

PUBLIC, PLEARY LECTURE

10TH INTERNATIONAL INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE ABOUT SPECIAL TREATMENT

(24-25-26 April 2025.)



Dr. habil. Zsuzsanna, Vekerdy-Nagy (PhD)

University of Debrecen (Hungary)

Email address : vekerdy@med.unideb.hu

Dr. habil. Zsuzsanna Vekerdy-Nagy is the first head of the Department of Medical Rehabilitation and Physical Medicine at the Clinical Center of the University of Debrecen. With several decades of experience in rehabilitation medicine, she has worked with both adults and children, primarily focusing on rehabilitation for neurological disorders. She obtained her specialization in rehabilitation medicine in 1990 and served as the chief physician of the Children's Rehabilitation Center in Debrecen for nearly 20 years. She then led the Musculoskeletal Pediatric Rehabilitation Department at the National Institute of Medical Rehabilitation in Budapest. Subsequently, she became the first head of the Department of Medical Rehabilitation and Physical Medicine at the Medical and Health Science Center of the University of Debrecen, and its successor institution, the Clinical Center. She was the president of the Hungarian Rehabilitation Society for nine years and has been a member of the Rehabilitation Professional College for over 20 years. Since 2011, she has served as the president of the Physical Medicine, Rehabilitation, and Medical Aids Council of the Hungarian Chamber of Healthcare Professionals (ESzK) and now is the secretary of the Section with the same name. In recognition of her work, she received the Batthyány-Strattmann László Ministerial Award in 2000, the Vas Imre Memorial Medal in 2011, and the Pro Facultate university award in 2013. Her main scientific interest lies in neurorehabilitation, although she is also knowledgeable in other areas of rehabilitation concerning the musculoskeletal system. She has authored more than 100 scientific publications, including significant works such as editor of the following books: *The Specifics of Pediatric Rehabilitation*, *Rehabilitation Medicine*, *Evidence-Based Rehabilitation Medicine*, and *Methodology of Rehabilitation and Physical Medicine*. Recently, she is the editor in chief of the official scientific journal of the Hungarian Rehabilitation Society named „*Rehabilitation Medicine Quarterly*”.

PUBLIC, PLEARY LECTURE

10TH INTERNATIONAL INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE ABOUT SPECIAL TREATMENT

(24-25-26 April 2025.)

Title of the presentation

DEVELOPMENT OF PEDIATRIC REHABILITATION IN THE LAST 50 YEARS IN HUNGARY

Pediatric rehabilitation refers to the border area of pediatric medicine and is deeply embedded in it. The vast majority of conditions with rehabilitation care needs are illnesses or pathological conditions related to this discipline. At the same time, methodology of rehabilitation care is much more affiliated to the rehabilitation medicine. Pediatric neurology, orthopedics, neurosurgery and pulmonology are the strongest partners in interdisciplinary co-operation within the rehabilitation care network. There are partnerships among health care specialists and preschool and school pedagogist, special teachers and social care employees. Regarding the development of care trends in the last five decades we have to consider not only the health care facilities but all the affiliated service resources as well. Network of the conductive education (Pető method) has been functioning since the early 70's not only in the capital but in many counties and special schools were available for children with sensory deficits (hearing, vision), motor disorders and learning disabilities operated in a segregation model in accordance with the spirit of the age.

At the end of the 80s, the idea of organizing early development into a network became strong, but by now the first modern child rehabilitation providers had already appeared in the health sector, too. In certain places, the children's rehabilitation care provider with the first inpatient ward was organized based on the social pediatric model (Miskolc, 1982), while elsewhere (Debrecen), based on the family-centered model, an outpatient center (1984), to which an inpatient background was connected only decades later (2008). The number of state-funded rehabilitation providers (wards, clinics) increased in the following decades (Nyíregyháza, Zalaegerszeg, Mosdós, Budapest: Bethesda Children's Hospital, Buda Children's Hospital, Heim Pál Children's Hospital, Szeged-Hódmezővásárhely, Kisvárd) with a large outpatient capacity, although a very uneven distribution has developed geographically. A total of 184 inpatient beds and 42 day-beds are available for "medical rehabilitation in the field of pediatrics" and in addition 42 special beds for children with severe brain and/or spinal cord injuries, polytrauma, burns, as well as for those with rare diseases

PUBLIC, PLEARY LECTURE

10TH INTERNATIONAL INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE ABOUT SPECIAL TREATMENT

(24-25-26 April 2025.)

or severe neuromuscular disorders. Specialized rehabilitation care takes place in 4 centers, the leading provider being the Bethesda Children's Hospital.

Since 2007, it has been possible to acquire a specialized qualification in this field, but the rehabilitation medicine degree that provides the basic qualification is also suitable for the rehabilitation care of children. A textbook is available for the subject (2019 edition) in which the entire spectrum of the pediatric rehabilitation care system is presented. In addition to the state health improvements, in parallel with these, many private providers (profit and non-profit), or the developments in the field of pedagogical professional services have resulted in a significant improvement in the access of needy children to rehabilitation, although there are still gaps in both approach and capacity.

Venue of the lecture:

University of Debrecen, Faculty of Education for Children and

Special Educational Needs, Conference Hall

(1-9 Désány str., Hajdúböszörmény)

Date of the lecture: 24.04.2025.



PROJECT
FINANCED FROM
THE NRDI FUND