

## On the history of the “forgotten” institutions of therapy

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The article presents the organizational development criteria of a new scientific discipline – clinics of internal medicine in the Soviet Union – and information about the tragic fate of the first therapeutic institutions in the USSR. It describes in detail the history of the formation of the clinic complex at the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences' All-Union Institute of Experimental Medicine, and the establishment of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences' Therapeutic Institute. The role of the first directors of the institute – V.F. Zelenin and A.L. Myasnikov – in its founding, creation and development is analyzed. The role of the Therapeutic Institute in the development of cardiology and the organizational formation of gastroenterology in the USSR is evaluated.

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In Moscow, there are several surgical research institutes (A. V. Vishnevsky Institute of Surgery, B. V. Petrovsky Russian Research Center of Surgery, N. N. Bakulev Scientific Center of Cardiovascular Surgery, A. N. Burdenko Institute of Neurosurgery and N. I. Pirogov National Medical and Surgical Center), but there is not – and in the 21st century there has not been – an institute with the term “therapy” in its name. Most modern doctors have not heard of such an institute. However, in the 20th century there were therapy institutes in Moscow. An academic institute existed for over 20 years and played an important role in the development and differentiation of internal medicine in the Soviet Union. The purpose of this research is to restore the historical outline of these half-forgotten institutes.

### **On the criteria for the institutionalization of clinical disciplines**

The Clinical Institute of the Imperial Moscow University (IMU), opening in 1805 under the provisions of the IMU Charter (1804), is considered to be the starting point in the history of

therapeutic clinics in Russia. “Before the adoption of the Charter of the Imperial Moscow University in 1804, the university did not have a clinical base.” [1, p. 98] It should be added: in the 18th century there was no therapeutic clinical practice in the medical and surgical academies (MSA). It is debatable whether to recognize as a clinic the MSA hospital wards allocated in 1797 to Professor M. K. Peken at the Moscow military hospital. These were the so-called wards of E. O. Mukhin, who ran them in the role of assistant chair to Peken. The director of the Clinical (Internal Medicine) Institute – which was originally was allocated just three beds for “chronic diseases” and a room for receiving outpatients – was F. G. Politkovsky, professor of pathology, therapy and clinical practice at IMU. From 1809, his successor at the university department was M. Y. Mudrov who, with good reason, is called the founder of clinical practice of internal medicine.

During the 19th century, clinical therapy arose as an independent scientific discipline. It was represented in numerous university departments in Moscow and in the departments of St. Petersburg's Medical and Surgical Academy (from 1881 the Military Medical Academy, MMA), the major scientific schools (the first and the largest in scale and historical significance was the S. P. Botkin's school in MSA-MMA),

and specialized scientific societies (for example, in 1899 the Moscow Therapeutic Society was created – its chairman was V. D. Shervinsky). However, the completion of institutional formation of the discipline took place in the 20th century. Doctors' congresses on the subject took place in Russia (1909-1916 and after a pause once again in 1922). The journals *Clinical Medicine* (edited from 1920 by D. D. Pletnev) and *Therapeutic Archives* (from 1923, co-editors M. P. Konchalovsky and G. F. Lang) began to be published. Specialized research institutions appeared and dissertation councils were created for the specialization of "therapy." We believe that the above-mentioned criteria reliably combine to indicate the completion of the institutional development of the new scientific and academic discipline, in this case the clinical practice of internal medicine in the USSR.

Medical research institutes existed in Russia in the 1890s: not only in the field of theoretical medicine and bacteriology – St. Petersburg Institute of Experimental Medicine (1890); Pharmacological Institute (1890) and the Institute of General and Experimental Pathology (founded by A. B. Fokht in 1891) at the University of Moscow; Bacteriological Institute in Moscow (founder – G. R. Gabrichevsky, 1895) and in Odessa (N. F. Gamaleya, 1899), but also in clinical medicine. Imperial obstetrician D. O. Ott founded the St. Petersburg Institute of the Obstetrics Arts in 1893. At the beginning of the 20th century, IMU Professor L. L. Levshin organized the Institute for the Treatment of Those Suffering Malignant Tumors (1903; "Cancer Institute"). However, there were no such institutions in the clinical practice of internal diseases.

### **The first institutes of internal medicine**

The first research institute for clinical therapy in Russia was established at the Moscow University (the then 1st Moscow State University) in 1924-1925 by one of the founders of Russian clinical electrocardiography, Professor V. F. Zelenin. This required considerable support from the head of the the Directorate for Scientific, Artistic and Museum Institutions at the People's Commissariat for Education, F. N. Petrov – a patient, and then friend of Zelenin. In line with the functional direction characteristic of clinical

practice in the first half of 20th century, the new scientific institution was called the Institute of Functional Diagnostics and Experimental Therapeutics. Soon it became widely known under a new name – the Medical and Biological Institute at the Directorate for Scientific, Artistic and Museum Institutions. Zelenin was director and led his clinical department. The Institute conducted a comprehensive study of the problems of physiology and pathology of circulatory and neurohumoral regulation. An endocrinology sector and electrocardiographic consulting room were created, which L. I. Fogelson was in charge of. He published the first domestic textbook in clinical electrocardiography (1929; preface by Zelenin). Institute members also included M. S. Vovsi, B. B. Kogan, I. A. Chernogorov, N. A. Shereshevsky and other later well-known clinicians. The laboratories were led by prominent researchers in the field of theoretical and experimental medicine.

Initially, the new institute was not located under its own roof and was located with the Novo-Ekaterininskaya Hospital, on the corner of Petrovka Street and Strastnoi Boulevard. Zelenin succeed in having funds allocated to build a new, separate building on Leninsky Prospekt (Building No. 19), "a special project in the spirit of modern constructivism" (the building now houses the G. M. Krzhizhanovsky Energy Research Institute, Fig. 1). The first national institute of therapy



**Fig. 1. G. M. Krzyzanovsky Moscow Power Engineering Institute (19 Leninsky Prospekt). The building was constructed for the Biomedical Institute at the Directorate of Scientific, Artistic and Museum Institutions for the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic.**



**Fig. 2. Central Research Institute of Tuberculosis (2 Yauzskaya Alleya). This building housed the Institute of Functional Diagnostics and Therapy.**

was short-lived: in the early 1930s, the study of genetics displaced Zelenin, repurposing this scientific institution into the Medical Genetics Institute, and in the second half of the 1930s, its director S. G. Levit was arrested and then shot. The institute was closed and its related archival materials were probably destroyed. [2, p. 64-68]

The second scientific institute for clinical problems of internal medicine suffered a similar fate: in 1932, the leader of Soviet therapists, D. D. Pletnev, headed the new Institute for Functional Diagnosis and Therapy "on the Yauze" (now this building houses the Central Research Institute of Tuberculosis, Fig. 2). The concept for the institute was the same as that of Zelenin: a comprehensive natural-sciences study of the pressing problems of therapy, which the structure of the new research institute met. In addition to the clinic, it included a laboratory of biochemistry and biophysics, physiology and pathology, pharmacodynamics and more. Foreign colleagues, visiting the institute, did not hide their admiration. It is clear that in 1937, with the arrest of Pletnev, the brief history of this promising institute tragically ended. [3]

### **The creation of the Institute of Therapy at the Academy of Medical Sciences of the USSR**

The birth of the third therapeutic institute was associated with the organization of the Academy of Medical Sciences (AMS). On June 30, 1944, with World War II still in progress, the People's Commissars of the USSR issued a decision on the establishment of the Academy of Medical Sciences of the USSR (under the auspices of the People's Commissariat of Health of the USSR). The new academy's first body of full members (they were not chosen, but were confirmed from "above," with the list agreed by Stalin) included five physicians: Academic N. D. Strazhesko (Kiev) of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, Professor V. N. Vinogradov (Stalin's personal physician) of the 1st Moscow Medical Institute (1st MMI) and Professor Zelenin of the 2nd Moscow Medical Institute (2nd MMI), the elder statesman of Soviet therapists Professor N. I. Leporsky of MMA (Leningrad) and physician and medical historian Professor L. A. Oganesyanyan (Yerevan). The same resolution approved the academy's charter and a list of academic institutions, which included the Institute of Experimental and Clinical Therapy and Surgery and the Institute of Neurology.

At the inaugural session of the new academy in Moscow (see Fig. 3) in December of that year, Zelenin was elected academic secretary of the Department of Clinical Medicine. In his speech he said: "We can put forward the following proposition: the differentiation between medical disciplines and study of particular phenomena has ended. Now is a time of medical integration. A time of factual knowledge and understanding of people as individuals obtained in experiments and at the patient's bedside. It is a time of anthropological diagnosis and anthropological therapy." [4] (Not only should the semantic similarities be noted, but also the terminological similarities of these expressions to the position stated previously by Pletnev in developing the doctrine of anthropological pathology.)

In fact, the organization of new institutions of therapy and surgery began only in 1945: A March 6 meeting was held with the USSR health minister G. A. Mitirev, at which the scientific secretary of the Presidium of the Academy of Medical Sciences, V. V. Parin, made a presentation: "The





**Fig. 3. . Inaugural session of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences (November 1944). Department of Clinical Medicine. In the front row in the center sit: 4th from the left – outstanding surgeon S. S. Yudin, next – academician-secretary of the Department of Clinical Medicine, V. F. Zelenin, the first president of the Academy of Medical Sciences N. N. Burdenko, minister of health, G. A. Miterev.**

Presidium of the Academy decided to raise the question of temporarily housing these institutions at the Botkin Hospital, prior to the construction of the buildings for them ..." [5] However, the S. P. Botkin City Clinical Hospital could provide the Institute of Therapy with only a 150-bed department, which was previously home to doctors of the 1st department for therapy for the Central Institute for Advanced Training (CIAT), whose head, the prominent physician and gastroenterologist R. A. Luria, died in October 1944. As a city health institution, the hospital could only provide a fraction of the number of beds needed for the selection of case-patients by the institutes's department. Opening a full-fledged scientific institute on such a foundation was impossible. Therefore, Zelenin immediately began talks with colleagues about additional venues (co-sharing), and succeeded in doing so. [6]

Thus, the first stage of the AMS' Institute of Therapy, while it lacked its own premises, took place located in different hospitals – it had five such bases. From November 1945, the gastroenterological department at the S. P. Botkin Hospital served as the main one of these bases. In the same hospital at the same time (November 1945) in the surgical clinic of P. D. Solovov (the deceased professor of the CIAT doctors), the Institute of Experimental and Clinical Surgery

started its work under the temporary leadership of M. N. Akhutin, followed by S. S. Yudin (with deputy director B. V. Petrovsky). The institute included two clinical departments: the second department (i.e., its second clinical base) was the AMS' surgical clinic located on Shchipok Street and run under the supervision of A. V. Vishnevsky.

Besides the Botkin Hospital, the Institute of Therapy's clinical bases included the therapy departments of the 5th Soviet hospital (which housed the clinic of hospital therapy of the 2nd MMI, headed by Zelenin; the cardiovascular area of research was supervised by Assistant Professor I. B. Likhtsier); the faculty therapy clinic of the 1st MMI, which was chaired by Vinogradov and where the clinical and electro-physiological laboratory was established [7]; the faculty and propaedeutic clinic of the 3rd MMI, which was consequently led by E. M. Tareev (located at the Moscow Regional Research Clinical Institute) and Fogelson (based at the A. A. Ostroumov City Clinical Hospital № 33, former named Bakhrushinskaya and located on Stromynka).

Such a "collective" structure of the institute made it difficult to guide its activities, slowed staffing, interfered with the creation of a single program of research work, led to a duplication of structural units (eg., biochemical laboratories were located at the Botkin and 5th Soviet hospitals), and required that research be carried out on

outdated hospital instruments and apparatus. The recently created academy's limited economic resources forced the institute to resolve many financing issue independently. For example, in 1946 the institute created its own glass-blowing workshop. However, despite all the difficulties, from the beginning there was: open funding, staff selection and the commencement of research.

Zelenin managed to attract Moscow's leading therapists to the institute. According to the institute report for 1946, its staffing level was only at 47 percent, of the four headquarters only half had heads (Fogelson and Chernogorov); sections for functional diagnosis and study of disability remained without heads. [8] But in early 1947, all headquarter sections' (departments) head positions had been filled: in connection with Fogelson moving to another section, the cardio-angiological sector was led (part-time) by Zelenin, gastroenterology by a student of Pletnev and Zelenin, prominent physician I. A. Montenegro; functional diagnostics by I. M. Chernogorov, working capacity examination by Fogelson, the clinical and electro-physiology laboratory by V. N. Vinogradov. [9]

The staff of the new institute focused its efforts on solving the problems of cardiovascular disease – primarily, hypertension, pulmonary heart syndrome (pulmonary heart disease), as well as stomach ulcers; the consequences of chest injuries (the relevance of this subject is underscored by the fact that it was standard for the Institute of Surgery); hepatitis and kidney disease. For example, Y. I. Lorie – the last graduate student (1946) at the Institute of Therapy, and then the closest colleague of Zelenin in his academic group – was working on his thesis "Some data on hematopoiesis in essential hypertension"

(defended in 1950). Lorie later became a leader in oncology in the USSR. Research materials in cardiology were summarized in the works of Zelenin and Likhtsier. [10-14]

Zelenin failed to establish an acceptable relationship with the chief physician at Botkin Hospital – B. A. Shimeliovich (and he, according to the recollections of his son, was very indignant at home in this regard). In June-July 1947, the Institute of Therapy was reorganized as per the April 2, 1947, decree of the Presidium of the Academy of Medical Sciences: the sections for functional diagnostics and working capacity examination were eliminated (see Fig. 4); as a result AMS member Tareev and Professor Fogelson were made redundant at the institute. It was forbidden to hold more than one position, which affected, above all, the work of the cardio-angiological section. In reality the institute, having moved from the Botkin Hospital with only the gastroenterology department left unaffected by the reorganization, was founded once again, beginning in the 4th quarter of 1947, at Shchipok Street, in the Zamoskvoreche neighborhood.

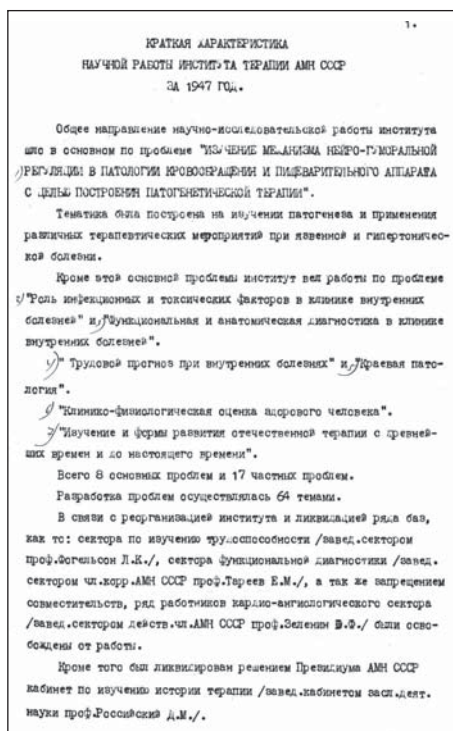


Fig. 4. From the annual report of the Institute of Therapy (1947).

### The history of AMS USSR All Union Institute of Experimental Medicine's clinical town on Shchipok

The history of charity almshouses and hospital institutes on Shchipok began in the second half of the 19th century. The first hospice in Moscow, it was built with private funds of one family and was founded by three brothers, large-scale textile merchants: its donors included the "Moscow 1st guild merchants Mikhail and Alexei, and Eisky 1st guild merchant Vasily Gerasimov and Solodovnikov brothers," they donated land with an area of 18,500 square meters with a lime tree

garden, allocated money for the construction of an almshouse building for 150 poor people (two three-story stone buildings) together with a school, and pledged for the first four years to look after the poorhouse, and then contribute 150,000 rubles (a huge sum in those days) "for additional interest in order to maintain the almshouse." The almshouse's charter was approved by Emperor Alexander II on July 1, 1862. The opening of the almshouse was held June 1, 1865. Its facade overlooked Shchipok Street, all subsequent constructions on the site were designated as the same address.

On April 14, 1891, near the almshouse, the Solodovnikov brothers opened the Moscow Merchant Society's (MMS) Aleksandrovskaya Hospital with 150 beds for free treatment of patients with chronic and incurable diseases. The financial capital for the construction of the hospital was gathered by subscription from several dozen Moscow merchants. On January 21, 1896, the City Almshouse named after Moscow merchant Tatyana Gurieva (see Fig. 5) was opened in the same area, with housing for 100 poor people, "who must be of both sexes, including 70 elderly, 20 with incurable diseases, and 10 blind women, all without distinction in their title." [15] A family chapel in the name of the Holy Virgin with a side-chapel in the name of the Holy Martyr Tatiana was founded at Gurieva's almshouse.

On November 19, 1906, the complex was expanded with an almshouse, built with money bequeathed for its construction by the honorary citizen of Moscow, merchant P. M. Tretyakov. The



**Fig. 5. T. Gurieva Poorhouse. The Institute of Therapy was located in this building in 1947-1959.**

will of the well-known patron and art collector included an item on the allocation of capital for the construction and maintenance of almshouses, listing it ahead of the donation to Moscow of his famous collection of paintings (presently the Tretyakov Gallery). As the MMS was the sole trustee of these charities, their property and development was conducted on the principle of a single "charitable" complex.

Thus, in the early 20th century there developed in the Zamoskvoreche neighborhood one of the first hospital towns in Moscow (along with a clinical town at Deviche Pole and others). After the civil war, it housed the N. A. Semashko Hospital – one of Moscow's largest at that time (425 beds) – it was a fairly well-equipped hospital, with two surgical departments, plus orthopedic, therapeutic and neurological departments, a maternity hospital and dispensary.

As per the decision of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR № 1462 of 11 August, 1936, the hospital was transferred to the All-Union Institute of Experimental Medicine (AUIEM) in Moscow in 1934. In the second half of the 1930s, the AUIEM clinical campus consisting of four clinics was developed using the four main buildings at Shchipok Street (the three former almshouses and the Aleksandrovskaya Hospital): a therapeutic clinic – Konchalovsky (S. A. Pospelov and N. A. Ratner worked here in conjunction with V. N. Smotrov; B. E. Votchal defended his doctoral thesis here), a surgical clinic – A. V. Vishnevsky, a neurological clinic – M. B. Krol (from 1939 – N. I. Grashchenkov) and a gynecological clinic – M. S. Malinovsky. At the beginning of the Soviet Union's participation in WWII in July 1941 (through to 1945) the hospital buildings housed evacuation hospital No. 5002.

After the AMS was created on the foundations of the AUIEM, academic clinical institutions appeared in the area adjacent to Bolshaya Serpukhovskaya and Shchipok streets. In 1947, the Institute of Therapy received its own building on Shchipok Street in the 3rd Corpus of the N. A. Semashko Hospital (the former Gurievskaya Hospice). In November of the same year, after a short period of repairs, the clinic started to receive patients and its laboratory starting working. Also in 1947, the Institute of Surgery was transferred



from the Botkin hospital to the academic surgical clinic at Shchipok Street (in fact, the first clinical department's team "joined" the team of the second clinical department). On November 1, 1947, an order was issued by the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences on the appointment as the director of this clinic of A. V. Vishnevsky, the acting director of the Institute of Surgery (from 1948 the director of which was A. A. Vishnevsky). The Institute of Neurology was based at Shchipok Street prior to the others – in 1945, as its director, N. I. Grashchenkov (1944-1947; from 1948 its director was N. V. Konovalov) was the former director of AUIEM and head of its neurological clinic (at Shchipok Street in the building of the Aleksandrovskaya Hospital). In January 1948, unified administration, management and accounting was established for the three institutions.

The three directors of the academic institutions were replaced in the same year – 1948 – but due to different reasons: A. V. Vishnevsky died, Zelenin retired on his own initiative, and Grashchenkov was promoted – in 1947 he became president of the Academy of Sciences of Belarus. In our opinion, such a difficult to explain simultaneous change of directors emphasizes the internal connections in the history of these three AMS clinical institutions and marks the beginning of a new period in the development of each of them. We can say that the Institute of Therapy was founded by Zelenin and created by A. L. Myasnikov; the Institute of Surgery was founded by A. V. Vishnevsky and was created by A. A. Vishnevsky; and the Institute of Neurology was founded by Grashchenkov and created by N. V. Konovalov.

#### **AMS Institute of Therapy and its role in the formation of cardiology and gastroenterology in the USSR**

The organizational period was longer and more difficult than the first director of the Institute of Therapy expected. Numerous difficulties arose in day-to-day activities, and he had to constantly deal with unending and annoying administrative and economic issues and unsolvable staffing problems. [16] According to the memoirs of Zelenin's son, "unforeseen difficulties arose with staffing. At the end of the 1944, my father was quite shocked at



**Fig. 6. Academician Vladimir F. Zelenin.**

the recommendation by B.D. Petrov,<sup>1</sup> concerning the principles for the selection of personnel for the new institute: more professors with names ending in "'ov' and 'in'...<sup>2</sup>. The successful director of the institute of the twenties<sup>3</sup> lacked experience in dealing with the party and trade union organizations and the then-omnipotent personnel department." [2, p. 53] The creation of a new institute was conducted under the specific conditions of the time: the widely expected post-war political "thaw" did not come; conversely, with every postwar year the ideological dictate was getting tougher, intensifying the pressure on culture and science, and repression grew. A new feature that was clearly felt by all was the tinge of anti-Semitism. In such circumstances, with the nature of Zelenin's personality and the beliefs in constant "rotation" held in high circles, he became

<sup>1</sup> B. D. Petrov in those years in the Central Committee of the All-Union Communist Party (of Bolsheviks) was in charge of health and medical science.

<sup>2</sup> Select ethnic Russian staff members, and not other ethnicities.

<sup>3</sup> This refers to the Institute of Functional Diagnostics and Experimental Therapeutics.

more and more uncomfortable. At the same time the workload from the department, college, academy and intensive scientific and literary work required strength and energy. Meanwhile, his natural health after 70 years started to give out.

The Institute of Therapy opened on Shchipok Street at the end of 1947, but already in 1948 in the academy's clinical department there were major personnel changes: Zelenin (see Fig. 6), first left his job in the presidium of the Academy of Medical Sciences, and a little later left the post of director of the Institute of Therapy. According to the memoirs of his son, "when the question of Myasnikov as the new director of the institute was almost a foregone conclusion, his father was invited to visit the new president of the Academy of Medical Sciences, academic N. N. Anichkov, and asked whether the rumors were true that he was leaving against his own wishes: 'If so, you can still come back.' 'Thank you, Nicholas Nikolaevich [Anichkov],' said my father. 'I just want to live a little more.'" [2, p. 54]

When, in 1948, Zelenin was replaced as director by a much more youthful and extremely proactive member of the Academy of Medical Sciences – the Leningrad therapist Myasnikov – he took over an already fully functioning research institution with 100 beds, divided equally between two departments: cardiovascular disease (its head – S. G. Zhislin) and peptic ulcer disease (its head – I. I. Speransky). Later (in the 1950s), these departments were converted into male (its



**Fig. 7. The 15th scientific session of the Institute of Therapy (1964). From right to left – A. L. Myasnikov, L. I. Fogelson, V. N. Vinogradov.**

head – K. N. Zamislov) and female (its head – Ratner) departments. A pathology department with a prosectorium served the needs of all three clinical institutions. There was a functioning scientific out-patient department and seven other independent laboratories and classrooms. Kept in Riga's P. Stradynya Museum of the History of Medicine is the book *Essential Hypertension* presented to Zelenin by Myasnikov with the dedication: "This book would not have been written if you have not laid the foundation for our institute."

Under Myasnikov the Institute of Therapy became the country's leading scientific center for cardiology where the problems of hypertension, atherosclerosis and myocardial infarction were studied. The institute's annual sessions attracted the same commanding lineup as the All-Union Congress of Physicians. (see illustration 7) The high international prestige of the institute shows, in particular, the fact that a World Health Organization international center to combat atherosclerosis was opened on its foundations. The research conducted at the institute was summarized in Myasnikov's monographs "Hypertensive heart disease" (1954), "Atherosclerosis" (1960), "Essential hypertension and atherosclerosis" (1965) and "Experimental myocardial necrosis" (1963, co-authored). Myasnikov was awarded the International Heart Foundation's prestigious "Golden Stethoscope" (1965).

Along with cardiology, Myasnikov and his institute's second field of research activities was hepatology. In 1959, the institute received a new building – a multi-story building on Petroverigsky Lane (the building now houses the State Research Center for Preventive Medicine, illustration 8). On Shchipok Street, departments of the Institute of Surgery were housed in the former buildings of the Institute of Therapy and Institute of Neurology after they moved into their own buildings. The Institute of Surgery departments located on Shchipok Street were the department for the treatment of thermal injuries (the burns center – on the site of the Institute of Therapy) and an administrative department (on the site of the Institute of Neurology). The venue of the first establishment created on Shchipok Street, the Soldatenkovskaya almshouse, was placed





**Fig. 8. The Research Center for Preventive Medicine (10 Petroverigsky Pereulok). The Institute of Therapy was located in this building in 1959-1966. In the foreground – a monument to A. L. Myasnikov.**

under the direction of the Moscow City Health Department's city medical clinics. The Institute of Therapy was able to dramatically increase the number of beds and install new diagnostic and experimental laboratories in the new building.

In 1960, a department of chronic hepatitis and portal hypertension was opened, headed by A. S. Loginov. Later, this department, along with academic V. H. Vasilenko's propaedeutic clinic at the 1st MMI, became the foundation for the USSR Ministry of Health's Research Institute of Gastroenterology (1967). In the 1950s-1960s, Myasnikov's scientific school was created out of the Institute of Therapy and the Department of Hospital Therapy at the 1st MMI: E. I. Chazov, I. K. Shkhvatsabaya, N. N. Kipshidze, Loginov, H. H. Mansurov, N. M. Mukharlyamov, N. R. Paleev, V. S. Smolensky and others.

In 1965, Myasnikov died suddenly of a heart attack, after which the institute was headed by his closest student, Chazov. The USSR AMS Institute of Therapy existed for more than two decades and in 1967, in accordance with the research profile that it followed, the institution was renamed the A. L. Myasnikov Scientific Research Institute of Cardiology. In 1975, the A. L. Myasnikov Institute of Clinical Cardiology was incorporated into the new Cardiological Research Center created by Chazov. There is every reason to believe that the currently "forgotten" AMS Institute of Therapy played an important role in the development of the clinical practice of internal diseases in general, and especially in the development of cardiology, as well as in the organizational design of Gastroenterology in the USSR.

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