A few decades ago discussion started among medical scientists about whether an international quality congress could be organized. About 30 years ago, a Canadian journalist stated that a medical congress held at that time in Canada was as good and successful as of the type of an Olympic Congress. At about that time a joint effort was undertaken by the Mayor of Kos, the birthplace of Hippocrates, to establish the Hippocratic Olympic Medical Congress. This effort was unsuccessful.

Lately, there is much discussion expressed in papers in Medical Journals about: a) the poor quality of some published medical articles and b) whether some medical congresses attain their goal. Recently, papers expressing "plagiarism" and fully fabricated papers have been published even in well standing journals. In: "Aunt Minnie Europe.com columnist" professor Peter Rinck published an article under the title: "Is the science really so good at scientific meetings?" He describes how in some medical congresses, excursions, advertisements and free receptions prevail while the registration cost is quite high.

Considering the above, in 2008 a group of medical physicians from our country organized a Prototype Medical Pre-Olympic Meeting together with an International Nuclear Medicine Meeting which took place at that time. Only prototype-original papers of social interest were accepted in that joint Meeting. Colleagues from Europe, USA, Australia and Asia who participated, encouraged us to proceed with the foundation of a prototype Olympic Association in order to organize quality Meetings worldwide.

Two years later, on the 8th of January 2010, the International Medical Olympicus Association was founded. According to its constitution, the Association is supported by Advisors from various countries and aims to organize every 2-3 years the International Medical Olympiads. The next, third Olympiad will be held on 2-4 October 2015.

The Medical School of Thessaloniki and university colleagues from other countries are the main organizers of the Olympiads.

The programme of the Olympiads is short and very selective. It covers all medical disciplines, medical pharmacology, medical technology-equipment, technologists and nurses. There are no poster presentations, no round tables, no opinion lectures. Only one lecture of original content is presented in every Olympiad. Three valuable major prizes are awarded for the three best original papers of social interest from all medical disciplines and also prizes for every specialty.

It is a unique pleasure and an exceptional feeling to have in one meeting hall colleagues from various medical disciplines to discuss innovative medical items.

We hope that this humble effort shall benefit Medicine and, of course, society.

On behalf of the Administrative Board of the International Medical Olympicus Association,

The President

Prof. emer. P. Grammaticos

The Secretary

Prof. emer. V. Kokkas