

## Kuncho Vasilev Ignatov

*17.03.1942 – 03.09.2003*

Assoc. Prof. Kuncho Vasilev Ignatov, MD, PhD was born on 17<sup>th</sup> March, 1942 in the village of Mechka, Pleven region. In 1960, he graduated from the first male high school with honors. In 1963, he was admitted as a student at the Higher Medical Institute in Sofia, where he graduated as a doctor, majoring in Medicine in 1969. From 1970 to 1973, he worked in the town of Svishtov, unit 80040 as head of the medical service. In 1977, he acquired the specialty of Surgery. From 1973 to 1988, he worked as a senior resident in the surgical department of the Military Hospital in town of Pleven. In 1983, he defended his scientific degree "Doctor", and in 1988 - the scientific title "Associate Professor". From 1988 to 1991 he worked as the head of the clinic and head of the Naval Hospital, Varna. From 1991 to 1995 he was the head of the Department of Surgical Diseases at the Higher Medical Institute - Pleven, a member of the Academic Council. In 1992 he became Medical Manager of the Higher Medical Institute - Pleven, and from 1993 to 2003 he was the Rector of the Higher Medical Institute - Pleven and Chairman of the Academic Council. From 2001 to 2003 he was a member of the Board of Directors of the General Hospital - Pleven.

In 1992 he specialized in Health Management in Liverpool and Cambridge (Great Britain), and in 2000 also at Dimitar A. Tsenov Academy of Economics, Svishtov. Full member of the Polish Academy of Medicine, awarded the Albert Schweitzer Gold Medal for outstanding achievements in the field of medicine and humanism. Assoc. Prof. Kuncho Vasilev Ignatov, MD has over 150 scientific papers, two textbooks and two monographs.

Member of the Polish Academy of Medicine (1999); Vice-President of the Surgical Society in Bulgaria, two terms until October 2002; Founder and member of the Bulgarian National Academy of Medicine since its establishment; Member of the Union of Scientists in Bulgaria; Member of the Supreme Medical Council since 1993; Member of the Council of Rectors since 1993; Scientific supervisor of four doctoral students.

Under the leadership of Assoc. Prof. Kuncho Vasilev Ignatov, MD as Rector, the second faculty of the Higher Medical Institute - Faculty of Public Health was opened and the accreditation for the transformation of the institute into a university was launched. Under his management, English-language education was introduced for the first time in the country, as well as PBL.