We would like to invite you to take part in the 2nd international conference Medical Review Auschwitz: Medicine Behind the Barbed Wire, which will take place on 7–8 May 2019 in Kraków, Poland.

The conference is organised by the Kraków Medical Society, the Polish Institute for Evidence-Based Medicine, and the medical publisher Medycyna Praktyczna, in collaboration with the Department of Bioethics and the Holocaust of the UNESCO Chair in Bioethics (Haifa), the Maimonides Institute for Medicine, Ethics and the Holocaust, the Jagiellonian University, the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum, and the Polish Association for Spiritual Care in Medicine, under auspices of the European Federation of Internal Medicine and the American College of Physicians.

The aim of the conference is to educate the world’s medical community about the violations of medical ethics during the Second World War, with special focus on the behaviour of physicians and other medical professionals in Nazi medical institutions and concentration camps or other places of imprisonment, and the ethical implications of Nazi medicine for contemporary medical practice and healthcare policy.

The conference is part of the Medical Review Auschwitz project, developed with the aim of sharing with the international community the unique scientific documents published over 31 years (1961–1991) in the medical journal Przegląd Lekarski – Oświęcim (Medical Review – Auschwitz). Articles from this journal are being successively translated into English and made available on the website.

Conference participants will also have the opportunity to visit the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum (including places not accessible to the general public).

Physicians coming to the conference are encouraged to spend more time in Kraków not only to experience its rich cultural life and remarkable heritage, but also to take part in the McMaster International Review Course in Internal Medicine and the Medical Education Forum.

We hope that this conference will make a significant contribution to further the understanding of the dark history of Nazi medicine in Nazi German concentration camps and help the international community draw a lesson for future generations.

We look forward to seeing you in Kraków in May 2019.

Piotr Gajewski MD PhD FACP  
Chair of the Organising Committee
6 May

Pre-conference visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum

7 May | Conference

The Holocaust as a critical point in the development of medical and research ethics?
Dr. Stacy Gallin, Maimonides Institute for Medicine, Ethics and the Holocaust, USA

Medicine and morality under the Nazis
Dr. Tessa Chelouche, Department of Bioethics and the Holocaust, UNESCO Chair in Bioethics (Haifa)

Motivations of Nazi doctors and whether these motivations have modern day relevance
Prof. Susan Miller, Houston Methodist Research Institute, USA

Teaching medical students about the history of doctors’ involvement in the Holocaust: opportunities and challenges
Prof. Matthew Wynia, University of Colorado, USA

“The corpses are still walking...”: a discussion about the case of German SS doctor Johann Paul Kremer
Dr. Maria Ciesielska, Unit of UNESCO Chair in Bioethics (Haifa), Lazarski University, Poland

A doctor from Auschwitz called Mephisto
Helena Kubica, Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum, Poland

Doctor Stefania Perzanowska: the founder of the women’s camp hospital in KL Lublin
Marta Grudzińska, State Museum at Majdanek Nazi German Concentration and Extermination Camp, Poland

Moral and ethical dilemmas faced by physicians who were Auschwitz prisoners:
Stefan Budziaszek, Krankenbauleiter of Buna-Monowitz prisoners’ hospital
Prof. Bogdan Musiał, Institute of National Remembrance, Poland

Professor Antoni Kępiński on the concentration camp syndrome
Prof. Zdzisław Jan Ryn, Jagiellonian University, Poland

Long-term psychosomatic impact in Holocaust offspring
Prof. Jacques Barth, University of Southern California, USA

Resilience and the role of the doctor: the Auschwitz experience
Prof. Rael Strous, Tel Aviv University, Israel

Professor Julian Aleksandrowicz, physician of the hospital in the Kraków Ghetto, initiator of the Righteous Among the Nations Medal
Prof. Aleksander Skotnicki, Jagiellonian University, Poland

8 May | Workshops

Psychiatrists and their patients during and after the Holocaust: the good, the bad and the ugly, lessons from Auschwitz
Prof. Rael Strous

What can we learn from Medicine Behind the Barbed Wire
Dr. Tessa Chelouche, Monika Siorek

Satellite Events

MIRCIM 2019
Medical Education Forum
www.medforum.eu

MIRCIM 2019
5th McMaster International Review Course in Internal Medicine
www.mircim.eu

www.mp.pl/auschwitz/conference