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Entrevista do mês

Na edição de maio da newsletter, Ana Bosak Versic abordou a situação e evolução da Cirurgia Ambulatória na Croácia, assim como revelou mais informações sobre o próximo Congresso Nacional de Cirurgia Ambulatória no seu país, que decorre em setembro de 2024, e o Congresso Internacional de Cirurgia Ambulatória, agendado para 2026.

"O avanço mais significativo é que quase todos os médicos que participam no processo cirúrgico já estão familiarizados com a Cirurgia Ambulatorial e há grande interesse na educação e na partilha de conhecimento"



To begin with, could you give us an overview of the current situation of Ambulatory Surgery in Croatia?

Ana Bosak Versic (ABV): I would say that Ambulatory Surgery is still in development in Croatia. The awareness of Ambulatory Surgery is not that young itself, but the real development began with the first ambulatory surgery departments and units a little it more than 15 years ago. Since then there has been a constant rise in the share of patients treated through ambulatory surgery in the overall surgical patients.

Currently, what are the main challenges facing Ambulatory Surgery in Croatia? And what have been the most significant advances in this area in recent years?

ABV: The main challenges now are promotion of Ambulatory Surgery in all of the hospitals in our public health care system. The most significant advance is that almost all of medical participants in surgical process are now familiar with Ambulatory Surgery and there is great interest in participating in education and sharing knowledge.

How has the COVID-19 pandemic affected the practice of Ambulatory Surgery in Croatia? Have there been significant changes to related procedures or policies?

ABV: I would say that COVID-19 pandemic positively affected our practice, the hospital capacities were at that time overwhelmed with patients and the need to separate surgical patients from infective ones suddenly and logically shifted our mindsets towards Ambulatory Surgery.

What measures are being taken to improve efficiency and access to Ambulatory Surgery in the country?

ABV: Our efforts consist mostly of sharing knowledge among various specialists. Knowledge and experience are always a good way to start every development process.

What is the role of education in promoting Ambulatory Surgery in Croatia?

ABV: Our promotion happens mostly through congresses where we share our experience, knowledge and discuss about thoughts, obstacles and problems that come across.

How is research contributing to the advancement of Ambulatory Surgery in Croatia? Are there specific areas of research that are currently being prioritized?

ABV: As I said at the beginning of our conversation, Ambulatory Surgery is still young in Croatia, so the research topics have been based mostly on our so long experience and we gather much impressions and suggestions for improvement from surveys of patients treated through Ambulatory Surgery. Our plan is to form a national registry for Ambulatory Surgery, but it will definitely take time to mature.

Could you provide us with details about the next Ambulatory Surgery Congress taking place in Croatia in September 2024?

ABV: The congress in September this year will be our third national congress with international participation. Our guest will be our friends and IAAS delegates from Portugal, Dr. Carlos Magalhães and Dr. Vicente Vieira, and Prof. Elizabeta Gjorgievska, from Macedonia.

What are the main topics under debate?

ABV: The main topics will be anaesthesia in Ambulatory Surgery, children in Ambulatory Surgery, development in Day Surgery and a round table with discussion about management in Day Surgery.

What expectations do you have for the initiative? Do you have a message for speakers and participants?

ABV: There are no extraordinary expectations, we always hope for good discussions, sharing experience and growth of new and old friendships.

Focusing on the next edition, can you tell us what is being prepared for the International Congress of Ambulatory Surgery in Croatia, in 2026?

ABV: Next IAAS Congres in 2026 will be a huge challenge for us, but also a great honour and pleasure. Let's hope it brings us great experience and gives us the chance to spread the word about Ambulatory Surgery and Croatia.

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