

## Personal View

# COMMUNICABLE ACUTE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Ludovic PĂUN

Professor, Clinical Hospital of Tropical and Infectious Diseases "Dr. Victor Babes", Bucuresti,  
Honorary Member of the Academy of Romanian Scientists

### 1. Introduction

1. We present in this article:

- a) The concept and the evolutive perspectives of the communicable acute infectious diseases in the circumstances of "*Globalization of the infectious pathology*"<sup>\*)</sup>.
- b) The definition of the specialty "*Infectious Diseases*" given by the National Romanian Society of Infectious Diseases<sup>\*\*) "in disagreement"</sup> with the idea that the specialty "infectious diseases" is a subcategory of internal medicine or pediatry.

2. Foundation development and perspectives of the *Hospital of Tropical and Infectious Diseases "Dr. Victor Babes"* Bucharest, after 55 years since its foundation (1955-2010) - a materialization of the point of view expressed in defining the specialty of infectious diseases<sup>\*\*)</sup>

3. Perspectives in the activity of the *Hospital of Tropical and Infectious Diseases "Dr. Victor Babes"* Bucharest.

### 2. General facts

A. The etiological agents of communicable acute infectious diseases, owners of a surprising complex biologic dynamics (the biologic mechanism of transspecies!), suggestively seized under the name: "*The common etiological found (CEF) on Earth (including the water environment) and in outer space*"<sup>\*\*\*)</sup>, develops Clinical and Epidemiological behavior in the human communities and those of other

---

<sup>\*)</sup> **Globalization:** universal concept comprising the natural, socio-economical and political global evolutions, after the second World War and during the Cold War, trying to code and clarify the reaction of individuals, group of individuals, organizations, etc., who use violence in their fight for power, favors - M. Lutz and Blenda Lutz in *Global Terrorism*, Rout ledge First Published, 2004 Causes of Terrorism, p. 17.

<sup>\*\*)</sup> Independent clinical specialty dealing with the clinical symptoms of emergent and reemergent diseases, the diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases (medical assistance) caused by etiological agents known or in course of identification (microbiology) and by the limitation of morbidity and mortality by infectious diseases (vaccines, chemoprophylaxis) (Public Health).

<sup>\*\*\*)</sup> Name adopted by the National Romanian Society of Infections Diseases

living creatures (animals, plants) (1) under the pression of environmental and climate factors (2, 3, 4).

- B. *The infectious diseases as study subject (superior medical study)* “Clinically, the specialty of infectious diseases is considered a subspecialty of internal medicine or of pediatriy (...)

Fundamentally, the specialty of infectious diseases deals with the clinical symptoms caused by the microbial parasitism of the human host (...) this is the source of basic knowledge as to the interaction between invading microorganism and the defense mechanisms of the invaded host, which is essential for the diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases (...).

*“Undergoing this approach, the infectious diseases are a clinical extension of the basic sciences, microbiology and immunology.”*

*Separated from the scientific fundaments, the domain of the infectious diseases quickly becomes on clinical descriptive activity dealing with measuring the fever, which looks for pathogens in secretions and finally distributes the antimicrobial factors (5).*

- C. The specialists in infectious diseases take a major part, but not exclusively, in the elaboration and enforcement of the Response induced by the Challenges of the CEF components.
- D. Trying to analyze the communicable infectious diseases excludes their scientific (5) and social fundament only clinically: the epidemiological influence on human communities (6), on the communities of other living creatures (epidemics, pandemics epizooties) in Public Health (7) as biologic weapons and Bioterrorism (7, 8, 9, 10) and unconventional threat on National Security (10, 11, 12).

The approaches presented in the above paragraphs integrate the Speciality and specialists in communicable acute infectious diseases with the demands (objectives) of the civil society in Romania and internationally with the rules in the International Sanitary Regulations (ISR/WHO/2005 – Annex 2).

### **3. The Clinical Hospital of Infectious and Tropical Diseases “Dr. Victor Babes”, Bucharest**

- A. **Foundation, development, perspectives.** The Clinic Hospital of Infectious and Tropical Diseases, was founded in 1955 under the name: “ Hospital of Communicable Diseases” independent unit (HCM 2510 1955) at the proposal of the directive staff “Professionally scientific” and with the support of the “ Hospital of Infectious Diseases” from Raionul 1 Mai (Colentina) (at the decision of the Health Departament of the People’s Council of the Capital No. 15087/3<sup>rd</sup> December 1955)
- B. In January 1976, the Clinic of Infections and Tropical Diseases, Hospital “Dr. Victor Babes” was founded by UMPH “Carol Davila” Bucharest, being attributed *didactic activities* in teaching courses on infectious diseases to Romanian and foreign students and residents. Courses on tropical diseases (obligatory) for foreign students and writing theses for the PhD degree by the Romanian and foreign graduates (Annex 1).

- C. The location of the hospital, no.281 Mihai Bravu Street, sector3, allowing, the institution developed and ensured the sanitary-epidemiologic protection of the inhabited surrounding areas. The structural development of the hospital ensured the epidemiologic protection in the pavilions built afterwards as well as the “*independent functionality*” aimed for the sick and for the suspects of diseases with “*severe clinical-epidemiologic potential*”, conditions which have been made use of in case of: suspicions (small numbers) or epidemics cholera: Tulcea, Constanta; poliomyelitis: Brasov; HIV/AIDS, West-Nile, Influenza. National monitoring of passengers to areas with tropical pathology, the diagnosis and therapy of certain clinical symptoms which the passengers to tropical zones presented when back in the country.
- D. *At the same time* medical assistance was organized and ensured for three sectors (of six) of Bucharest and for the cases when the colleagues from Teleorman, Giurgiu, Ialomita, Braila, Buzau, asked for medical assistance for their patients.
- E. In the room reserved to this purpose in the hospital there are: 1. The Clinic of Infectious and Tropical Diseases “Dr. Victor Babes” UMF “Carol Davila”, Bucharest; 2. The Departamens of Infectious Diseases, Epidemiology of the Medical Faculty of the University “Titu Maiorescu”. The following carry on their professional – scientific activity: 12 members of the teaching staff - 3 proffessors, 1 reader, 2 papers coordinators, 6 universitary assistants; *in the same area there are: the Clinic Center for the Infection with Human Retroviruses and Associated Viruses, the Regional Center of High Studies on Bioterrorism, The National Romanian Society of Infectious Diseases, the Scientific Group of Reflection and Opinion on the Communicable Acute Infectious Diseases and Bioterrorism of the Academy of Romanian Scientists*. The measures of organization and functioning of the Center of Information on Infections Diseases and Bioterrorism are in progress.
- F. The Regional Center HIV/AIDS “Victor Babes” functions under the same organization and having the same objectives, under the coordination of the National Program anti-AIDS.
- G. From 1985 to 1995, the national clinical and epidemiologic responsibility and the technical relation with the World Health Organization (WHO) was assumed by the “National Commission anti-AIDS” whose headquarters and management were ensured by the medical personnel of the Clinical Hospital of Infectious and Tropical Diseases “Dr. Victor Babes”.

#### 4. Perspectives

The activity in the Clinic Hospital of Infectious Tropical Diseases “Dr. Victor Babes”, Bucharest will focus on the following objectives:

1. Development, diversification and materialization of the concept which defines the Specialty of Infectious Diseases, applying this concept in the activity of the Clinic Hospital of Infectious and Tropical Diseases “Dr. Victor Babes”, Bucharest.
2. Organization in January 2011 by the Scientific Group of Reflexion and Opinion on the Communicable Acute Infectious Diseases and Bioterrorism of a reunion on the topic: “Infections Diseases – where to?”

3. Preparation of the National Congress of Infection Diseases (with international participation) scheduled for the year 2012.
4. Foundation of the Center of Information on Infections Diseases and Bioterrorism.
5. Preparation to enforce the WHO recommendation: “ HIV/AIDS Infection chronic disease” in:
  - The Clinical Hospital of Infections and Tropical Diseases “Dr. Victor Babes”, Bucharest.
  - Sectors 3,4,5 of Bucharest and the rounded off counties
  - With the technical support of epidemiological monitoring:  
*P-24 antigene detected with hypersensitive techniques.*
6. Publication of the treaty on Infections Diseases, contract with the Medical Publishing House
7. Accomplishing the provision in the research contracts at the scheduled deadlines.
8. Defending the doctoral theses.

### References

1. L. Păun, Em. Ceaușu - *The Natural History of the Genus Vibrio Induced Infection*. Revista Romana de Boli Infecțioase, Nr.2, Vol.XII, 2009, 59-64
2. Rita R.Colwell - *Enviromental Signatures associated with cholera epidemics; 17676-17681*, november 18, 2008, Vol. 105, nr. 46
3. Anvarul Huq, Eugene B Small, Paul A West, M. Indadul Huq, Rezaur Rahman, Rita R Colwell - *Ecological Relationships Between Vibrio Cholerae and Planktonic Crustaceab Copepod' s*, Applied and Environmental Micobiology, Ian, 1983., 275-283
4. Timothy E. Ford. Rita R. Colwell, Joan B, Rose, Stephen S. Morse, David J. Rogers and Terry L Vates - *A strong global satellite imaging system is essential for future disease prediction*, Emerging Infectious Diseases. September 2003
5. *The Biological and Clinical Basis of Infectious Diseases* - Ed.II-a W.B.Sanders Co.Philadelphia, London, Toronto, 1980, p.1
6. Păun Ludovic - *Vaccinare imunizare - concept și practică*. Revista Română de Boli Infecțioase, Nr.1, Vol.XII, 2009, p.59
7. *Bioterrorism Guidlines for Medical and Public Health Management* - JAMA Archives Journal, JAMA Press, 2002.
8. Ludovic Păun - *Bolile Infecțioase, Armele biologice, Bioterorism - provocare majoră a societății civile contemporane*. Revista Romană de Boli Infecțioase, Nr.3, Vol.XI, 2008, 125 - 126
9. *Qutbreks Investigation Arnound the world case studies in infections diseases - Field Epidemiology*. Mark S. D Workin Jones and Bartlett Plubisher 2010
10. John C. Cannon - *The Global Infectious Diseases Threat and its implications for the Unites States*, NIE 99-170, January 2000.
11. Andrew T.Price Smith - *Contagion and chaos diseases, ecology an national internationa security in the Era of Globulisation*. The MIT Press Cambridge Mass achates 02142, 2004.
12. Gregory D.Koblentz - *Living Weapons and International Security*, Cornell University Press, Ithaca-New-York, 2009