

IN MEMORIAM

**HUGO PARTSCH:
PHLEBOLYMPHOLOGIST EXTRAORDINAIRE
1938-2023**



We are sad to report the passing but will commemorate here the life and accomplishments of Hugo Partsch, MD (1), formerly Professor of Dermatology at the University of Vienna and Head of the Dermatological Department at the Wilhelminen Hospital in Vienna. As one of the early “lymphomaniacs,” Dr. Partsch also went on to achieve lifetime recognition as a pioneer in the fields of Phlebology, Compression, and Wound Care, finding common themes to unite and integrate these often separated specialties thereby advancing understanding through research and profoundly impacting the care of patients suffering from a wide variety of often neglected disorders.

Author of hundreds of highly cited papers, editor for multiple journals, and on the organizing team for many successful international conferences, lymphologists will remember him especially for the 11th International Congress of Lymphology in Vienna in 1987, where he served as President. The high quality of the keynote lectures, symposia, and presentations spanning basic and clinical lymphology, the related Progress in Lymphology XI Proceedings (2), and the hospitality of this great city – the Gala, Opera, museums, hospitals, music, cuisine, and the Schönbrunn Palace – will remain highlights in the ISL's history and our memories. The AIDS and the Lymphatic System symposium (3) published

as a special issue of *Lymphology* in 1988, was ahead of its time, featuring world experts including future Nobel Laureate Françoise Barré-Sinoussi, the co-discoverer of HIV, purported ground-breaking research and posed unanswered questions, many of which remain unexplored and unanswered up to the present day.

Personally, Hugo will be remembered as an elegant gentleman, soft-spoken but firm in his views and commitment, and magnanimous – a visionary global leader, thoughtful intellectual, superb clinician, and influential mentor.

His presence will be greatly missed at our lymphology conferences, but his influence will persist through the now regularly included sessions on phlebolymphology, compression, and wound care. We join his many colleagues and friends in the fields of phlebology, wound care, and compression in mourning his loss and celebrating his legacy.

REFERENCES

1. Photo of Hugo Partsch reproduced from *Int. Wound J.* 20 (2023), 899.
2. *Progress in Lymphology—Proceedings of the XIth Congress in Vienna, 1987*, H. Partsch (Ed.), Elsevier Science Publishers BV (Excerpta Medica), 1988.
3. *AIDS, Kaposi's Sarcoma, and the Lymphatic System: The Known and the Unknown*. Witte MH (Ed.), Special Issue of *Lymphology* 21 (1988), 1-87.

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