

PRESS RELEASE ABOUT WINTER SCHOOL ON FLUORESCENCE DIAGNOSIS AND PHOTODYNAMIC THERAPY

On February 8-12, 2016, at P.A. Herzen Moscow Cancer Research Institute and RAS General Physics Institute named after A.M. Prokhorov, there was a regular session of the Winter School of Fluorescent Diagnostics and Photodynamic Therapy. The organizers of the School were the Russian Photodynamic Association, P.A. Herzen Moscow Cancer Research Institute, the National Research Nuclear University "MEPHI", RAS Physics Institute named after A.M. Prokhorov and CJSC "BIOSPEC".

In 2016, 97 experts from Russia's six federal districts participated in the Winter School session. Those were representatives from the Central (Moscow, Bryansk), North-Western (Saint-Petersburg, Arkhangelsk), Far Eastern (Blagoveshchensk), Volga (Nizhny Novgorod, Saratov, Samara, Kazan), Siberian (Novosibirsk, Krasnoyarsk) and Crimean (Simferopol) districts. The School attendees were oncologists, gynecologists, dermatologists, urologists, endoscopists, as well as medical physicists, pharmacologists, biologists, biophysicists, biochemists and veterinarians. The School was attended by many representatives of practicing health organizations (oncological clinical dispensaries from the cities of Moscow, Saint-Petersburg, Bryansk, Nizhny Novgorod, Blagoveshchensk, Arkhangelsk, Kazan; clinical hospitals and medical centers of Moscow, Saint-Petersburg, Simferopol, Saratov, and other cities), scientific-research institutes (P.A. Herzen Moscow Cancer Research Institute, the State Scientific Medical Centre of Laser Medicine at the Federal Medical and Biological Agency of Russia, the Russian Cancer Research Center named after N.N. Blokhin, Saint-Petersburg Academic University of RAS, MEPHI, RAS Physics Institute, Russian Medical Academy of Post-Graduate Education, Nizhny Novgorod State Medical Academy of RF Ministry of Health, RUSNANO, State Scientific Centre of



Dermatovenereology), pharmaceutical companies (LLC Reafan, LLC Veta-Grand) and educational centers (Moscow State Academy of High Chemical Technologies, the First Moscow State Medical University named after I.M. Sechenov, Samara State Airspace University).

The first two days of training were held at Moscow Oncological Institute named after P.A. Herzen. On the School opening day the attendees were greeted by the Director General of the Medical Radiological Scientific Center at the RF Ministry of Health, RAS associate member, Professor A.D. Kaprin. During the first half of every day of training, the attendees listened to the following survey reports: "Biological

aspects of PDT" (Professor R.I. Yakubovskaya), "FD and PHDT in oncogynecology" (Professor Y.V. Filonenko), "Regulatory aspects of FD and PDT use in Russia" (Professor Y.V. Filonenko) and "Methods of intraluminal endoscopic FD and PDT in case of pre-cancer, early and constrictive cancer" (Professor V.V. Sokolov). In the second half of the day, the attendees were invited to participate in a practical training on PDT for patients with cervical tumors, tumors of vulva, gorge, bronchi, ventricle, esophagus, skin and with tumorous pleuritis.

The next three days were held at RAS Physics Institute. The first half of every day was also devoted to survey reports. The attendees

were offered to listen to lectures by Professor V.B. Loschenov – the leading Russian expert in the study of physical processes of photodynamic influence, the chief designer of Russian equipment for PHDT and FD: “Interaction of radiation with biologic tissues containing photosensitizers” and “Fluorescent diagnostics and photodynamic therapy. Mechanism of action, equipment, clinical examples”; and lectures of the leading European expert in the sphere of FD and PDT Professor R. Shteiner (Germany): “Propagation of light in biological tissues”, “Methods of measurement and calculation of optical macro- and micro-parameters of biological tissues”, “Mechanisms of interaction of intensive laser irradiation with biological tissues” and “Perspectives of laser medicine methods and equipment development”. During the breaks between the lectures, the attendees and lecturers actively discussed the information presented in the reports. During every second half of the day, the attendees participated in practical trainings where they became acquainted with the design, principles and operating methods of the equipment for FD and PDT, the peculiarities of its use in laboratory and clinical conditions.

This year’s Winter School was characterized by a significant increase in the share of practical training. In addition, the School attendees had an opportunity to watch the FD and PDT procedures on a big screen in the conference hall; they were telecasted online from operating rooms. The operation progress was commented by the leading experts-clinicians. Such organization of practical training made it possible for the attendees to follow, very comfortably, all nuances of the diagnostics and treatment in every clinical case. The school moderators and lecturers were the leading Russian and foreign experts in FD and PDT spheres. The attendees had a unique possibility to watch the

work of the leading clinical experts in the sphere of FD and PDT in real time, to get acquainted with the practically applied methods and equipment. The attendees asked the lecturers and practical training instructors the questions that they were interested in, clarified technical details and peculiarities of application of specific photosensitizers, devices and methods. As many attendees noted, participation in the School session allowed them, during a short period, to become familiar with practical techniques of FD and PDT, to obtain basic theoretical knowledge on mechanisms of photodynamic action, to get acquainted with modern equipment and methods of treatment.

