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History of the pediatrics department at the SBEI FVE Russian Medical Academy of Postgraduate Education of the Russian Ministry of Health

Our department was founded by a famous pediatrician, founder of the national neonatology, initiator of scientific research in physiology and pathology of small children, academician Georgiy Nestorovich Speranskiy (1873-1969). He was one of the initiators of postgraduate education for pediatricians. Advanced training for doctors was first launched in Russia at Saint-Petersburg Military Medical Academy in the end of the XIX century, where doctors were trained in the primary clinical disciplines, excluding pediatrics. G.N. Speranskiy founded the first pediatric clinic and infant care center in the beginning of the XX century; there doctors worked and studied as temporary employees. G.N. Speranskiy brought up the need in creating a comprehensive system of preparing pediatricians and their postgraduate education numerous times in professional publications and during discussions at the all-Russian medical congresses. Thanks to persistence of the initiative group of medical scientists and G.N. Speranskiy among them in 1930 the Central Institute of Advanced Medical Studies (CIAMS; now – Russian Medical Academy of Postgraduate Education (RMAPE)) was founded in Russia; in 1932 Georgiy Nestorovich founded a department of small children's diseases under it on the basis of the department that he headed at the Maternity and Infancy Protection Institute (now – Scientific Center of Children's Health); its main goal was to advance pediatric skills. G.N. Speranskiy headed this department and in 1934 he was confirmed as professor by the Higher Attestation Commission. Georgiy Nestorovich put hands enthusiastically to the department organization. Being extremely careful and conscientious, he strictly demanded the same from his colleagues. In 1939 the department of small children's diseases was renamed the pediatrics department. In 1934 the Presidium of the All-Russian Central Executive Committee conferred G.N. Speranskiy a title of Honored Scientist; in 1936 he was elected a member of the Presidium of the Academic Council of the People's Commissariat of Health. In 1934 a textbook "Childhood diseases"

edited by him was issued. He wrote a popular series of books “ABC for mothers” for parents.

Authority of G.N. Speranskiy and successful work of the staff allowed the pediatrics faculty quickly acquired value of an All-Soviet educational-methodological center on specializing and training pediatricians. The need in conducting classes on the basis of a multifield hospital that would also render urgent help was the reason why the department was moved from the Institute of Pediatrics (where it was founded) to the municipal hospital #9 of Moscow. Grigoriy Nestorovich headed the department for almost 30 years. Under his direction, the department did not only remain the leading national educational-methodological center of advanced practical pediatric studies, but it also started providing such training for the main specialists and higher-education teaching personnel of other State Institutes of Advanced Medical Studies and Doctors Improvement Faculties. Postgraduate medical school was successfully functioning on this basis for more than 30 years. Thanks to G.N. Speranskiy, after whom the hospital is now called, new buildings were built and laboratory service was significantly expanded in the hospital.

In 1961-1966 the department was headed by professor R.L. Gamburg – an excellent clinician, famous pediatrician-cardiologist and pedagogue. Professor M.P. Matveev – famous pediatrician and nephrologist who headed the department for 17 years – contributed special expertise to the department’s development. Talented clinician, professor M.P. Matveev was distinguished for intellectuality, erudition and wide scientific outlook.

In different years such famous pediatricians as academicians as V.A. Tabolin and Y.E. Veltishchev, professors A.S. Rozental, S.G. Zvyagintseva, O.G. Solomatina and a famous pediatric nephrologist, professor M.S. Ignatova, lectured at the department.

Noticeable changes have been taking place in the pediatrics department’s structure, curricula and programs since it was founded; specialized units have been becoming independent departments. Thus, neurology unit (assistant professor S.E. Ganzburg) became the pediatric neurology department, which was later headed by

professor M.B. Zucker. The department of children's infections (professor M.E. Sukhareva) and the department of children's development and upbringing (professor N.M. Aksarina) (the only in the USSR) were founded in a similar manner.

Rapid development of micropediatrics furthered by such prominent scientists as S.G. Zvyagintseva, V.A. Tabolin, A.M. Bolshakova and A.V. Cheburkin defined the necessity of designing a course and then – the first national neonatology department. It was organized and headed by professor V.V. Gavryushov, who would then head CIAMS (1988-1994).

Clinical skill and pedagogical talent of assistant professors Svetlana Viktorovna Levitskaya, Roxana Arminakovna Tyurkyan, Lyudmila Pavlovna Gavryushova, Zorya Nikolaevna Vikhireva, Andrey Vsevolodovich Cheburkin, Alexander Ivanovich Pimenov, Lyudmila Vasilyevna Budakova, Irina Mikhaylovna Kolobashkina, Eteri Borisovna Mumladze and Tatyana Mikhaylovna Tvorogova unlocked in 1960-70s; they largely constituted the unique character of the department in later years.

In 1983-1984 the department was headed by professor Georgiy Iosifovich Klayshevich – highly skilled pediatrician-cardiologist and excellent pedagogue. Professor G.I. Klayshevich was one of the founders of pediatric faculty at CIAMS and was the first dean of the faculty.

Organization of thematic and specialized cycles was an important stage in the development of the pediatrics department. The first cycle programs in pediatric cardiorheumatology (1957), physiology and pathology of small children (1960), pediatric nephrology (1967) and pediatric gastroenterology (1974) were developed with this in mind.

Much attention has been paid to science since the department was founded. Scientific research is conducted in the most relevant issues of pediatrics. In 1950s, much attention was paid to respiratory diseases (Raisa Lvovna Gamburg, Sofya Georgievna Zvyagintseva). Penicillin (developed in the laboratory of academician Z.V. Ermolyeva) was for the first time used in children with pneumonia in the USSR under the management of G.N. Speranskiy and R.L. Gamburg. Issues of rheumatism

and heart diseases were researched, as the morbidity rate in children in 1950-60s associated with these diseases was very high (professors Olga Georgievna Solomatina and Georgiy Iosifovich Klayshevich, assistant professor Lyudmila Pavlovna Gavryshova).

Nephrology has been one of the most important research areas since 1960s. M.S. Ignatova, M.P. Matveev and N.A. Korovina contributed substantially to the development of pediatric nephrology in our country. Significant scientific achievements were gained researching hormonal therapy in rheumatology and nephrology. Joint research with scientists-pediatricians from Slovakia resulted in a monograph “Glomerulonephritis in children” (1990, N.A. Korovina, L.P. Gavryushova, M. Shashenka).

The pediatrics department has been functioning in the Tushino children's municipal hospital – one of the largest multifield children's hospitals in Moscow where many departments of the RMAPE pediatric faculty are now based – since 1985.

In 1984-2008 the pediatrics department was headed by professor Nina Alexeevna Korovina – Honored RF Doctor, laureate of an international prize “Profession is Life” as a “Prominent Mentor”, laureate of the Kisel prize. Under her direction the department managed to preserve traditions laid by academician G.N. Speranskiy. New forms of advanced pediatric studies were developed (intermittent cycles). Professor N.A. Korovina did not only contributed considerably to the system of postgraduate pediatric education, but also rendered invaluable help to the organization of pediatric nephrology service being for 20 years the head pediatric nephrologist of the Ministry of Health of Russia and the head pediatric nephrologist of Moscow.

Results of scientific research conducted in the end of the XX – beginning of the XXI centuries under the management of professors N.A. Korovina, I.N. Zakharova and A.L. Zaplatnikov became the basis of numerous and chapters and sections of the National guidelines and monographs. The department's employees have published more than 30 monographs and textbooks for practicing doctors only in recent years.

Much attention is traditionally paid to the issues of immunology and pathology of early childhood, immunology and threpsology, gastroenterology and nephrology. Study results are not only presented in scientific forums and published in specialized publications, but are also included in lectures and seminars by the department's employees in the cycles for practicing doctors.

The department has been conducting field cycles on the relevant issues of pediatrics since 1962. More than 140 field cycles have been organized since then; department's employees have worked in almost all ex-Soviet republics and in many regions of Russia. Due to modern requirements, lately there appeared certification cycles and occupational retraining in specialties "Pediatrics", "Pediatric cardiology", "Nephrology" and "Gastroenterology" in the department. According to the order of the RF Ministry of Health, the pediatrics department headed the work on developing postgraduate education programs for pediatricians and tests for certification exams in these specialties. At the moment the department conducts 12-15 cycles per year, where more than 450 pediatricians advance their skills and where interns, resident physicians and PhD candidates from Russia and Near and Far Abroad study. Seminars for professors and lecturers of medical academies, universities and institutes have been being conducted regularly.

In June 2011 the pediatrics department organized an international school on pediatric gastroenterology conducted in the framework of regular educational projects of the European Society of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition (ESPGHAN). More than 50 young doctors from Moscow, Saint Petersburg, Kazan, Smolensk, Nizhniy Novgorod, Novosibirsk, Yakutsk, Krasnoyarsk and other cities of Russia took part in the work of the school. The leading Russian and European experts made reports on the most relevant issues of pediatric cardiology and presentations of clinical cases.

Thematic educational seminars on the relevant issues of pediatrics have become a new prospective area of doctors' education in the postgraduate medical education program since 2011. The pediatrics department has so far conducted more than 20 seminars with international participants on the issues of pediatric

gastroenterology, allergology, threpsology and infectious pathology in pediatrics. The seminars' format gives doctors an opportunity not only to listen to lectures of the leading Russian and European specialists in various spheres of pediatrics, but also to take active part in analyzing different clinical cases, share experience and ask experts questions. Visual teaching aids used in seminars include not only the presentation of repots on a screen, but also handouts including reports' theses, printed slides from the presentations, articles of national specialists on the issue discussed and regulations of international guides. An additional advantage of this system of education is the possibility of visiting seminars Saturdays, so that the doctors do not need to leave their principal place of employment off.

Now the pediatrics department is taking an active part in a multicenter Russian project on studying the spread of pneumococcal infection in children; employees are studying etiology, clinical and immunological peculiarities of ARVI and TORCH infections in children. Since 2012, the pediatrics department has been one of the European workgroups for clinical testing of the operating protocol of the European Society of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition for diagnosing celiac disease in children and for implementing the ESPGHAN-approved modern protocol of managing children with acute gastroenterites in clinical practice.

Undoubtedly, the talent, long experience and professionalism of employees, many of whom started working at the department as resident physicians and dedicated all their life to working at the academy underlie the successful scientific, pedagogical and clinical work of the pediatrics department.

The department's curriculum unit had been headed by assistant professor L.P. Gavryushova before 2012. Having worked as a pediatrician and surgeon in the Extreme North, Lyudmila Pavlovna – a person of rich clinical experience – came to work at the department in 1961 after completing clinical studies. Permanent supervisor of the cardiologic and nephrology departments, author of more than 250 scientific works, she made an outstanding contribution to the organization of the educational-methodological work of the department, thus carrying on traditions laid by G.N. Speranskiy.

As a head of the department's curriculum unit, Lyudmila Pavlovna Gavryushova was replaced by professor A.L. Zaplatnikov. Andrey Leonidovich has worked at the department for 25 years after having completed clinical studies. Having professor N.A. Korovina as his scientific advisor, he successfully defended PhD and then doctoral theses. Having worked as a district pediatrician, inpatient hospital and emergency doctor, deputy to the head doctor of a children's hospital, A.L. Zaplatnikov has been paying much attention to clinical work being a supervisor of departments of early childhood and a permanent advisor of resuscitation departments. Prominent clinician and talented lecturer, professor A.L. Zaplatnikov is of deserved account among employees of the Tushino children's municipal hospital and also among the audience of the advanced medical studies' cycles.

Assistant professor Eteri Borisovna Mumladze has been working at the department since 1978. She is in charge of the nephrology department, head district nephrologist of the Moscow North-West Administrative District and author of more than 250 scientific publications. Eteri Borisovna is distinguished not only by high professionalism and willingness to help, but also by kindness and compassion on patients. She generously shares her rich experience with audience and resident physicians regardless of time. It is no coincidence that E.B. Mumladze has for many years been a permanent advisor of resident physicians studying at the department.

Tatyana Mikhaylovna Tvorogova has been pricelessly contributing the department, too. For many years she has been in charge of the pediatric unit where the most diagnostically complicated children are hospitalized to. Tatyana Mikhaylovna is distinguished not only by high professionalism, but also by profound scientific approach to everything she does at the department. It is no coincidence that she has been in charge of the department's scientific work for more than 25 years.

Assistant professor Galina Evgenyevna Zaydenvarg has been working at the department for more than 10 years; she is in charge of the hospital's gastroenterological unit and the cycle for preparing pediatric gastroenterologists. Attentive pedagogue, she generously shares her rich experience with students and

resident physicians. Galina Ivanovna is distinguished by constant readiness to come to help at any time.

Assistant professors Alexandra Nikitichna Goryaynova, MD, PhD Elena Mikhaylovna Ovsyannikova, Irina Mikhaylovna Kolobashkina are profoundly and thoroughly educated lecturers; they are in charge of the department's certification cycles, take part in conducting seminars and lectures, work with resident physicians and interns, render daily consultation service at the Tushino hospital's departments.

At the moment the pediatrics department assistants are Yulia Andreevna Dmitrieva, Victoria Iosifovna Svinitskaya, Narine Grigoryevna Sutyan, Yuriy Ivanovich Ivakhnenko and Irina Sergeevna Gadzova. Most of them started their career at the department during clinical studies. Having successfully defended their PhD theses, they continue working as young specialists, develop new scientific areas and preserve traditions laid by the teachers.

Since 2008 the department has been headed by MD, PhD, professor, Honored RF doctor, head pediatrician of the Central Federal District of Russia, Professor Emeritus at the RAMS SCCH Irina Nikolaevna Zakharova. Continuous professional education is an important factor that allows specialists maintaining the necessary professional level throughout their labor activity. Maintaining the traditional advanced medical studies' cycles, professor I.N. Zakharova is actively implementing new forms of continuous professional education – interactive seminars, webinars and symposiums attracting the leading scientists-pediatricians from Russia, Far and Near Abroad. New programs for teaching doctors in residency (specialties “Pediatrics” and “Pediatric cardiology”), internship (specialty “Pediatrics”) and graduate courses (specialty “Pediatrics”) have been developed and implemented under the supervision of prof. I.N. Zakharova.

History of the RMAPE pediatrics department, which has celebrated its 80th anniversary in 2012, proves the adequacy of the course taken by academician G.N. Speranskiy. His companions-in-arms who worked at the department after him and his students who continue work of the national pediatrics' patriarch, try preserving and

multiplying the department's educational potential; the department's primary objective still is to increase the pediatricians' professional level.

Captions to photographs:

1. G.I. Klayshevich, Y.E. Veltishchev, V.A. Tabolin and G.N. Speranskiy
at work at the department
2. Professor G.I. Klayshevich
3. Educational seminar at the department
4. Professor A.L. Zaplatnikov
5. Assistant Y.A. Dmitrieva and assistant professor E.B. Mumladze at work
6. Assistant professor T.M. Tvorogova
7. Professor I.N. Zakharova
8. Department personnel