Introduction

The following time periods and milestones in the history of hematology at the Faculty Hospital can be distinguished:

1945 - 1955 Department of Internal Medicine with a Laboratory of Hematology

1955 - 1997 Division of originally unified Department of Internal Medicine into First and Second Departments of Internal Medicine

1956 Foundation of the Central Laboratory of Hematology located in the building of the First Department of Internal Medicine

1971 Establishment of the Department of Clinical Hematology located at the First Department of Internal Medicine with beds for hematological patients as part of the First Department of Internal Medicine

1978/79 Foundation of the Unit of Hematological Intensive Care at the Second Department of Internal Medicine

1994/IX Transfer of the laboratory and outpatient clinic of the Department of Clinical Hematology from the building of the First Department of Internal Medicine into the newly constructed laboratory building with beds for hematological patients still remaining at the First Department of Internal Medicine

1997/X Foundation of the new Department of Clinical Hematology with beds for hematological patients in the new Oncology building and joining in this department hematologists from the Department of Clinical Hematology and the Second Department of Internal Medicine

Hematology certainly belongs among the well-established and prominent specialties at the Faculty Hospital. It has become a prominent center on a national level. Hematology began emerging as an independent field at the end of the 19th and at the beginning of the 20th century in step with the progress in laboratory diagnosis, which finally made it possible to diagnose the diseases of the blood.
Hematology as a specialty, by today’s definition, comprises both clinical and laboratory hematology, which according to the International Society of Hematology form a unified and indivisible entity. This principle was meticulously followed by the author during the development of hematology at the Faculty Hospital in Hradec Králové.

The origins of hematology as a specialty in Hradec Králové are closely tied with the foundation of the Faculty of Medicine (at first as a branch of the Faculty of Medicine of the Charles University in Prague) and with the establishment of the Department of Internal Medicine. Between 1945 and 1953, when professor Pavel Lukí was the chair of the Department of Internal Medicine, Dr. Josef Procházka (born December 12, 1914) was the hematologist. Dr. Procházka joined the department on March 1, 1946. Professor Lukí appointed him chief of the Laboratory of Hematology. The spectrum of laboratory tests performed at that time was very limited. The tests performed were the complete blood count, bone marrow aspirate evaluation, otherwise osmotic resistance of red blood cells, and as far as coagulation tests are concerned the coagulation time according to Lee White, bleeding time according to Duke, prothrombin time and later the prothrombin consumption test. At first, before the establishment of the Blood Bank, the Blood Group Antigen testing was performed as well. There were few blood donors at that time. Professor Procházka recalls how he at that time, together with the chief of the Blood Bank Dr. Karel Hejna, attended dozens of donor recruitment lectures organized by the Red Cross in bigger and smaller towns of the East Bohemian Region - for free and without travel expenses reimbursement.

In the treatment of Hodgkin’s disease, leukemias, and polycythemia vera, Dr. Procházka and Dr. Černík began to use a compound analogous to nitrogen mustard, used in the United States in 1946. The drug was obtained thanks to professor Bedra, the head of the Department of Surgery in Hradec Králové, from Rybitví. With this is closely related the publication of the monograph Malignant Lymphogranuloma (Dr. Chrobák, Dr. Procházka) as part of the Thomyer Series (P. Lukí, J. Procházka 1955).

After the takeover of the Faculty of Medicine in Hradec Králové Faculty Hospital. Dr. Lukí was the first to join the Department of Internal Medicine at the Palacky University, Faculty of Medicine in Olomouc, and together with Dr. S. Dvořák and J. Hejna he later became a professor and devoted himself to the study of coagulation.

Between the years of 1953 and 1955, after professor Lukí had left, Dr. Josef Libánský, Associate Professor of Medicine (born September 3, 1911) was the Head of the Department of Internal Medicine. He came from the University Outpatient Clinic in Prague. Before that he was at the First Department of Internal Medicine of the Charles University, Faculty of Medicine in Prague. He joined the department in Hradec Králové on June 15, 1953. Associate Professor Josef Libánský was at that time already known hematologist who systematically studied the morphology of blood cells. In 1948 he published his monograph on Cyto logic Biopsy of Lymph Nodes, which represented a cytology of lymph nodes. He introduced rigorous monitoring of anticoagulation therapy with Pentelant at the department, which he delegated to Dr. Chrobák. Dr. Ladislav Chrobák (born April 11, 1927) got his medical degree from the Second Department of Internal Medicine of the Charles University in Prague in 1951. He joined the department from the Army Officers Reserve Corps School of Health Services in Hradec Králové on October 23, 1953 following a request of Dr. Libánský. Before that he trained for one year at the Department of Internal Medicine in Písek under the tutelage of Dr. Karel Bobek, Associate Professor of Medicine. Almost together with Dr. Libánský joined the department Dr. Čušová Svehlí. Dr. Svehlí was already an experienced hematologist, and in addition to performing research and radiation injury he became the chief of the outpatient clinic, while Dr. Chrobák was the chief of the Laboratory of Hematology, and became responsible for its further development. He remained as the chief of the Laboratory of Hematology until his retirement in 1997. However after two years Dr. Libánský and Dr. Svehlí left to Prague. Dr. Libánský became the chair of the in-patient section of the Institute of Haematology, and his wife, Dr. Svehlí joined the Institute for Continuing Medical Education of Physicians in Krč. Associate Professor Libánský was extremly devoted to hemostasis, and in particular he studied microangiopathic hemolytic anemias, such as drug-induced hemolytic anemia and the patient’s hypersensitivity, using radionuclide labeling of blood elements. In 1948 he published his monograph on Microangiopathic Hemolytic Anemia Type II (1967). There was close collaboration with the Laboratory of Radionuclides in studying radionuclide labeling of blood elements.

Citing our literature on anemias, we should mention the paper on Congenital Dyserythropoietic Anemia Type II (CDA - Type II. HEMPAS) in three siblings with improvement following splenectomy (Chrobák 1975) and the paper on microangiopathic hemolytic anemia (Chrobák 1977). We investigated the pathogenesis of anemia, and in many patients with anemia we introduced a fairly sensitive test to diagnose graft rejection in allogeneic kidney transplant recipient, based on the detection of melyocytosis (fragments in peripheral blood smears (Chrobák, Radochova).

Surgery, with the use extracorporeal circulation of blood and anticoagulation therapy, was started in 1956, and was introduced clinically in 1958. This type of surgery served as a strong impetus to have available tests monitoring coagulation and hemostasis during and after extracorporeal circulation and for the differential diagnosis of bleeding complications associated with insufficient hirudin saturation, with heparin rebound phenomenon, thrombocytopenia, thrombo cytopenia, disseminated intravascular coagulation, and pathologically activated fibrinolysis. Serum markers of diseases of the cardiovascular system, especially in patients undergoing extracorporeal Blood Circulation Under Mild Hyperthermia (Associate Professor thesis - Chrobák 1965) resulted in a recommendation of the most suitable series of diagnostic and therapeutic tests for the Department of Infectious Diseases. Dr. Hana Chrobáková (born July 9, 1927) joined the Central Laboratory of Hematology as a consultant for hematology. She remained in this position until 1971. In 1959 Dr. Dagmar Radochová (born August 12, 1929) joined the First Department of Medicine. During the long-term absence of Dr. Chrobák, while he worked in Kuwait, she was the acting chief of the Central Laboratory of Hematology and later of the Department of Clinical Hematology.

The spectrum of clinical hematology practiced at the First Department of Internal Medicine included the whole hematology of diseases, i.e. the diagnosis and therapy of anemias, malignant hematological disorders, disorders of hematostasis and coagulation, including the administration of anticoagulation therapy and later on thrombolytic therapy. Our papers published on anemias included the monograph Paroxysmal Nocturnal Hemoglobinuria (Chrobák 1967), which was the first monograph on PNH in world literature. The Department affiliated with the Second Department of Internal Medicine of the Faculty Hospital in Hradec Králové, which was founded in 1962. Using 5Clr labeled erythrocytes, Dr.Radochova published a number of papers on hemolytic anemias and means for the early detection and intervention in hemolytic anemias associated with leukemias, rheumatoid arthritis, pernicious anemia, and in patients operated in extracorporeal circulation. Her Ph.D. thesis was The Contribution of Determination of Survival of 5Clr Labeled Erythrocytes in Anemias of Combined Etiology (1967). There was close collaboration with the Laboratory of Radionuclides in studying radionuclide labeling of blood elements.
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In the treatment of Hodgkin’s disease, leukemias, and polyarthritis rheumatica, Dr. Procházka and Dr. Černík began to use the anticoagulation therapy and later on thrombolytic therapy. Together with the Laboratory of Radionuclides in the Faculty Hospital, Professor Lukí appointed Dr. Libánsek (born April 11, 1927) got his medical degree in 1949 from the Charles University in Prague, and the Second Department of Internal Medicine served mainly as the teaching of the so called ‘Hospital Internal Medicine’ at the Faculty Hospital. It was established. In addition to the laboratory at the First Department of Internal Medicine, which became the main laboratory, and by his teaching responsibilities. He left the department, before he was able to give it a character of a head of laboratory. After Dr. Lukí joined the Institute for Continuing Medical Education of Physicians in Kroměříž, Associate Professor Libánsek became the head of the Department of Internal Medicine. Professor Rehoř was born on May 5, 1945, and had been then the head of the Department of Internal Medicine in Pardubice. He was the head of the department from 1955 until 1962. Professor Rehoř made the final decision that Dr. Chrobák, who had the characteristics of a hematologist, should become a hematologist.

In June 1955 The Second Department of Internal Medicine was established at the Faculty Hospital. The hematologist remaining as the head of the Purkyně Military Medical Academy, prof. Lukí left in 1953 to join the First Department of Internal Medicine at the Palacky University, Faculty of Medicine in Olomouc, and together with prof. S. Lindt took the lead of the Department. He later became a professor and devoted himself to the study of coagulation.

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Almost together with Dr. Libánsek joined the department Dr. Curad Švehla. Dr. Švehla was already an experienced hematologist, and in addition to performing researches on radiation injury he became the chief of the outpatient clinic, while Dr. Chrobák was the chief of the Laboratory of Hematology, and became responsible for its further development. He remained as the chief of the laboratory of hematology until his retirement in 1997. However after two years Dr. Libánsek and Dr. Švehla left to Prague. Dr. Libánsek became the chair of the in-patient service at the Institute of Hematology, Ear, Nose and Throat Medicine, and Dr. Švehla joined the Institute for Continuing Medical Education of Physicians in Kroměříž, Associate Professor Libánsek became the ext reme head of Laboratory of Hematology, and by his teaching responsibilities. He left the department, before he was able to give it a character of a head of laboratory. Dr. Libánsek had been the new head of the Department of Internal Medicine. Professor Rehoř was born on May 5, 1945, and had been then the head of the Department of Internal Medicine in Pardubice. He was the head of the department from 1955 until 1962. Professor Rehoř made the final decision that Dr. Chrobák, who had the characteristics of a hematologist, should become a hematologist.

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independent reported the first cases of this protein in the Czech Republic. Dr. Žák became interested in all the departments on campus of the ‘New Hospital’, and the Institute of Clinical Biochemistry and Leukemia (HCL). Our department and the department in one part of this area. The First Department of Internal Medicine provided the hematology consultation service for one part of this area. The First Department of Internal Medicine. The investigation of qualitative and quantitative cellular composition of human lymph was pursued by Dr. Chrobák (1967). The most frequently cited paper was on the coagulation properties of human lymph by Dr. Chrobák (1967). It became a fundamentally cited paper even in monographs and textbooks.

The finding that hemophilia is a heterogeneous disease, represented by two distinct coagulopathy disorders: deficiency of Factor VIII (hemophilia A) or Factor IX (hemophilia B) (Agelleier 1952) led to the introduction of the thromboplas- 
tins, which includes splenectomy, administration of interferon -alpha and recently 2-chlorodeoxyadenosine. Other publica-
tions dealt with treponemal infections, their diagnostic re-
liance, noninvasive markers of tumor mass and disease activity, levels of soluble IL-2 receptor (sIL-2R), red cell di-
stribution width (RDW), and dyserythropoietic changes in bone marrow (Chrobák, Žák, Podzimek).

**Foundation of Department of Clinical Hematology**

The Department of Clinical Hematology (DCH) was established in 1971 in harmony with the national guidelines. It remained located in the building of the First Department of Internal Medicine. The DCH was over time designated more space. The in-patient care was provided thanks to the leadership of the department on 14 beds be-
longing to the First Department of Internal Medicine. Dr. Chrobák became the chair of DCH, but remained a staff physician at the First Department of Internal Medicine. Dr. Radovčík became the vice-chair of the department, and was succeeded by Dr. Voglová after the former’s retirement in 1990.

When the Central Laboratory of Hematology received the status of DCH, it was possible to hire more physician staff. The newly formed department was joined by Dr. Soňa Mírová (born May 5, 1942), who took over the responsibili-
ties of leading the Center For Hemophiliacs. Dr. Jaroslava Vávrová (born October 12, 1953), who under na-
mur. Foralová are both hematology and blood transfusion in Prague, four membrane variant hemophiliacs in the East Bohemian Region. In a mother and a daughter a new unstable hemoglobin which caused hemolytic anemia was identified. The molecular biologic characterization of this defect was performed in the laboratory of Dr. Haasman in USA by Dr. Dvůvky and Dr. Štancl). This new unstable he-
moglobin was named Hradec Kralové. Dr. Chrobák’s clini-
cal expertise gained during his two stays in Kuwait led to the diagnosis of these disorders. Dr. Chrobák from 1970-
1971 established in Kuwait the first laboratory of hematolo-
gy in the Al Sabah Hospital. From 1982 to 1984, as the first Professor of Hematology at the newly founded Kuwait University Medical School he established, the Department of Hematology in the Mobarak Al Kabeer Hospital. In col-
laboration with Dr. Petr Dulíček, who is the current director of the Institute of Hematology and Blood Transfusion in Prague, four membrane variant defects in patients with hereditary spherocytosis were iden-
tified in the laboratories at Tufts University in Boston. These were called Hradec Kralové, Häg, Jabloniec, and Trutnov.

The spectrum of laboratory tests for detection of thrombophilic conditions was enriched. Already in 1979 we diagnosed a congenital defect of antithrombin (first report in Czechoslovakia) leading in the patient to thrombosis of mesenteric veins (Dr. Tichy. and Radovčík). Between 1991and 1995 we introduced diagnostic tests for lupus an-
ticoagulans, protein C, protein S and D dimers (Mgr. Foralová, Dr. Dulíce). The outpatient clinic schedule gre-

eatly improved. We were able to see patients every day of the week with three different examination rooms available. In addition to the regular outpatient clinic schedule, clinics for oncohematologic patients, for evaluation and dispensation of patients with hypercoagulable states, and for hemophili-
ics were organized. Between 1997 and 2001, a new specialist for hypercoagulation was created, Dr. Pavlík. There were rooms for intravenous administration of blood and blood products, and for chemotherapy. The int-

tional database of computerized record keeping in the clinic and in the laboratories of DCH, thanks to efforts of Dr. 
Voglová, improved the quality of record keeping and sim-
plified processing of claims for insurance companies.

Prior to June 1, 1997, when DCH merged to form the new Department of Clinical Hematology with its own in-
dependent in-patient service with Dr. Jaroslav Maly, Professor of Medicine, the DCH included its own inpatient unit, which included a chair professor Chrobák, the vice-chair Dr. Voglová, four other staff physicians, one pharmacist, twenty one technicians, four nurses, and two administrative staff.

**Development of Hematology in the Second Department of Internal Medicine**

Development of hematology as a specialty at the Second Department of Internal Medicine was somewhat different. The First Department of Internal Medicine was from the beginning a referral center for the East Bohemian Region. Later on, at the end of the 1970s, the Second Department of Internal Medicine took over patient care for one part of this area. The First Department of Internal Medicine provided the hematology consultation service for all the departments on campus of the ‘New Hospital’, in-

Fig. 3: Building with the Laboratory of Hematology, Department of Medical Genetics and Department of Cardiopulmonary and Vascular Diagnostic in the right wing and Institute of Clinical Biochemistry and Diagnostics and Diagnostic Centre for Internal Medicine in the left wing. (Photo: Alena Žáková).
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When the Central Laboratory of Hematology received the status of DCH, it was possible to hire more physician staff. The newly formed department was joined by Dr. Soňa Mirova (born May 5, 1942), who took over the responsibilities of leading the Center For Hemophilia, Dr. Jaroslava Voglová (born October 12, 1953), who under national and international cooperation efforts enriched the detection of a heparin type circulating antibody in human thoracic duct lymph (Chrobáková 1967). It became possible to diagnose thalassemia minor in 30 patients in the East Bohemian Region. In a mother and a daughter a new unstable hemoglobin which caused hemolytic anemia was identified. The molecular biologic characterization of this defect was performed in the laboratory of Dr. Hauser in USA by Dr. Divoky and Dr. Indráč. This new unstable hemoglobin was named Hradec Kralové. Dr. Chrobáková’s clinical expertise gained during his two stays in Kuwait led to the diagnosis of these disorders. Dr. Chrobáková from 1970-1971 established in Kuwait the first laboratory of hematologists in the Al Sahab Hospital. From 1982 to 1984, as the first Professor of Hematology at the newly founded Kuwait University Medical School he established, the Department of Hematology in the Malaruk Al Kabeer Hospital. In collaboration with Dr. Petruš Štastný, who is the current director of the Institute of Hematology and Blood Transfusion in Prague, four membrane variant defects in patients with hereditary spherocytosis were identified in the laboratories at Tufts University in Boston. These were called Hradec Kralové I, Nachod, Jablonec, and Trutnov.

The spectrum of laboratory tests for detection of thrombophilic conditions was enriched. Already in 1979 we diagnosed a congenital defect of antithrombin (first report in Czechoslovakia) leading in the patient to thrombosis of mesenteric veins (Dr. Tichy, and Dr. Radčová). Between 1991 and 1995 we introduced diagnostic tests for lupus anticoagulants, protein C, protein S and D dimers (Mgr. Foralová, Dr. Dušček). The outpatient clinic schedule greatly improved. We were able to see patients every day of the week with three different consultation rooms available. In addition to the regular outpatient clinic schedule, clinics for onc hematologists, patients for evaluation and dispensation of patients with hypercoagulable states, and for hemophilia. These were called Hradec Kralové I, Nachod, Jablonec, and Trutnov. There were rooms for intravenous administration of blood and blood products, and for chemotherapy. The intensive care unit of computerized record keeping in the clinic and in the laboratories of DCH, thanks to efforts of Dr. Voglova, improved the quality of record keeping and simplified processing of claims for insurance companies.

Prior to June 1, 1997, when DCH merged to form the new Department of Clinical Hematology with its own independent in-patient service with Dr. Jaroslav Malý, Professor of Medicine, Mgr. Mirova (born July 6, 1946) in 1993 by Mgr. Iona Foralová and in 1995 by Dr. Vladimir Maunier (born July 7, 1963). All staff physicians and also Mgr. Foralová are board certified in hematology and transfusion medicine. In addition to their duties in the laboratory and hematology outpatient clinic, all physicians rotated through the in-patient hematology service at the First Department of Medicine. Thus ensured the closest interconnections between patient care in the hospital and in the laboratories, and by that to increase work efficiency, to acquire new laboratory equipment and to introduce new laboratory techniques, such as electrophoresis of hemoglobin, measurements of thrombocyte aggregation and others. The introduction of hemoglobin electrophoresis and detection of hemoglobin A2 made it possible to diagnose thalassemia minor in 30 patients in the East Bohemian Region. In a mother and a daughter a new unstable hemoglobin which caused hemolytic anemia was identified. The molecular biologic characterization of this defect was performed in the laboratory of Dr. Hauser in USA by Dr. Divoky and Dr. Indráč. This new unstable hemoglobin was named Hradec Kralové. Dr. Chrobáková’s clinical expertise gained during his two stays in Kuwait led to the diagnosis of these disorders. Dr. Chrobáková from 1970-1971 established in Kuwait the first laboratory of hematologists in the Al Sahab Hospital. From 1982 to 1984, as the first Professor of Hematology at the newly founded Kuwait University Medical School he established, the Department of Hematology in the Malaruk Al Kabeer Hospital. In collaboration with Dr. Petruš Štastný, who is the current director of the Institute of Hematology and Blood Transfusion in Prague, four membrane variant defects in patients with hereditary spherocytosis were identified in the laboratories at Tufts University in Boston. These were called Hradec Kralové I, Nachod, Jablonec, and Trutnov. The spectrum of laboratory tests for detection of thrombophilic conditions was enriched. Already in 1979 we diagnosed a congenital defect of antithrombin (first report in Czechoslovakia) leading in the patient to thrombosis of mesenteric veins (Dr. Tichy, and Dr. Radčová). Between 1991 and 1995 we introduced diagnostic tests for lupus anticoagulants, protein C, protein S and D dimers (Mgr. Foralová, Dr. Dušček). The outpatient clinic schedule greatly improved. We were able to see patients every day of the week with three different consultation rooms available. In addition to the regular outpatient clinic schedule, clinics for onc hematologists, patients for evaluation and dispensation of patients with hypercoagulable states, and for hemophilia. These were called Hradec Kralové I, Nachod, Jablonec, and Trutnov. There were rooms for intravenous administration of blood and blood products, and for chemotherapy. The intensive care unit of computerized record keeping in the clinic and in the laboratories of DCH, thanks to efforts of Dr. Voglova, improved the quality of record keeping and simplified processing of claims for insurance companies.

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Development of Hematology in the Second Department of Internal Medicine
Development of hematology as a specialty at the Second Department of Internal Medicine was somewhat different. The First Department of Internal Medicine was from the beginning a referral center for the East Bohemian Region. Later on, at the end of the 1970s, the Second Department of Internal Medicine took over patient care from one part of this area. The First Department of Internal Medicine provided the hematology consultation service for all the departments on campus of the ‘New Hospital’, in
excluding the Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics, where cases with bleeding and thromboembolic complicat-
ions were managed, while the Second Department of Internal Medicine provided the consultation service for the Departments of Dermatology, Neurology, and Ortho-
pedics. The number of patients seen at the First Depart-
ment of Internal Medicine was therefore much higher and the spectrum of hematologic disorders seen broader. The Second Department of Internal Medicine, which was part of the Purkyně Military Medical Academy, had as one of its goals, research of radiation injury mechanisms, and other military internal medicine research projects. It had the advantage of superior funding, coming out of army budget.

Dr. Jaroslav Mázák (born June 29, 1925) was the chief hematologist at the Second Department of Internal Medicine. Dr. Mázák got his medical degree from the Faculty of Medicine Charles University in Prague. He be-
came interested in the radiation hemorragh syndrome. In his Ph.D. thesis (1959), he showed that the underlying ca-
use of this syndrome is thrombocytopenia caused by marrow aplasia and not, as had been speculated before, an increa-
sed anticoagulation activity such as hyperferinemia or a coagulation factor defect. In his publications, including his Associate Professor thesis, he investigated the radiation syndrome. He showed a suppressive effect on primary he-
mostat, which he attributed to altered platelet function. Another great student of Dr. Mázák and by the Depart-
ment of Field Internal Medicine, in this case experi-
ten in dogs, was disseminated intravascular coagula-
tion. He and his team invented and streptokinase on the course of disseminated intravascular coagulation and in shock triggered by intravenous administration of thrombosis. Dr. Jaroslav Mázák made the first in Czechoslovakia to use streptokinase in the treatment of venous thrombosis and in chronic arterial obstruction. He introduced at the depart-
ment the trepanobiopsy according to Waitz. Dr. Mázák be-
came a professor in 1972. Between 1968 and 1978, when he was the head of the Second Department of Internal Medicine, he tried to support the development of hematology.

Between 1959 and 1973 dr. František Matěja (born October 7, 1926) was at the Second Department of Inter-

cal Medical in Brno. He remained interested in the Department of Internal Medicine at Rychnov nad Kněžecí. He remained inter-

ested in hematology and in 1981 he was chosen to become the head of the Department of Clinical Hematology in the Faculty Hospital of St. Anne in Brno.

In 1960 Dr. Jaroslav Vaňašek joined the Second Depart-
ment of Internal Medicine. Dr. Vaňašek (born August 18, 1927) got his medical degree from the Faculty of Medicine of Masaryk University in Brno in 1951. Between 1963 and 1969 he was an Assistant Professor, and from 1969 to 1971 he was the vice-chair of the Department of Field Internal Medicine. In his research, starting with his Ph.D. thesis 'Contribution to Studies of Hematologic Changes in Burns Combined with Ionizing Radiation Damage' (1956), and afterwards in his Associate Professor thesis 'Studies of Hematologic Changes in Burns and in Disorders such as Acute Leukemias, Bone Marrow Transplantation', he made decisions on treatment protocols in patients with acute myeloid leukemia on chemotherapy (1998). The hematology team at the Second Department of Internal Medicine included Dr. Ophelius, who was a co-author of several publications on coagulation disorders and malignant hematologic diseases. After the formation of the new Department of Clinical Hematology, he remained at the Second Department of Internal Medicine.

Dr. Milan Bláha (born June 6, 1938) joined the Second Department of Internal Medicine in 1971. He was inter-

ested in hematologic changes in patients with burns. He introduced a technique of standardized burn injury in dogs, which served as a model system to study the pathogenesis and treatment of anemia in burn injuries. Results of these studies were obtained using 111Ct and 31P radioactive is-

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In 1969 Dr. Jaroslav Vaňášek joined the Second Department of Internal Medicine. Dr. Vaňášek (born August 18, 1927) got his medical degree from the Faculty of Medicine of Masaryk University in Brno in 1951. Between 1963 and 1969 he was an Assistant Professor, and from 1969 to 1971 he was the vice-chair of the Department of Field Internal Medicine. In his research, starting with his Ph.D. thesis "Contribution to Studies of Hematologic Changes in Burns Combined with Ionizing Radiation Damage" (1966), and with his Associate Professor thesis "Marrow Hematopoiesis in the Course of Experimental Burns" (1971), he investigated hematologic changes in patients with burns. He introduced a technique of standardized burn injury in dogs, which served as a model system to study the pathogenesis and treatment of anemia in burn injuries. Results of these studies were obtained using 111In and 99mTc radiocolloid as tracers. He introduced cytometry as a laboratory tool at the department, and shared his expertise with colleagues at the Institute of Hematology in Strasburg, during his stay there in 1967. Because marrow aplasia is to a certain degree a model of radiation injury, he became interested in treatment strategies in patients with marrow aplasia, including bone marrow transplantation. He initiated efforts to treat these patients in sterile facilities, and organized the formation of a transplantation team that included clinical hematologists, radiotherapists, microbiologists, immunologists, epidemiologists, and pharmacologists. Ultimately, in 1971 Dr. Vaňášek became a professor in 1981. Other hematologists also played a role in establishing this transplantation program. At the Institute of Hematology in Rostock, with Oskar Mazák and by professor Mazák to study the issues of hemostasis in patients with burns. He also found that improved supportive therapy brought a decrease in mortality in patients with hematologic malignancies. The Second Department of Internal Medicine was very successful in this respect and introduced as first in the Czechoslovakia to use streptokinase in the treatment of venous thrombosis and in chronic arterial obstruction. He introduced at the depart- ment the trepanobiopsy according to Waitz. Dr. Mazák became a professor in 1972. Between 1968 and 1978, when he was the head of the Second Department of Internal Medicine, he tried to support the development of hematology.

Between 1959 and 1973 Dr. František Matěja (born October 7, 1926) was at the Second Department of Internal Medicine of Masaryk University in Brno. He remained interested in the Department of Internal Medicine provided the consultation service for the Departments of Dermatology, Neurology, and Orthopedics. The number of patients seen at the First Depart- ment of Internal Medicine was therefore much higher and the spectrum of hematologic disorders seen broader. The Second Department of Internal Medicine, which was part of the Purkyně Military Medical Academy, had as one of its goals, research of radiation injury mechanisms, and other military internal medicine research projects. It had the advantage of superior funding, coming out of army budget. Dr. Jaroslav Mazák (born June 29,1925) was the chief hematologist at the Second Department of Internal Medicine. Dr. Mazák got his medical degree from the Faculty of Medicine Charles University in Prague. He became interested in the radiation hemoglobin syndrome. In his Ph.D. thesis (1959), he showed that the underlying cause of this syndrome is thrombocytopenia caused by marrow aplasia and not, as had been speculated before, an increased anticoagulant activity such as hyperheparinemia or a coagulation factor defect. In his publications, including his Associate Professor thesis, he investigated the radiation syndrome. He showed a suppressive effect on primary hemostasis, which he attributed to altered platelet function. Another advantage of Second Department of Internal Medicine and by the Department of Field Internal Medicine, in this case experi- ments in dogs, was disseminated intravascular coagula- tion. Dr. Vaňášek became a professor in 1981. Other hematologists also played a role in establishing this transplantation program. Between 1968 and 1978, when he was the head of the Second Department of Internal Medicine, he tried to support the development of hematol- ogy.

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report complex experience with streptokinase treatment in this country and he was among the first in Czechoslovakia to publish experience with tPA in acute myocardial infarction. In this context he pointed out the dependence of coronary artery reperfusion on the concentration of fibrinogen. He became a professor in 1996. Both depart-
ments DCH and Second Department of Internal Medicine also served as centers of postgraduate training. Almost all clus-
ten of the East Bohemian Hematology and Transfusion Medicine Department first time nominated the Department of Clinical Hematology service at the First Department of Internal Medicine. Regular regional hematological semi-
nars were a part of continuing education in hematology. Courses devoted to problems in hematology were organized by Department of Clinical Hematology and Second Department of Internal Medicine for physicians and for nurses and technicians.

The Second Department of Internal Medicine became a nation-wide and internationally recognized center for postgraduate training of military physicians. The hematolo-
gic group organized regular update courses and national and international meetings of military physicians.

Both departments helped to start professional and scien-
tific careers of number of students, so called student as-
stant researchers. Some presented their works at national and even international student conferences. Some of them chose to stay in Prague (Gabriela Vranyova, Vladimir Mainsar, Josef Pinkas, Karel Podzimek, Karel Vacha, Janoslava Voglova). The development of hematology would not have been possible without cooperation with spe-
cialties that provided information required for both success-
ful diagnosis and therapy. These specialties include micro-
biology, geneticians, diagnostic and therapeutic radiol-
y, transfusion medicine, tissue bank, hematology and other specialties in the form of consultations.

Bone Marrow and PBSC Transplantation Program in the Second Department of Internal Medicine.

A special section should be devoted to bone marrow and peripheral blood stem cell transplantation. This is a tra-
ditional activity of the second. Most important contributions both on a national and international level were made. Hematologists at the Second Department of Medicine became interested in this field and started inten-
sive work already in the late 60s and in the 70s (in view of the complicated nature of the procedure and difficult conditions at that time) with only a small delay after the first international centers. It was at that time that the first centers using powerful sources of ra-
diation and the use of radiation in industry started. Protection of their personnel became necessary. Research in this area was supported by the army. It was thought at that time that marrow transplantation could be used in the management of nuclear accidents. Expectation rose after, physicists from Yugoslavia following radiation exposure were successfully treated by professor Georges Mathe in Paris 1966. Dr. Rudolf Klen from the Tissue Bank in Hradec Králové (the second tissue bank in the world and the first in Europe) with Dr. Vaňásek and later with Dr. Pavel Mešťák and Dr. Bláha started experimental work on the bone marrow harvest and storage program. Work was done on utilization of cadaverous donor marrow. Unique containers for bone marrow were developed in Hradec Králové. The second bone marrow transplant was performed under at that time state of the art conditions. Bone marrow was har-
vested by orthopedic surgeons - Associate Professor Oldřich Fiala and Dr. Karel Urban. At the same time fur-
ther clinical research was conducted and steps were taken to ensure a successful continuation of the transplantation pro-
dram. Dr. Bláha, Associate Professor Sulc, and Dr. Kobylka published a paper showing as the first in Czechoslovakia and among the first in the world that cyclophosphamide unexpectedly mobilizes stem cells from marrow into the pe-
riphery. Cyclophosphamide remains even today as a “gold standard” priming agent. Clinical application of cyclo-
phosphamide was tested and so shortly after the first use of peripheral blood stem cells in the world, three patients with lymphomas after myeloablative chemotherapy received pe-
ripheral blood stem cells transplants as first in Czechoslovakia (1987). The transplantation program was expanded in 1991. Since 1994 the Second Department of Internal Medicine started cooperation with the Second Department of Internal Medicine and the Department of Hematology and Department of Radiotherapy and the pos-
sional areas in the future. It was also in agree-
ment with the intentions of the Faculty Director, Associate Professor Lesio Heger, Ph.D. to concentrate all

inpatient care on the campus of the New Hospital. Although the approval of this proposal was not easy to reach, it was in the end approved.

In October 1997 the new constituted Department of Clinical Hematology started its work and professor Dr. Malý became its head (Fig 4). The department comprises an in-patient service, outpatient clinic, hemapheresis center and a laboratory part which remained in the previous labo-

date building. The vice-chair for the laboratory part was

Dr. Miroslav Pecka, Ph.D. The in-patient service com-
prises 6 transplantation beds, 6 intensive care beds, 4 beds of intermediary care and 29 standard hematology care
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Conditions have thus been created for the new Depart-
ment of Clinical Hematology to continue develop-
ment in further growth in both clinical care and research, and to fulfill its role as a teaching center for training both an undergraduate and postgraduate level. The depart-
ment has all the conditions to become a part of the Medical

School like similar centers in Olomouc and Brno.

Foundation of the New Department of Clinical Hematology with the In-Patient Service.

The existence of two departments of hematology, with an in-patient service at the First Department of Internal Medicine on one hand, and the Second Department of Internal Medicine with a laboratory of hematology on the other hand, equalled to an unnecessary split of resources, especially scientific and professional. This was clear to the medical director. Arguments for such a proposal included the close links between the future Department of Clinical Hematology and Department of Radiotherapy and the pos-
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Prof. MUDr. Ladislav Chrobáek, CSc.,
Department of Clinical Hematology,
Charles University, Faculty of Medicine and Faculty Hospital,
Prague 2, 128 08, Czech Republic.

Fig. 4: Baštěcky pavilion with the Department of Oncology and Radiotherapy, Department of Clinical Hematology, and Department of Nuclear Medicine (Photo: Alema Zabokva).
report complex experience with streptokinase treatment in this country and he was among the first in Czechoslovakia to publish experience with tPA in acute myocardial infarction. In this context he pointed out the dependence of coronary artery reperfusion on the concentration of fibrinogen. He became a professor in 1996. Both departments DCH and Second Department of Internal Medicine also served as centers of postgraduate training. Almost all chiefs of the East Bohemian Hematology and Transfusion Medicine Department had the rotating time at the Department of Clinical Hematology service at the First Department of Internal Medicine. Regular regional hematological seminars were a part of continuing education in hematology. Courses devoted to problems in hematology were organized by Department of Clinical Hematology and Second Department of Internal Medicine for physicians and for nurses and technicians.

The Second Department of Internal Medicine became a nation-wide and internationally recognized center for postgraduate training of military physicians. The hematologic group organized regular update courses and national and international meetings of military physicians. Both departments helped to start professional and scientific careers of number of students, so called student assistant researchers. Some presented their works at national and even international student conferences. Some of them chose hematology (Gabriela Vyraňová, Vladimir Maisar, Josef Pinkas, Karel Podzimek, Karel Vacha, Janoslava Vogtova). The development of hematology would not be possible without cooperation with specialties that provided information required for both successful diagnosis and therapy. These specialties include microbiology, cytogenetics, diagnostic and therapeutic radiology, transfusion medicine, tissue bank, stomatology and other specialties in the form of consultations.

Bone Marrow and PBSC Transplantation Program in the Second Department of Internal Medicine.

A special section should be devoted to bone marrow and peripheral blood stem cell transplantation. This is a traditional center of the department. Important contributions both on a national and international level were made. Hematologists at the Second Department of Medicine became interested in this field and started intensive research on bone marrow and peripheral blood stem cell transplants as first in Czechoslovakia (1987). The transplantation program was expanded in 1991. Since 1994 the Second Department of Internal Medicine is a member of the European Group for Blood and Bone Marrow Transplantation Group. In 1996 20 autologous transplants and 14 allogeneic transplants with solid tumors were performed. In 1997 already 41 transplants were performed and since 1998 allogeneic transplants were apart of continuing education in hematology. Some presented their works at national conferences devoted to hematology. The existence of two departments of hematology, with peripheral blood stem cell transplants as first in Europe) with Dr. Vaňásek and later with Dr. Chrobák became active members of the Czech Society of Hematology: Dr. Chrobák (president and vice-president), Dr. Malý (vice-president), Dr. Vaňásek (member of the Committee and scientific secretary during his stay in Prague). Dr. Pecka (chair of the Laboratory Section), Mrs. Soňa Kieslichová (member of the Committee for Technical Staff). From 1978 to 1984 Dr. Chrobák was the expert of the WHO for hematology and from 1990 to 1991 he became chief specialist of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic for the specialty of hematology until these posts of specialists were abolished.

Foundation of the New Department of Clinical Hematology with the In-Patient Service.

The existence of two departments of hematology, with an in-patient service at the First Department of Internal Medicine on one hand, and the Second Department of Internal Medicine with a laboratory of hematology on the other hand, equalled to an unnecessary split of resources, especially scientific and professional. This was clear to the hematologists at both departments. Unification was prevented however by space constraints. There was hope connected with the construction of the new Oncology pavilion in the “New Hospital”, where the capacity would allow the placement of an independent hematology in-patient service including the outpatient clinic. Following the meeting of hematology chairs (professor Dr. Chrobák and associate professor Dr. Malý) and the head of the Radiotherapy Department (Dr. Jaroslav Vaišáek, Jr., Ph.D.) in 1993 a proposal along these lines was sent to the hospital director. Arguments for such a proposal included the close links between the future Department of Clinical Hematology and Department of Radiotherapy and the possibility of cooperation in the future. It was also in agreement with the intentions of the Faculty Hospital Director and the Czechoslovak Society of Hematology and the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic for the specialty of hematology until these posts of specialists were abolished.

The construction of the new ward was connected with the construction of the new Oncology pavilion in the “New Hospital”, where the capacity would allow the placement of an independent hematology in-patient service including the outpatient clinic. Following the meeting of hematology chairs (professor Dr. Chrobák and associate professor Dr. Malý) and the head of the Radiotherapy Department (Dr. Jaroslav Vaišáek, Jr., Ph.D.) in 1993 a proposal along these lines was sent to the hospital director. Arguments for such a proposal included the close links between the future Department of Clinical Hematology and Department of Radiotherapy and the possibility of cooperation in the future. It was also in agreement with the intentions of the Faculty Hospital Director and the Czechoslovak Society of Hematology and the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic for the specialty of hematology until these posts of specialists were abolished.

Prof. MUDr. Ludělek Chrobák, CSc., Department of Clinical Hematology, Charles University, Faculty of Medicine and Faculty Hospital, 500 05 Hradec Králové, Czech Republic.

Fig. 4: Bütecky pavilion with the Department of Oncology and Radiotherapy, Department of Clinical Hematology, and Department of Nuclear Medicine (Photo: Alena Zabkova).