

# The History of Pediatric Radiology in Romania

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An interest in diagnostic radiology in Romanian hospitals was already recorded in 1896, and in 1897, the first X-ray apparatus was installed at the Military Hospital in Bucharest. Dr Dan Gerota started working with this equipment in 1899. In 1896, several X-ray machines were set up in Iasi through the initiative and effort of Prof. Dr. Hurmusache. By 1925, X-ray equipment was available in some big city hospitals (Brasov, Craiova, Oradea, Sighișoara).

Radiology training was offered in the university hospitals of Bucharest, Iasi and Cluj. Of the Romanian radiology pioneers Prof. Dr. Negru was the most prolific.

Soon after pediatric hospitals were established in the big cities, first pediatric radiology departments were founded. The directors of these departments were actual pediatric radiologists.

Thus, in 1959, at Grigore Alexandrescu Hospital in Bucharest, Dr. Zalman Fruchter succeeded in publishing a wonderful "Atlas of Paediatric Radiology"; this outstanding book, together with "Clinical and Radiological Diagnosis in Paediatrics," written by Dr. Mibai Balaban, working at that time at Bucharest's Mother and Child Care Institute (both early members of the E.S.P.R.) represent the first steps in outlining pediatric radiology as a specialty.

At the same time, between 1955 and 1970, Dr. Victor Ruca of the Fundeni Hospital in Bucharest, devoted his work completely to pediatric radiology and put together one of the most complete collections of X-ray films.

The personalities already mentioned were followed by other distinguished radiologists: in Bucharest Dr. Liliana Enacheacu (E.S.P.R. member), with special contributions on "Hystiocytosis X Research"; in Cluj Dr. Zoe Nicoara, who has been deeply involved in developing paediatric radiology training, concentrated on respiratory apparatus pathology.

In 1980, when paediatric radiology became accepted as a specialty in its own right, the training of pediatric specialists really started: Dr. Mariana

Radulescu of Maria Sklodowaka Curie Pediatric Hospital in Bucharest; Dr. Goldis Gheorghe of Fundeni Hospital in Bucharest, and Dr. Vlad of the Paediatric Hospital in Iasi.

All these pediatric radiology enthusiasts, with the strong support of Dr. Serban Georgescu, vice-president of the Romanian Radiology Society, succeeded in creating a Pediatric Radiology section within the Romanian Radiology Society in 1990. It is these individuals who are working continuously to further develop this specialty.