Dr. Nasser Moeinzadeh (1930–2015); A Pioneering Otolaryngologist in Iran

Mohammad Hossein Azizi MD, Moslem Bahadori MD

Dr. Nasser Moeinzadeh, a pioneer professor of otolaryngology, was born in 1930 in Ardestan, Isfahan, Iran. He had a profitable professional life as an outstanding physician and a pioneer of laryngobronchoesophoscopy in Iran.

He completed elementary school in Ardestan and high school in Isfahan and then enrolled at the Tehran School of Medicine, graduating in 1952. In due course, he continued his medical training in otolaryngology at the Amir Aalam educational Hospital affiliated to the Tehran School of Medicine and afterwards, he went to the US to continue his post-graduate training at the Department of Bronchoesophagology in the Temple University Hospital, Philadelphia, USA.

The Department of Bronchoesophagology in the Temple University Hospital was a principal center in America for bronchoesophagology which was founded in the early the 20th century by Professor Chevalier Jackson (1866–1958), a celebrated endoscopist and one of the creative inventors of laryngoscope.

Dr. Moeinzadeh returned to Iran in 1960. On his return, he was appointed as associate professor of otolaryngology at the Tehran University School of Medicine and in 1963, he went to France. He completed his endoscopy training course in the Paris Medical School and on his return; he became the Director of Endoscopy Department at the Amir Aalam Hospital in Tehran. Subsequently in 1970, Professor Mohammad Gharib, the pioneer of modern pediatrics in Iran and Dr. Hassan Ahari (the founder of Tehran Children Hospital) invited him to join them. In the ensuing years, he practiced in Children Medical Center for 13 years from 1970 to 1983. During that period, he performed many cases of laryngoscopy, bronchoscopy and esophagoscopy. In 1983, he went to the USA and continued ENT practice.

Dr. Moeinzadeh was an expert otolaryngologist, a superb mentor and international journals and authored six Persian textbooks of otolaryngology. In 1968, he published his main book and reported his experience on 1200 cases of foreign body removal from the upper aerodigestive tract in children and adults.

Finally, he passed away on August 11, 2015 in USA and his demise is really a loss for the Iranian otolaryngologists. His memory will not fade and his efforts will be always remembered among his colleagues and former students.

Acknowledgment

The authors wish to thank Dr. Hooshang Zadan Farrokh, the former Director of the ENT Department at Firoozgar Hospital, Tehran, Iran for his valuable information about the life and career of the late Dr. N. Moeinzadeh.

Reference