



Death of a doctor is death of community.

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Prof. Dr. Natalia Rotaru, MD, Ph.D., FWAMS,
Professor of the World Academy of Medical Sciences

With our deepest sadness, we have recently lost our beloved colleague, a revered member of our WAMS Family Prof. Dr. Natalia Rotaru, the Chairman of the “WAMS International Board of Radiology” who died fighting COVID infection, saving the sick. As her WAMS Family, we pay our highest tribute to her and we pray God’s generous blessings for her noble soul.

For “A life lived well”, “Every fallen leaf” is our tribute to her.

"A trailblazer, a visionary, a true doctor, and a great daughter of our WAMS, Dr. Rotaru was much more than a doctor and researcher to our WAMS; she was the revitalizing strength in their quest for greatness and prosperity. "Her unflinching dedication and determination towards the WAMS progress and her indomitable courage to overcome the most difficult circumstances serve as an inspiration to WAMS

We will certainly be doing all for a deservedly tribute and will be expressing our praise in and by all means and in every way to keep Professor Rotaru's memory. WAMS family is extremely saddened at the loss of Prof. Dr. Natalia Rotaru in autumn 2020. Natalia was the Chair of Radiology at the

“Nicolae Testemițanu” State University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Chisinau, Moldova, and a great friend of the European Society of Radiology. Her commitment to imaging will be distressfully, woefully, and painfully missed.

Dr. Natalia gathered her MD in 1989 at the State University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Chisinau, Moldova. She worked for almost a decennium from 1990 to 1999 at the Institute of Oncology in Chisinau where she acted as a radiology attending doctor. Close at hand, she worked extraordinarily hard at the Free International University of Moldova (ULIM), and between 1992 to 2001, she advanced from her inceptive position as Assistant Professor in Radiology and Medical Imaging to Dean of Postgraduate Medical Residency Training. She gained her Ph.D. in 1996 in medical imaging at the State University of Medicine & Pharmacy in Cluj-Napoca, Romania, which helped her in her academic advancement and certainly indurates her curiosity in a branch of medicine that uses imaging technology to diagnose and treat disease. Breast imaging and breast cancer are her medical interests. She also held several subspecialty certifications, including in the fields of mammography, Computed Tomography (CT), Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Ultrasound Imaging, and Interventional Radiology. As a keen academic researcher, she fortuitously authored over 100 publications during her career.

Dr. Natalia was promoted as a Professor of Radiology, in 2008 at the “Nicolae Testemițanu” State University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Chisinau, from which, she was able to take on some outside administrative and research appointments, including her roles as Chair of the Certification Board of Radiology and Radiation therapy in the Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection of Moldova and Chair of the Radiology and Medical Imaging Legislation Committee in that same ministry.



Dr. Natalia is an eminent professor of the World Academy of Medical Sciences and researcher, a keen votary of medical education and research, and an able administrator and possesses nearly two and half decades of rich and satisfying teaching and research experience in the fields of mammography, Computed Tomography (CT), Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Ultrasound Imaging, and Interventional Radiology.

Dr. Rotaru is a friend to many international colleagues, Natalia was a keen traveler and attended dozens of professional conferences throughout her career. She was also the recipient of several national and international awards.

COVID-19 has completely changed the game. She proved herself as a real doctor by sacrificing her life to save others. "Thank YOU for all that you do! You are the real doctor, and we value every single effort to save every life.

Natalia was a committed physician and did not shy away from her responsibilities, even when the Covid-19 pandemic hit Europe. Her contraction of the virus during her clinical duties and her untimely death at the age of 57 thereafter in the autumn of 2020, is a mark of her dedication to patient care and the profession she worked in. This dedication is a fine example of the qualities that we should look for in radiology. She will be missed by our WAMS.

As a regular members of WAMS, we will always miss Dr. Natalia, because of her many best qualities. She was a very jolly person who had a unique art of staying happy and keeping everyone happy with her extraordinary sense of humor. She was full of life and had a hope to live more. She fought against her illness with bravery and WAMS saw her mustering up the courage even in the last few days of her life.

It is not possible to honor all of the physicians who have died from COVID-19, but in telling the stories of a few of the doctors from different specialties and various countries who lost their lives to the disease, these short obituaries serve as a tribute to the many other doctors who have died in the pandemic. These lives are also a reminder of the ongoing dedication and service of those who continue to care for patients at a time when COVID-19 cases and deaths are increasing in many countries.

Doctors who lost their lives in the war against the Covid-19 pandemic should be recognized as 'Covid martyrs' with due acknowledgment of their sacrifice.

These physicians died in the line of duty and should be forever admired as the heroes they are WAMS acknowledge the importance of **Dr. Rotaru's** loss.

WAMS needs to respect you and have an attitude of gratitude.
Thank you Dr. Rotaru, for everything you did for our WAMS.