



Dear Colleagues, Dear friends, Dear Darjana and Dušan,

Welcome to Novi Sad for this second French-Serbian Oncology Meeting. I am sincerely happy to welcome new teams and new participants this year. As you already know, the idea of these meetings came two years ago, and considering the success of the first one, we decided to organize this second meeting. Also be sure that the third one is now planned for September 2011.

The second topic we chose together concerns the treatment of colorectal carcinomas. Each year, 1,230 new cases are diagnosed in Vojvodina, and 778 (60%) of them will die, even though some real progress has been made with the FolFox and the FolFIRI stories. Today, new drugs, i.e. monoclonal antibodies, are now available in all developed countries in metastatic setting, and maybe could be soon available as adjuvant therapies.

We asked our French colleagues and the Group AROME (Association of Radiotherapy and Oncology of the Mediterranean arEa – www.armacancer.org) to attend the first day of the Congress. This year, it is a real pleasure to welcome again Yazid Belkacemi, MD, PhD, President of the Group, and his colleagues, Jean-Francoise Bosset, MD, PhD, Pelagia Tsoutsou, MD, PhD and Esat-Mahmut Ozsahin, MD, PhD for this first plenary session. Patrice Callard MD PhD, Sidney Houry, MD, PhD and Dr. Jean-Baptiste Bachet have accepted to be here with us today for this session, which we have decided to call 'Themes of Excellence'. For the second day of the congress, we decided to address several issues: epidemiology, risk factors, genetics and familial colorectal cancer, screening and follow-up, followed in the afternoon by surgery, radiotherapy, chemotherapy, targeted therapy and supportive care. Thanks to our Serbian and French colleagues, coming from Tenon and Georges Pompidou Hospitals, Paris. Finally, Saturday will be the day of three workshop sessions, managed by tandem of French and Serbian colleagues.

To conclude, I would like to thank each speaker, each member of the Congress Secretariat and especially to Dr. Lazar Popović for his daily help, and finally all Organizing Committee Members. Many thanks to the pharmaceutical laboratories for their help and financial support. With the help of Dr. Darjana and Dr. Dušan Jovanović, PhD, I'm sure to see you again here for the 2011 Novi Sad Oncology Congress!

*Jean-Pierre Lotz, MD, PhD
Hôpital Tenon, Paris, France*