Professor Vida Demarin

MD, PhD, FAAN, FAHA, FESO, FEAN, FWSO

Full member of Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts

Vida Demarin, is a distinguished scientist, scientific advisor and full professor of permanent membership of the University of Zagreb, She was head of the University Department for Neurology of the " Sestre Milosrdnice" University Hospital, founder and head of the 2 reference centers of the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare (for neurovascular disorders and for headaches). She is full amember of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts since 2010.and president of the International Institute for Brain health. Born on June 15, 1944 in Zagreb, lives in Zagreb, Kamaufova 20.
The core area of ​​her research work is the study of cerebral circulation and its disorders, cerebral vasoreactivity, neuroplasticity, headache and dementia. She is a pioneer in doppler diagnostics in Croatia and in Central and South-Eastern Europe, she organized educational courses on doppler-diagnostics and thus significantly improved and spread non-invasive diagnosis of cerebrovascular disorders primarily for the purpose of stroke prevention.
She is one of the initiators of preventative actions related to the prevention of cerebrovascular diseases in Zagreb and other parts of Croatia and in activities leading to improving the quality of life. She is one of the founders of the Croatian Society for Neurology of the Croatian Medical Association (its president 1990-1994 and 1995-1999), founder and president (1999–2017) of the Croatian Stroke Society, and founder and president of the Croatian Society for Neurovascular Disorders of the Croatian Medical Association (2001 -2008). She is a member of the board of directors of the Croatian Society for Ultrasound Diagnosis, Croatian Society for Atherosclerosis, Croatian Angiology Society. She is a full member of the Academy of Medical Sciences of Croatia since 1994, being its secretary from 2000-2002. Since 2002, she has been an associate member of the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts and full member from May 2010. She is very active in Croatian Academy of Science and Arts, as a member of several boards and scientific committees and since January 2019 she became a head of its Department of Medical Sciences. She was president of the Commission for Continuing Training of Croatian Medical Chamber, president of the Scientific Council of the Institute for Clinical Medical Research of the University Hospital Centre "Sestre Milosrdnice", from 2005 - 2012. She was president of the Croatian Committee of the European Society for Medicine and Arts. She was a member of the National Bioethics Committee for Medicine (2006-2010), a member of the Council of the University of Zagreb (2008-2010) and since 2009 has been the Chair of the Regional Scientific Committee on Biomedicine and Health. She has been president of the Central and Eastern European Stroke Society (2007-2017), president of the Organizing Committee of the „Mind & Brain“ International Neuropsychiatric Congress in Pula since 2007, and founder and director of the International Summer Stroke School "Healthy Lifestyle and Prevention of Stroke and Other Brain Impairments“ within the Academic program of the Interuniversity Center in Dubrovnik which is founded in 1990.

She was a member of the Committee for Continuing Medical Education of the European Federation of Neurological Societies. Under her guidance, national professional societies have developed national recommendations for the most common neurological diseases: treatment of stroke (2001. and update 2006), treatment of patients with primary headaches (2005), non-invasive doppler diagnostic tool in confirmation of brain death (2005), the care of patients with neuropathic pain (2008) and management of patients with carotid disease (2009). She has been active in organizing and giving lectures at specialized workshops during EFNS congresses since 2006.
In 1976 she founded the Laboratory for Cerebrovascular Diagnostics in the University Department for Neurology of the „Sestre Milosrdnice'' University Hospital, which was the first such in the region. Under her guidance, as a head of University Department for Neurology, she founded a Reference Center for Neurovascular Disorders in 1998. and Reference Center for Headache in 2001., approved by the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare of the Republic of Croatia. She organized the Neuronet program package, which has been in use at the University Department for Neurology of the University Hospital "Sestre Milosrdnice'' since 1997 and served as an educational and consultative system for the development of telemedicine in the Republic of Croatia. She has organized a national project for the management of stroke patients within which Stroke units have been established and thrombolytic therapy has been applied since October 2006 in all neurological departments and clinics in the Republic of Croatia. She was the national coordinator of the international project "Safe Implementation of Thrombolysis - SITS", thus bringing the Republic of Croatia into this European project. Since 2006 she has been implementing the project of transcranial doppler for the confirmation of brain death diagnosis, which has significantly increased the number of transplants in the Republic of Croatia. She was the leading person in the "Stroke In Young FAbry Patients (SIFAP)" project in which her University Department has been the only participating center from the Republic of Croatia (2007-2011). She was the head of the Croatian branch of international projects: The Asymptomatic Carotid Emboli Study (ACES), General anesthesia versus local anesthesia for carotid surgery (GALA), Neurosonology in Acute Stroke (NAIS), Stroke in Young Fabry Patients (SIFAP) and the head of the project of the transcranial doppler application for confirmation of brain death.
She unselfishly conveys her knowledge to her younger colleagues and during her career has raised the generation of neurologists who nowadays work in almost all hospitals in Croatia and around the world and has been mentor of 68 MSc and PhD, 47 graduate works, 71 completed residency programme and 17 research fellows. She published more than 1.000 papers (scientific papers, books and book chapters, professional papers, scientific abstracts).

She is founder and one of the course directors of international Summer Stroke School „Healthy Lifestyle and Prevention of Stroke and Other Brain Impairments“ within the Academic Program of Interuniversity Center in Dubrovnik (1990-ongoing). She is secretary general of the traditional „Mind & Brain“ International Neuropsychiatric Congress since 2007., the congress with the longest tradition in this part of the world, organized for the first time in 1961. She organizes each year symposia in Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts and she is participating as a faculty and invited lecturer in many congresses, symposia and teaching courses.

Vida Demarin participate in many scientific projects approved and financed by institutions such as:

Ministry of Science of the Republic of Croatia. Some of these are: Prevention of Cerebrovascular Disease by Diagnosing (Principal Investigator), Early Disturbances of Cerebral Circulation by Means of Doppler-sonography (Principal Investigator), The Assessment of Cerebral Autoregulation Capacity by Means of TCD (Principal Investigator), The Assessment of Cerebral Vasoreactivity by Use of

Stress-Tests (Principal Investigator), Vascular and degenerative Mechanisms of Neurologic

Diseases (Leader of the Program), The Role of Genetic Markers in Development of Atherosclerotic Disease (Principal Investigator), etc.

Vida Demarin has developed and significantly improved non-invasive neurological diagnostics, and she is one of the pioneers of doppler diagnostics. The primary area of ​​her activity is the study of vascular disorders, cerebral vasoreactivity, the use of noninvasive diagnostics in the detection of cerebral circulation disorders, neuroplasticity, headache and dementia. She has worked tirelessly to prevent cerebrovascular disorders, where she has organized a series of actions aimed at early detection of the risk factors for cerebrovascular disease. During her career she was a mentor of many doctoral dissertations and educated the generation of neurologists who nowadays work in almost all hospitals in the Republic of Croatia. She significantly influenced the development of all areas of neurology, and affirmed her professional and scientific work in the country and abroad. She has conducted a number of significant national and international scientific research projects and has established fruitful cooperation with the most prestigious institutions in the world. For many years she has been actively participating in international scientific conferences. It is particularly emphasized by the organization of important international congresses as well as publicity work in all areas of neurology, thus contributing significantly to the advancement of neurology and neuroscience in Croatia and in the world.

Thanks to her dedicated work and excellent results, Vida Demarin received many recognitions, diplomas and awards, of which we highlight only a few:

* Rector’s award University of Zagreb, 1967.
* Diploma of Croatian society of neurology for special contribution for development of Neurology in Croatia, 1997.
* Diploma of Croatian medical association 1999.
* Award “Ladislav Rakovac” – Croatian medical association 2001.
* Honorary Membership of Bulgarian Society for Neurosonology and Cerebral Haemodynamic 2014.
* Honorary membership of Polish Neurological Society 2017.
* State award for life achievement in Biomedicine and Healthcare 2017.
* Laureat 2018. of Academy of Medical Sciences of Croatia
* World Stroke Academy and World Stroke Organisation award for the outstanding work and achievements in the field of stroke, 2023.

In addition to already achieved national awards, the most prominent of which is fellowship in the Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Vida Demarin’s international recognition and influence in the community, she became a regular member and fellow of many international organizations, of which we stand out: Fellow of American Heart/Stroke Association (FAHA), Fellow of American Academy of Neurology (FAAN), Fellow of European Stroke Organization (FESO), Fellow of European Academy of Neurology (FEAN), Fellow of World Stroke Organization (FWSO).

She is active as a member of many editorial boards of scientific journals such as: the International Journal of Stroke, the European Journal of Stroke, the Neurosonology and Cerebral Hemodynamics, the Biomed Research International, the RAD CASA Medical Sciences and more.

Her scientific and professional work has significantly influenced the development of neurology and neuroscience in Croatia and in the world, contributing to WFN motto:

***„There is no health, without brain health!“***

**Links:** [**https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Vida-Demarin**](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Vida-Demarin)**;** [**https://www.brain-institute.net/en.php**](https://www.brain-institute.net/en.php)