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**Prof. Acad. Dumitru Dobrescu PhD
a life-long work dedicated to health**

Born March 12th, 1927 in Bucharest, Dumitru Dobrescu attended the Faculty of Pharmacy, earning a license of pharmaceutical practice in 1949. Graduating the Faculty of Medicine, he became a general medicine practitioner in 1958. In 1965 he completed his PhD in Medicine and in 1972 received the title of PhD lecturer in medical sciences. Since 1981 he is a homeopathic physician, with more than 20 000 consultations until now.

Within the university, he started as junior teaching assistant (1953-1955) in the Pharmacology Department of the Faculty of Medicine from Bucharest, advancing as teaching assistant (1955-1963) and as assistant professor (1963-1967) in the same department. Since 1967 he was appointed as Head of the Pharmacology Department of the Faculty of Pharmacy Bucharest, as Associate professor (1967-1973) and later as Professor (1973-1997).

Prof. Acad. Dumitru Dobrescu PhD is a senior member of the Romanian Academy of Medical Sciences since 1991, a corresponding member of the Romanian Academy since 1992, a member of the Spanish Royal Academy of Pharmacy since 1987, a member of the French National Academy of Pharmacy since 1988, a member of the European Society of Clinical Pharmacy since 1990. He was awarded the title of "*Doctor Honoris Causa*" by the University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Iasi (1994) and by the University of Medicine and



Pharmacy in Cluj-Napoca (1997). He was the vice-president of the Romanian Academy of Medical Sciences and president of Pharmaceutical Sciences Department of the Romanian Academy (1991-1995).

He was elected Dean (1972-1981; 1990) of the Faculty of Pharmacy in Bucharest, a position from which he organized and conducted the work of renewal of the faculty teaching spaces, the equipment endowment of the laboratories and the faculty curriculum revisal and modernisation. He introduced in the Romanian pharmaceutical education the Clinical Pharmacy course and the first Homeopathy course.

During his chair as Dean, he established and conducted a Laboratory of Micro-production of Medicines which, for example, covered for 10 years the whole national demand of clonidine, an antihypertensive drug, providing this way for the Faculty an annual income of over 10 million lei (approximately 600.000 USD in 1977-1987 national currency value).

Appointed President of the Institute of State Control of the Medicine and Pharmaceutical Researches (1991-1993), he contributed to endowing the institute with modern equipment and also initiated the Romanian National Network for Pharmacovigilance, being the editor-in-chief of "*Pharmacovigilance*" (1977 - 1990) under the Health Ministry coordination. In 1992 he was the initiator of the Consulting Committee for Protection in Biomedical Research and in 1993 authored Government Ordinance project concerning the principles of organization and functioning of the Romanian National Medicine Agency, in accordance with similar institutions in European countries. As President of Romanian Pharmacopoeial Committee he contributed in editing the 10th edition of the Romanian Pharmacopoeia, entering Romania in the top 10 world countries to have so many editions of this official reference for medicines.

The scientific activity of Prof. Acad. Dumitru Dobrescu PhD is as vast as it is remarkable, by introducing unique new concepts in pharmacology and in pharmacotherapeutics, as follows:

- introduction, for the first time in the world, of the term „pharmacotoxicology” in a Pharmacology compendium, in order to name a distinct chapter concerning the adverse effects of pharmaceutical products (1977);
- introduction of the concept of „pharmacoepidemiology”, consisting in a distinct chapter in “Pharmacotherapeutics” (1981), the first pharmaceutical workbook to contain this concept and book chapter. The work received the prize of the Romanian Academy in 1981;
- conceiving, for the first time in the world medical literature, a classification of drug interactions by the mechanisms involved. The new classification structured the volume “Drug associations”(1971), the first book in international medical literature to deal with drug interactions;
- elaborating the concept of “ecological pharmacology”, aimed at reducing drug poisoning of the internal medium of human organism. The concept is the base of a larger proposal that the XXIst century pharmacology should enlarge the sphere of interest by encompassing both actual allopathic and also homeopathic

pharmacology. The new concept is incorporating an obvious (yet unrecognized till now) fact that the homeopathic medicine is the “*sine qua non*” condition of existence of the homeopathy and represents the basis upon which the whole edifice of homeopathy was erected;

- discovery of a new medical science, Homeopathic Pharmacology, that redefines homeopathy as that, by analogy to allopathy, which is in fact an Allopathic Pharmacology;

- discovery of a new pharmacological law based on similitude at the cellular and molecular level. The law of similitude discovered by prof.acad. Dumitru Dobrescu PhD started from the motivation that symptoms have a cellular and molecular origin, therefore the general homeopathic law of similitude must also have a reflection at the cellular and molecular level – modern homeopathy, the “deep homeopathy”. Observations are comprised in the volume “General Homeopathic Pharmacology”, the first book on the subject that also represents the foundation of a new medical science. The book was printed in Romanian (Ist edition in 2007; the IIIrd edition in 2011), in English (2008) and in French (the IInd edition in 2010). The book holds an important role in the universal history of medicine, being the third time when a Romanian author writes for the first in the world, founding the bases of a new medical science (the first was Victor Babeş who, in 1884, wrote the first Treaty of Bacteriology, the second being C.I. Parhon, who wrote in 1905 the first book of Endocrinology).

- conceiving and editing (for the first time in the world) the volume SPECIAL HOMEOPATHIC PHARMACOLOGY. The book was printed in Romanian as the second volume of Homeopathic Pharmacology (2009) and is intitled “HOMEOPATHIC PHARMACOLOGY OF THE RESPIRATORY APPARATUS”.

- conceiving and editing the first book in international medical literature with the title “Gerontopharmacology” (1995), which covers the particularities of administering drugs in elderly people.

The research activity of prof.acad. Dumitru Dobrescu PhD yielded 220 published scientific papers (175 in Romania, 27 abroad, 18 communications) and 20 patents of invention for medicines. He authored 20 original pharmaceutical products, 4 of which are manufactured in Romania: Distonocalm[®], Calmogen[®] (rebalancing drugs of the central and vegetative nervous system), Cerviron[®] (genital disorders in women) and Romener[®] (psychoenergizer). He imagined original medicines for pathological entities that do not benefit from efficient treatments up to date, as follows: Parodosan[®] (treatment of parodontosis), Gerosan[®] (for elderly), Hepamet[®] (normalizes serum transaminases in patients with viral chronic hepatitis and cirrhosis), Aterosan[®] (restores normal values of serum lipids in patients with hypercholesterolemia and hyperlipemia), Catarsan[®] (restores the transparency of opacified lens in cataract).

He also researched the field of gastro-duodenal ulcer describing new phenomena, not quoted in literature, like: activation of carbonic anhydrase through secretagogue substances (including histamine); protective action of carbonic

anhydrase inhibitors in digestive tract ulcers; hypothesizing the existence of a second type of histaminic receptors that were actually discovered *a posteriori* by other researchers; generating an original hypothesis regarding the pathogenesis of digestive ulcers. These researches were finalized with the elaboration of 3 original medicines, two anti ulcer medicines (Ulcacetamid[®] and Ulcacid[®]) and one especially effective in gastroesophageal reflux disease (Esogast[®]).

Other researches aimed at determining the analgesic, antipyretic and anti-inflammatory actions of newly synthesized compounds.

He is the author of 43 specialty books, 14 of which as single author (11 original by conception or international priority) and 19 as first author.

During his scientific and professional activity he participated at several events, as follows:

- At the United Nation Organization (UN) as: head of official Romanian delegation by UN Addictive Drugs Commision; official Romanian delegate by UN General Assembly, 1990 special session; head of official Romanian delegation at the International Conference for Reduction of Drugs Demand (1990); person invited by the government of Great Britain at the “European Drug Prevention Week” (1992);

- At the World Health Organization (WHO) as: WHO expert in Clinical Pharmacology symposia, in WHO reunion with national medical organisms (1990), in International Seminar of National Research Councils (1991) and at Working Group on the Rational Use of Medicines (1991).

He is quoted in national and international biographical works: Dictionary of International Biography, Cambridge, Edition XXIII (1993); The International Who's Who of Intellectuals, XIth Ed. (1994); Immortal Romanian Academicians, Bucharest, 1995; Romanian Medical Encyclopedia XXth century, editor Nicolae Ursea, Bucharest, 2001; Who's Who in Romania, Bucharest, 2002.

He was nominated by the American Biographical Institute for the Man of the Year; for the American Medal of Honour; as Counselor in Research Committee in 2002 and in Romania he received the order „Star of Romania” with rank of Knight in 2002.

The works and the life of prof.acad. Dumitru Dobrescu PhD are proof of a titanic endeavour dedicated to science and health. We, the fellow pharmacists, are priviledged by profession that this great man has established hardlines in teaching and research and has opened the path for new therapeutic guidances. We appreciate and honor him today with the occasion of his 85th birthday and tommorow by the future generations that will pursue the professor's work.

Assoc. Prof. Pharm. Simona Negreş PhD