**History and Development of the Department of Dermatology at** **the Jagiellonian University 1871-1950**

Dariusz STASZEK MD, PhD

Department of the History of Medicine, Pharmacy and Military Medicine

Head of Department: prof. MUL Czesław Jeśman, MD, PhD

Doctoral Dissertation – abstract

Advisor - prof. MUL Czesław Jeśman, MD, PhD

Reviewers – prof. Andrzej Kaszuba MD, PhD, prof. Jolanta Sadowska MD, PhD

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**Introduction**

Dermatology and venereology started to be a separate medical science in the 18th and 19th centuries. Sources of modern dermatology and venereology should be sought mainly in medicine of internal diseases and also in surgical medicine.

**Aim**

The **main objective** of this Dissertation is to recreate history and portray the development of the Department of Dermatology at Jagiellonian University up to 1950. **Detailed objectives** of this Dissertation cover: presentation the evolution of the Department, it’s calendar and it’s achievements in medicine, analysis of chosen diseases diagnosed and treated at the hospital, analysis of the Department’s cooperation with social and government organisations and dermatology centres abroad.

**Material and Methods**

The main source of **archival material** used in the dissertation was the Jagiellonian University Archive. Also, a search query was conducted at the National Archive in Krakow (former State Archive in Krakow) in terms of resources relating to St. Lazarus Hospital and the Holy Spirit Hospital. Documents included in the files of the Polish Academy of Sciences and Polish Academy of Learning in Krakow, Science Archive and Daughters of Charity Archive in Krakow (homes files group) and The National Digital Archive (NAC) were also analysed.

The following **research methods** were used in the thesis: historical and descriptive method, retrospective, progressive and comparative.

**Conclusions**

The development of venereal and skin diseases science in Poland was identical to its development in Europe. Polish dermatology and venereology developed many years before the departments of the speciality were created. Venereal and Skin Diseases Ward at the Holy Spirit Hospital in Krakow, opened in 1821 can be recognised as the cradle of the Jagiellonian University Dermatology Teaching and Research Hospital. A. Rosner’s habilitation thesis in dermatology and venereology at Jagiellonian University was defended only 17 years after   
F. Hebra’s habilitation in Vienna. W. Reiss, in arduous premises and financial conditions, created Polish dermatological school based on histopathology research.

A weighty element of the hospital’s activity was its social involvement. The hospital’s employees took an active part in combat against venereal diseases and their spread.