



# COVID-19 Pandemic, Passing of Professor Folke Sjöqvist and Other Topics

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## Abstract

In Issues 1 and 2 the scientific biomedical journal *Scripta Medica* devoted a total of six articles to the aetiological, epidemiological and clinical aspects of serious acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) and the disease caused by this virus - coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The present Issue 2 also contains an obituary on the occasion of demise of Professor Folke Sjöqvist, one of the founding fathers of clinical pharmacology as a discipline and several other articles from the fields of quality assurance in healthcare, experimental and clinical medicine.

**Key words:** editorial, SARS-CoV-2, COVID-19, obituary, Folke Sjöqvist.

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On 11 March 2020 the World Health Organisation proclaimed a world pandemic caused by serious acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) causing the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).<sup>1</sup> The Editorial Board of the *Scripta Medica* decided to publish two articles on this phenomenon in Issue 1, Volume 51 that appeared in late March 2020 – the editorial containing general information on the virus, the disease – epidemiology and clinical aspects<sup>2</sup> and a letter to the editor containing some interesting data on the pharmacological aspects of the COVID-19 infection.<sup>3</sup>

The main accent that the Issue 2, Volume 51 of the *Scripta Medica* put on COVID-19 and it is conveyed by four articles covering this world-hottest topic. In their article, Bhandari et al<sup>4</sup> describe the management of patients infected by SARS-CoV-2 in the tertiary hospital settings in India. Aćimović et al<sup>5</sup> deal with the course of the epidemic in the Republic of Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina, while Stajić et al<sup>6</sup> bring an interesting case report of a false-negative patient with COVID-19 bilateral pneumonia. A global view of the current pandemic is presented in a review article by Professor

Slavenka Janković.<sup>7</sup> In close connection with the COVID-19 pandemic is a very informative history of medicine article by Beštić-Bronza, covering the 1918-1919 pandemic of Spanish flu.<sup>8</sup>

The other main impression is contained in the obituary honouring late Professor Folke Sjöqvist, one of the founders of clinical pharmacology as a discipline in Europe,<sup>9</sup> to whom many of us and the entire discipline are indebted to. Since our journal covers all fields of medicine, the remaining articles bring the results of some basic pharmacological experiments on the role of GABA<sub>A</sub> receptors in vasodilation,<sup>10</sup> on the role of clinical pathways in quality improvement in patients undergoing total hip replacement<sup>11</sup> and describe some clinical studies performed in the fields of ophthalmology<sup>12</sup> and hepatic resections in metastatic colorectal cancer surgery,<sup>13</sup> followed by a case report on hypofibrinogenaemia in pregnancy.<sup>14</sup>

Of course, the Editorial Board will continue to follow the COVID-19 pandemic as it evolves, but at the same time will try to provide to its readers coverage of all other interesting topics.

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## Conflict of interest

None.

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