Our painful loss: Professor Dr. Zulpukar Kudaiberdiev (1939-2008)

Professor Zulpukar Kudaiberdiev passed away on March 24, 2008 ending the struggle with severe illness, leaving behind family, many friends and colleagues.

He devoted his life to medicine, public health, and serving his professional duties.

Professor Zulpukar Kudaiberdiev was born on March 2, 1939 in the city of Kok-Jangak, Kyrgyz Republic. After graduation of the State Medical Institute in 1962 he served as the chief physician of the small countryside hospital in Kemin region. Later, he finished his postgraduate studies on internal medicine at Kyrgyz State Medical Institute in 1967 and worked at the Department of Internal Medicine of the same institute as Assistant Professor and Associate Professor till 1977, teaching students, treating patients and conducting scientific research work. He earned the degree of Doctor of Sciences in 1979 and degree of Professor in 1993.

From 1977 till 2000 he served as a Vice-Director for Science of the National Center of Cardiology and Therapy, and between 2000 and 2003 as a Vice-Director for Clinic of the same center. He was the member of the outstanding team, which organized cardiology service in the country, “put the bricks” and contributed to the development of National Center of Cardiology and Therapy, and Scientific Research Institute of Cardiac Surgery and Organ Transplantation in Kyrgyz Republic.

He is known for his scientific research in the field of high-altitude medicine and his recommendations on the adaptation and improvement of the working capacity in the high-altitudes environment are summarized in his two doctoral dissertations. He has more than 150 published research articles, 3 books and 2 registered innovations. His latest research works are devoted to the investigation of the adaptation of pulmonary circulation to high altitudes in patients with cardiovascular and pulmonary diseases.

During the last months of his life, being ill, he finished work on the dictionary of cardiology terms in Kyrgyz language in the frame of international project with Turkish Society of Cardiology.

He was the Member of Executive Committee of the Association of Physicians of Kyrgyz Republic, Member of the Editorial Boards of the Central Asian Medical Journal (Kyrgyz Republic), The Anatolian Journal of Cardiology (Turkey) and Intercontinental Cardiology Journal (Panama).

He took an active part in organization of international meetings and congresses on cardiology, helping to bring up the latest advancements of science to physicians of Central Asia.

Professor Kudaiberdiev was an owner of many awards, including the title of Honored Physician of Kyrgyz Republic (since 1982), the Science and Technology State Award of Kyrgyz Republic (1996), and the state medal.

Being an outstanding chief and physician, he showed his unique organizing capabilities, implementing contemporary methods of diagnostics and treatment in clinical practice.

His colleagues and patients distinguished him for kindness and caring attitude.