



PIEBM
Polish Institute for
Evidence Based Medicine



**TOWARZYSTWO
LEKARSKIE
KRAKOWSKIE**



**INSTITUTE OF
NATIONAL
REMEMBRANCE**



**Auschwitz
Birkenau
State Museum**



INTERNATIONAL CHAIR IN BIOETHICS
WMA Cooperating Centre



**CENTER FOR
BIOETHICS**
HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL



Center for Bioethics and Humanities
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS



**JAGIELLONIAN
UNIVERSITY
MEDICAL
COLLEGE**



**STOWOZYSTWO
LEKARSKIE
KRAKOWSKIE**



**STOWOZYSTWO
LEKARSKIE
KRAKOWSKIE**

Medical Review Auschwitz: Medicine Behind the Barbed Wire

5th International Conference
23-25 September 2024, Kraków, Poland

We would like to invite you to take part in the 5th international conference **Medical Review Auschwitz: Medicine Behind the Barbed Wire**, which will take place on **23-25 September 2024 in Kraków, Poland**.

The conference is organized by the Polish Institute for Evidence Based Medicine in collaboration with the Kraków Medical Society, Institute of National Remembrance, and Jagiellonian University Medical College. Partners include the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum, University of Colorado Center for Bioethics and Humanities, Harvard Medical School Center for Bioethics, International Chair In Bioethics – WMA Cooperation Center, and other institutions.

The aim of the conference is to educate the world's medical community about the medical ethics and practice in the context of the Second World War, looking into the behavior of physicians and other medical professionals imprisoned in Nazi German concentration camps, prisons, ghettos, or other places of detainment, as well as bringing to light the malpractice and ethical violations of the Nazi German doctors, with the intention to demonstrate the implications of the history of medicine during that period for contemporary medical practice and health care 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 project website.

We hope that this conference will make a significant contribution to furthering the understanding of one of the darkest chapters in the history of medicine, both by spreading the knowledge of the often heroic attempts by medical professionals to counteract the grim reality of the war and the Holocaust and by educating about those physicians who became the perpetrators themselves. By doing this, the Organizers of the conference intend to help the international community draw a lesson for future generations.

We look forward to seeing you in Kraków in September 2024.

Organizing Committee,

5th international conference *Medical Review Auschwitz: Medicine Behind the Barbed Wire*

Igor Gościński

MD, PhD
President, Kraków Medical Society

Piotr Gajewski

MD, PhD, FACP
President, Polish Institute for Evidence Based Medicine

www.mp.pl/auschwitz/conference



Program

23 September 2024 (Monday)

Pre-conference visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum

24 September 2024 (Tuesday)

Conference

Session I

Brain activity during extreme starvation

Prof. Ivan Lefkovits
Survivor of the Ravensbrück and Bergen-Belsen concentration camps, Switzerland

Medical care on the verge of genocide

Prof. Jacques Barth
Department of Cardiology of the Jeremiasz Research Foundation in Haarlem, the Netherlands

Lethal collusion: The essential role physicians played in advancing racial hygiene policies in the Nazi era

Prof. Mildred Solomon
Harvard Medical School, USA

From the ramp to the experimental block: The fate of 100 women from the famous 20th Belgian convoy

Prof. Hans-Joachim Lang
Universität Tübingen, Germany

The SS doctor Hans Münch and his multiple injections on women prisoners in Block 10 Auschwitz

Prof. Paul Weindling
Oxford Brookes University, United Kingdom

Creating with compassion a documentary for the classroom: Horrors and polarized characters: *The Girl From Salonika: Surviving Block 10*

Alison Wilson
Spain

Session II

Investigations by the Institute of National Remembrance on medical experiments during World War II

Prof. Karol Polejowski
Institute of National Remembrance, Poland

(In)famous inventions: Medicine under the Nazis

Dr. Katarzyna du Vall
Jagiellonian University, Poland

Maternity Ward in Frauenlager in Birkenau

Dr. Teresa Wontor-Cichy
State Museum Auschwitz-Birkenau in Oświęcim, Poland

„What strength do I have, that I should still hope? What prospects, that I should be patient?” (Job 6:11). The meaning of hope in medicine – lessons from Auschwitz

Prof. Marta Soniewicka
Jagiellonian University, Poland

Documentary „Położna” (Midwife [in Auschwitz]) with introduction by Maria Stachurska (film director)

Session III

Teaching medicine and the Holocaust

Prof. Esteban González López,
Prof. Rosa Ríos-Cortes
Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Spain

Medicine during the Holocaust: The lessons we have not learned

Dr. Tessa Chelouche
Department of Bioethics and the Holocaust,
International Chair In Bioethics – WMA
Cooperation Center, Israel

Can we learn from the Holocaust without drawing Nazi analogies?

Prof. Matthew Wynia
Center for Bioethics and Humanities, University of Colorado, USA

Never forget and always remember: Paradigms for the present and future of bioethics

Prof. Rebecca Brendel
Center for Bioethics, Harvard Medical School, USA

Panel discussion

25 September 2024 (Wednesday)

Workshops

Criminal medical experiments at Ravensbrück Concentration Camp: Course, consequences and treatment attempts

Prof. Radosław Górski
Medical University of Warsaw, Poland
Maria Zima-Marjańska
Institute of National Remembrance, Poland

Exploring the potential of search and identification work for war victims inside the Office of Search and Identification of the Institute of National Remembrance

Aleksandra Baryła, Angelika Słodka
Institute of National Remembrance, Poland

Investigations into medical experiments during World War II

Łukasz Gramza
Institute of National Remembrance, Poland

What should be the core learning objectives for health sciences students learning about medical involvement in the Holocaust?

Prof. Matthew Wynia
University of Colorado, USA