

M. P. Konchalovsky (1875–1942): pages of the biography on materials of personal archive in the Museum of the History of Medicine at I.M. Sechenov First Moscow State Medical University

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Abstract. The article draws on material from M.P. Konchalovsky's personal archive, donated in 1991 as a gift by Konchalovsky's grandson to the Museum of the History of Medicine at I.M. Sechenov First Moscow State Medical University. The archive contains 330 items, among which a large part consists of photographs, letters and reprints of articles of Konchalovsky – the main body of the works is signed by the scientist. On the basis of the surviving sources, the key milestones of the life and career of Konchalovsky are outlined.

The first period (1875–1917) was the formative stage of Konchalovsky becoming a therapist, during his training and work under the guidance of Professor V.D. Shervinsky. The second period (1918–1929) is related to his work as chairman at the Department of Hospital Therapy of the Faculty of Medicine of The 2nd Moscow Medical University (former Moscow Higher Courses for Women). This is the beginning of Konchalovsky and his students' research on the major issues of domestic medicine. The third period (1929–1942) was formative for main theoretical views and practical results. This stage is associated with the development of the clinical therapeutic school, continuing the tradition of the Shervinsky-Golubinin school. Professor Konchalovsky headed the department of faculty therapy, was the Director of the Faculty Therapeutic Clinic of The 1st Moscow State University (from 1930 – The 1st Moscow Medical Institute, from 1940 – The 1st Moscow Order of Lenin Medical Institute). The article also presents material from the memorial archives Konchalovsky's colleagues.

Keywords: M.P. Konchalovsky, personal fund, the Museum of History of Medicine at the I.M. Sechenov First MSMU, faculty therapeutic clinic, the physiological direction

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The distinguished Russian therapist Maxim Petrovich Konchalovsky was a graduate of the Faculty of Medicine at Imperial Moscow University (IMU), which later became I.M. Sechenov First Moscow State Medical University (I.M. Sechenov First MSMU). He came from the talented and well-known Mikhalkov-Konchalovsky family [1, p. 5; 2]. A hereditary nobleman, a member of the Russian *intelligentsia*, and a loyal practitioner of his chosen profession, Konchalovsky founded a major school of clinical therapy which inspired the likes of E.M. Tareev, Z.A. Bondar, S.A. Gilyarevsky, B.N. Smotrov, S.A. Pospelov, Kh.Kh. Vados, A.M. Kasatkin, T.P. Panchenkov, and N.M. Konchalovskaya¹ [3, p. 270].

¹ N.M. Konchalovskaya (1908–1994) was the daughter of M.P. Konchalovsky, a graduate of the First Moscow Medical Institute (First MMI), therapist, professor at the Department of Propadeutics, Clinical Therapy, and Occupational Diseases on the sanitary and hygiene faculty of the First MMU. She is the author of the monographs “Occupational Diseases” (1973) and “Toxic (Occupational) Liver Disease” (1986).

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For I.M. Sechenov First MSMU, Maxim Petrovich Konchalovsky is an important and symbolic figure. For most of his career he was involved with the First Moscow State University's (later the First MMI) therapy clinic, which he headed from 1929 to 1942.

Throughout his career, Konchalovsky struggled through a number of hardships. The period in which he lived was itself a time of great domestic upheaval, constant change, revolution, and war. But even in this “time of general misfortune and disaster” there were moments of “shining hope and optimism” [4]. His character was always defined by a sense of duty and generosity.

M.P. Konchalovsky was a world-renowned scientist – the bibliographic index of his works includes several hundred names² [5].

Among the biographical research on Konchalovsky and his therapeutic school are a number of monographs by his disciples A.G. Gukasyan and

² Published in 1975, edited by M.P. Konchalovsky and Z.A. Bondar for the 100 year anniversary of his birth.

G.P. Shultsev [6, 7]. In fact, Shultsev donated a copy of his monograph to the First Moscow Order of Lenin Medical Institute (First MOLMI) department of medical history. Articles by his students and successors E.M Tareev, S.A. Gilyarevsky, and A.I. Nesterov also constitute a significant addition to the collection of scholarly works on Konchalovsky, not to mention the work “Notes on my Father” by N.M. Konchalovskaya [8–11].

In the Mikhalkov-Konchalovsky family archive, there is a manuscript by Maxim Petrovich called “My Life, Encounters, and Impressions” which was dedicated to his wife Sofia Petrovna Konchalovskaya (1882–1957). Fragments of this work, along with ten family photographs, were published in 1996 in I.M. Sechenov Moscow Medical Academy’s *History Journal* [4]. These fragments were preceded by excerpts from “Notes on My Father” by N.M. Konchalovskaya. Konchalovsky began work on his memoir, according to Shultsev, in 1941–1942 in order to “share his thoughts on the objectives and responsibilities of doctors and teachers, scientific research, and the art of medicine” [7, p. 10]³. The memoir contains elements of interest for a wide range of readers. It reveals not only his public persona but also his private character, and offers both historical and archeographic insight. Towards the beginning of the memoir, the author mentions that he began work on it in 1942 during his evacuation to Kuybyshev⁴.

A significant portion of the material related to Konchalovsky comes from his private collection, now located in the University’s Mu-

seum of the History of Medicine⁵. It consists mainly of written sources and personal documents⁶.

The collection was donated to the museum in 1991 by Konchalovsky’s beloved grandson, Vadim Yurievich Konchalovsky⁷, at the request of Nina Maximovna Konchalovskaya.

The earliest material in the collection dates back to the end of the 19th century, while the most recent was produced in 1942. A large portion of the collection is made up of reprints of Konchalovsky’s articles and photographs (both originals and copies). Among the manuscripts contained in the collection, there are four pages of notes and outlines for *Textbook on Internal Medicine*⁸, along with Konchalovsky’s personal bookplate⁹ (fig. 1).

From the documents contained in the collection we are able to follow the major milestones of Konchalovsky’s life and career. He was born into an aristocratic family on 1 (13) October 1875 in Odessa. His father, Petr Petrovich Konchalovsky (1839–1904), was a translator and a publisher of the classical Russian poets and a man of remark-

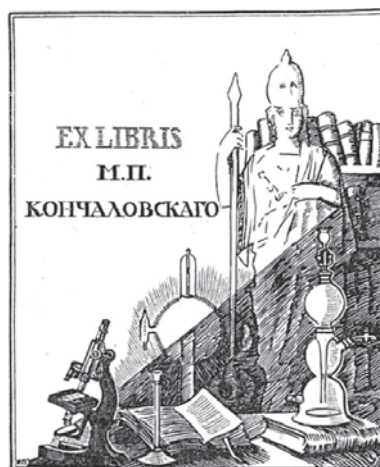


Fig. 1. M.P. Konchalovsky’s Bookplate.

I.M. Sechenov First MSMU
Museum of the History of Medicine.
OF 590/228. PK 16/96/ p. 3.

³ The full version of “Recollections” is available at the medical information portal of the Saint Petersburg M.P. Konchalovsky Institute of Clinical Medicine and Social Work. The full publication of M.P. Konchalovsky’s manuscript text was not available.

⁴ He was in Kuybyshev (Samara) with his family from 4 December 1941 to 23 November 1942.

⁵ The private archive of M.P. Konchalovsky is a part of the permanent collection of I.M Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine KP No. 590/1-330 of 19.03.2002. Act No. 29 of 21.05.1991. Collection inventory list No.18 of 3 May 2000, OF 590. Collected materials of distinguished Russian therapist, head of the department of faculty therapy of First MMI, Maxim Petrovich Konchalovsky (1875–1942). 330 items.

⁶ The collection contains biographical materials, documents from his private and public affairs, congratulatory speeches, letters, photos, photo albums, copies of articles, books, and pamphlets. It also contains his door’s metal name plates (OF 590/230).

⁷ V.Y. Konchalovsky (1932) – son of N.M. Konchalovskaya, candidate of technical sciences, docent of the department of information and measuring technology at MEI research institute.

⁸ I.M Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine . OF 590/227.

⁹ I.M Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. OF 590/228. PK 16/96/ p.3.

able ability [4, p. 76; 6, p.11; 7, p. 10]. Maxim Konchalovsky's mother, Akilina Maximovna Kopaneva, was "an individual of high culture and greatness of spirit" [6, p. 12].

The family relocated several times throughout Maxim's life. From 1881 to 1888, they lived in Kharkov, where Maxim began his studies at the German school. In 1886, when he was 11 years old, he was enrolled in the 3rd Classical Kharkov Gymnasium [4, p. 78; 7, p. 6]. In 1889, the family moved to Moscow, where Maxim and his brother Petr attended the 3rd Moscow Gymnasium [6, p. 13–14].

In 1894, upon successfully completing his exams, Maxim Konchalovsky enrolled in the Faculty of Medicine at IMU and graduated from there with honors in 1899. The museum's collection contains a copy of the university's 1899 yearbook with photographs of the graduates and teachers of the medical faculty¹⁰ of IMU. The yearbook contains images of all of the institutes and clinics, the Neurology Museum of Professor A.Y. Kozhevnikov, and a (panoramic) view of the clinic campus along with the bell towers of Novodevichy Convent. Portraits of 63 teachers and 192 graduates, including Konchalovsky (fig. 2)¹¹, can also be found in the book.

Konchalovsky's choice of profession was no coincidence; his grandfather had been a ship's doctor and served in the Crimean War (1853–1856) and the squadron of Vice-Admiral P.S. Nakhimov, later becoming the head doctor of the city hospitals of Kharkov, Chernigov, and Perm [7, p. 6].

Konchalovsky's student years at IMU were happy and productive. In his memoir he writes, "Enrolling in university at that time was a great

step into an entirely different and novel world", and, "we went around to all the faculties in order to meet the famous lecturers in every field" [4, p. 82]. He attended the lectures of historian V.O. Klyuchevsky, linguist F.F. Fortunatov, anatomist D.N. Zernov, physiologist I.M. Sechenov, histologist M.N. Nikiforov, therapist V.D. Shervinsky, pathologist A.B. Fokht, zoologists A.P. Bogdanov, and N.Y. Zograf, and botany professor I.N. Gorozhankin. For their first two years, students were taught the theoretical foundations of their discipline. During Konchalovsky's second year he was greatly impressed by I.M. Sechenov, who taught a course on physiology (circulation, movement, and electrophysiology). Konchalovsky wrote, "He reads his lectures simply, logically, and convincingly... he goes directly to the point" [4, p. 84]. He later lamented the fact that he had not recorded Sechenov's lessons [4, p. 85]. Konchalovsky also attended the lectures of physiologist L.Z. Morokhovitz and his-

tologist I.F. Ognev. Practical lessons, or as Konchalovsky called it, "medical science", began in the third year, which is when he treated a patient for the first time [4, p. 83].

Upperclassmen attended lectures by clinicians A.A. Ostroumov, N.F. Filatov, V.F. Snegirev, A.Y. Kozhevnikov, S.S. Korsakov, and A.A. Borbov. Konchalovsky developed particularly friendly relationships with three well-known professors at IMU: pathologist M.N. Nikiforov, therapist V.D. Shervinsky, and pathophysiological A.B. Fokht [4, p. 86].

Konchalovsky was introduced to Shervinsky by his father, who had helped the professor edit his translation of G. Lyon's book *Manual on the Treatment of Internal Diseases* [4, p. 87]. Konchalovsky's first clinical lessons were taken with Shervinsky and his assistant L.E. Golubinin [13].

In his memoir, Konchalovsky writes that "third year classes were relocated to Devichye



Fig. 2. M.P. Konchalovsky upon graduating from the medical faculty at IMU (1899).
I.M. Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. OF 732.

¹⁰ All photographs are high quality and provide notes in both Russian and French.

¹¹ I.M. Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. OF 732. Photo album of IMU medical faculty graduates from 1899. Moscow, 1899. 63 photos.

Pole”¹², and that he liked the clinic’s new buildings, where the students studied, as well as museum’s microphotograms [12].

In making his decision about which discipline to specialize in, Konchalovsky was guided by the established schools, individual professors, and his own gut feeling. He found operations, especially unsuccessful ones, too depressing, and he began to “diligently apply himself to therapy and the areas related to it”, as he believed that therapy was more patient-focused and diagnostics was the duty of the clinician [4, p. 89]. He attended elective courses given by bacteriologist G.N. Gabrichevsky and neuropathologist G.I. Rossolimo, as well as lessons by therapist L.E. Golubinin.

By his fourth year, Konchalovsky’s began to form a small circle of university friends and acquaintances. Back home, his family had regularly hosted the artist V.I. Surikov and his daughter Olga¹³. Surikov was a patient of Konchalovsky, who diagnosed him with heart disease and vascular renal disease. As a symbol of gratitude for the treatment he had been given, the artist gave the doctor his watercolors [12].

According to Konchalovsky, during his fourth year, after G.A. Zakharyin, the enormous faculty therapy clinic “underwent a crisis and was completely empty” and students boycotted the lessons of professor P.M. Popov¹⁴ while enthusiastically attending the lectures of V.D. Shervinsky¹⁵ in the Alexeevsky General Clinical Ambulatory (currently the Museum of the History of Medicine) [4, p. 90; 12].

In 1895, Shervinsky became the head of the reorganized Moscow Therapy Society and invited his talented disciple Konchalovsky to its meetings. In time, Konchalovsky became the society’s secretary [6, p. 15–20; 8, p. 82–107]. Having graduated with a degree in medicine, he remained in the faculty therapy clinic under the tutelage of Shervinsky.

¹² In 1890, the faculty clinic was relocated to a new building in Devichye Pole. The clinic was headed by renowned professor G.A. Zakharyin (1864–1895).

¹³ O.V. Konchalovskaya (1878–1958) – wife of artist P.P. Konchalovsky (1876–1956), younger brother of M.P. Konchalovsky.

¹⁴ P.M. Popov – director of the faculty therapy clinic of IMU (1896–1899).

¹⁵ V.D. Shervinsky – clinic director at IMU (1899–1907).

Upon starting upper-level university courses, Konchalovsky became head of the medical station on the Arkhangelsk railroad, which helped him acquire practical medical experience and travel to various regions of the country (the Far North and the Caucasus). He began his work “not without excitement” and secretly learned from the feldsher, his assistant, “the most elementary methods of treatment”. He found the work useful and he “became more confident in his actions” [12].

His lessons at the clinic were going well and Konchalovsky was sent abroad to Paris. For Konchalovsky, this trip “had great significance” and he was “happy to be in Paris, the cultural center of the world”. He visited the university clinic Hôtel-Dieu, although he was not able to train there as he had to return to Moscow to continue his work and studies [12].

In 1899, Shervinsky was the head of the faculty therapy clinic. According to Konchalovsky, he accepted patients in the building which used to house the barracks, which had been given to him

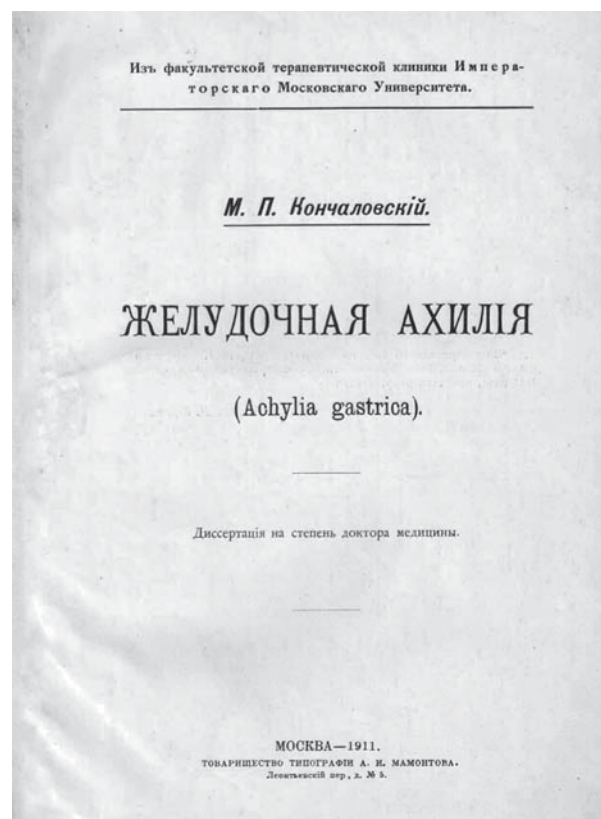


Fig. 3. Title Page of M.P. Konchalovsky’s Doctoral Dissertation “Gastric Achylia” (1911).
I.M. Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. OF 590/33.

by A.A. Ostroumov¹⁶. Soon the work in the clinic was put in order. Konchalovsky writes that it was there that he “wrote his first history of present illness” and treated patients [12].

In the summer of 1900, Konchalovsky was invited by the famous philanthropist and state councillor I.V. Rukavishnikov to his estate outside of Saint Petersburg to treat his wife O.N. Rukavishnikova. Konchalovsky spent more than a year at the estate and was happy to return to Moscow and to Shervinsky and the clinic [4, p. 93–96].

In the summer of 1901, Konchalovsky returned to Moscow and soon set off to the dacha of symbolist artist N.D. Milioti in Tsarytsino. There he made the acquaintance of Milioti’s neighbors, the family of the famous Moscow lawyer P.M. Vysheslavtsev. This is where Konchalovsky met Vysheslavtsev’s daughter Sofia Petrovna, marking the beginning of a close lifelong relationship. In fact, they got married in September 1901, with their daughter Tatiana being born in 1904 and Nina in 1908 [6, p. 24]. Their oldest daughter Tatiana was an avid drawer and later became an artist. The youngest, Nina, followed in the footsteps of her father, became a famous doctor and therapist [14]. According to Nina, her father was a sincere, warm, and unusually gifted man [11].

In December 1901, Konchalovsky returned to his studies at IMU as a supernumerary resident without pay in the faculty therapy clinic under Professor V.D. Shervinsky and his assistant L.E. Golubinin. He soon finished his studies, residency, and assistantship, becoming a representative of the Shervinsky-Golubinin school of therapy. During his studies, Konchalovsky studied such dangerous diseases as tuberculosis and gastrointestinal fistula. He also began to use new methods of researching diseases, including the use

of gastric tubes, X-rays, and lab work [6, p. 21; 8, p. 97, 99].

In 1911, Konchalovsky defended his doctoral dissertation on “Gastric Achylia” [15] (fig. 3)¹⁷. His defence was conducted in a friendly environment [12]. He decided to teach in his old department and in 1912 he became a privat-docent [4, p. 102] (fig. 4).

Konchalovsky worked at IMU until 1917. In his memoir, he provides a detailed account of this part of his life, a formative period of professional growth. It was also a difficult period, although Konchalovsky always continued to work. He writes, “Everybody was relieved by the fall of the autocracy, but those months of chaos were awful... The provisional government was powerless to direct the life of the state in any way. Manuylov became the Minister of National Education. He immediately dismissed all professors designated by Kasso. The Soviets were invited to replace all vacated positions as soon as possible” [12]. Shervinsky nominated Konchalovsky for the position of head of the department of the faculty therapy clinic, but D.D. Pletnev was chosen instead¹⁸. Pletnev had been nominated by Professor A.B. Fokht¹⁹. Konchalovsky

“on this occasion experienced great excitement” and his fate “for the next eleven years had been determined”— he began to teach at the Second MSU (formerly the Higher Women’s Courses) [12].

Konchalovsky was an excellent lecturer. Even before the revolution he had given a course of lectures to students of the Moscow School of the Order of St. Catherine. When the course finished,



Fig. 4. M.P. Konchalovsky, teacher (1911).

Photograph from the IMU medical faculty’s yearbook. I.M. Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. PK 11/90/55.

¹⁷ Dissertation of M.P. Konchalovsky signed to N.M. Konchalovskaya (I.M. Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine, OF 590/33).

¹⁸ D.D. Pletnev – head of the faculty therapy department (1917–1924).

¹⁹ A.B. Fokht (1848–1930) – pathologist, founder of the Institute of Experimental Pathology (1891), teacher at the Second MSU (1917–1926).

¹⁶ A.A. Ostroumov (1844–1908) – director of the hospital therapy clinic at IMU (1879–1902).

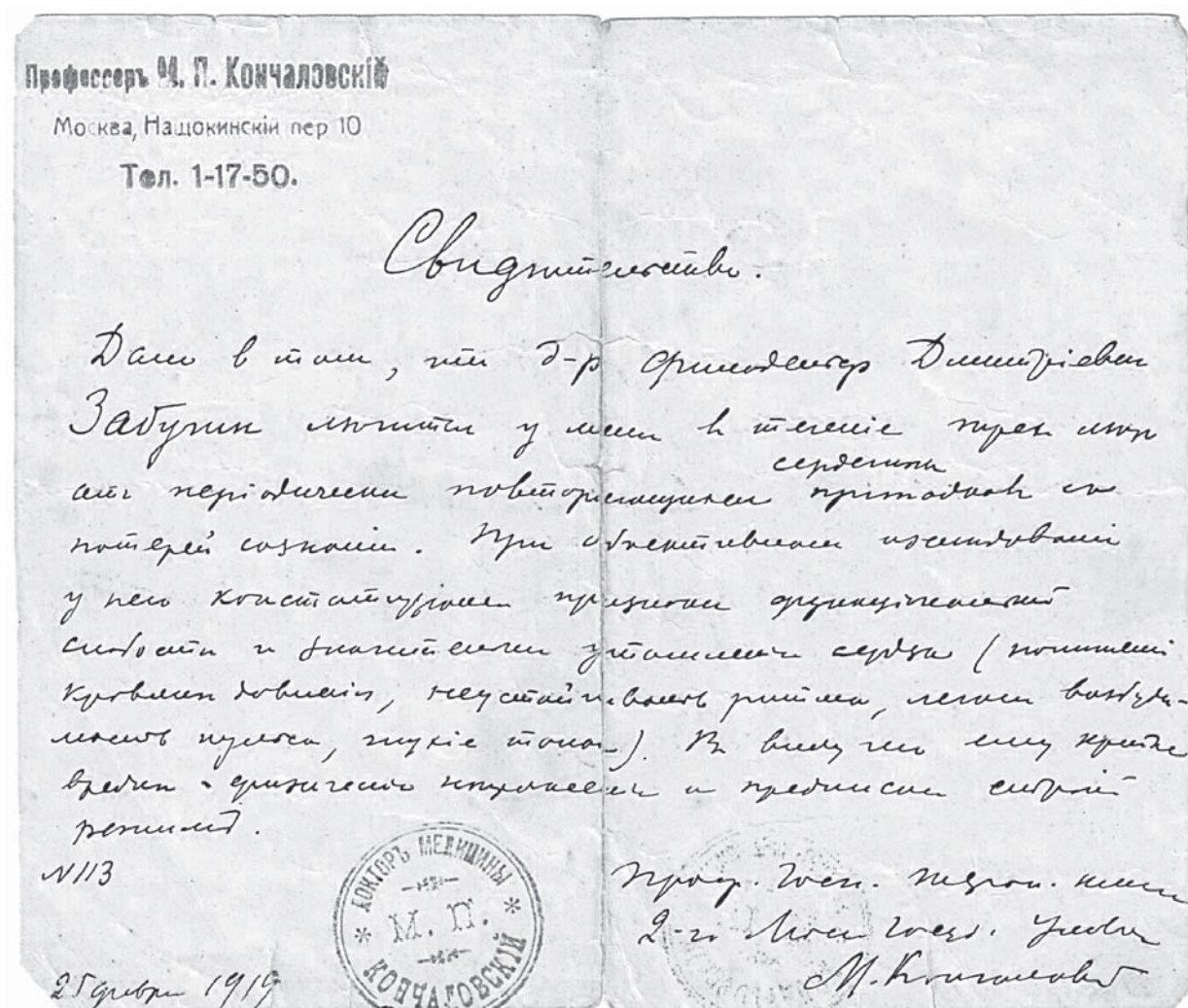


Fig. 5. M.P. Konchalovsky's Certificate (25.02.1919).
I.M. Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. PK 21/96/7 (Signed).

students presented him with a heartfelt speech and watercolor²⁰.

During the First World War, privat-docent Konchalovsky worked in the hospitals providing medical treatment to the sick and wounded while continuing to give lectures and carry out research [8, p. 28]. In fact, he published his work on heart defects in 1916 [16].

In July 1918, having been recommended for the position by A.B. Fokht²¹, Konchalovsky became the department head of the hospital therapy

clinic at the 2nd MSU and continued to work there until 1929. In his memoir, he writes, "The hospital clinic was located in the private residence of Linskerov near Krasnye Vorota, where there was an ear, nose, and throat surgical clinic. The surgical clinic was headed by professor of operative surgery V.M. Mintz²², while the ear clinic was headed by L.O Sverzhevsky...²³ When I arrived at the clinic it was like a kingdom of women – there was only one male assistant, R.M. Obakev-

²⁰ I.M. Sechenov First MSMU Medical History Museum. OF 590/87 (19 May 1916).

²¹ M.P. Konchalovsky was introduced to A.B. Fokht by Professor G.I. Rossolimo.

²² V.M. Mintz – professor and director of the Surgical Clinic of the 2nd Moscow State University.

²³ L.I. Sverzhevsky (1867–1941) – professor, director of the ear, nose, and throat clinic at the Second MSU. (In his memoir he is mistakenly referred to as L.O. Sverzhevsky).

ich. The rest of the residents and assistants were women” [12]. Konchalovsky worked there with his students: Kh.Kh. Vlado, A.A. Bagdasarov, V.G. Popov and together they carried out research on hematology and cardiology [13, p. 230].

With the support of the People's Commissariat of Health of the RSFSR N.A. Semashko²⁴, Konchalovsky's and Sverzhovsky's clinics were transferred to the building of the former Pavlovsky Hospital, allowing them to accept more patients and conduct more research. Konchalovsky's was the first clinic to use insulin to treat diabetes [6, p. 29].

During the turmoil in Moscow²⁵, Konchalovsky and Mintz were called to the Kremlin²⁶ and then sent to Patriarch Tikhon to diagnose his state of health [12].

The museum's collection also contains a “certificate” of health for doctor F.D. Zabugin²⁷, issued by Konchalovsky on 25 February 1919 (No. 113). According to this document, F.D. Zabugin was treated by Konchalovsky “over the course of three years” for “heart attacks”, for which he was prescribed a special treatment (fig. 5).

²⁴ N.A. Semashko – First People's Commissar of Health of the RSFSR (1918–1930).

²⁵ In his memoir, 1918 is described in the following way: “1918 in Moscow was very troubling... Denikin had already take Orel, in Moscow there was an explosion in Leontevsky Pereulok at Uvarov's house, where the Bolshevik committee was meeting. I remember this gloomy night when they brought me and Mintz to the Kremlin to help the victims of the explosion”. The date is mistaken: on the 25th of September 1919 a group of anarchists carried out a terrorist attack with the goal of killing the leaders of Moscow Committee RKP(b); on 13 October 1919, VSUR forcers under General A.I. Denikin capture Orel.

²⁶ In 1918, Mintz treated V.I. Lenin after an attempt on his life by F.E. Kaplan (30 August 1918).

²⁷ F.D. Zabugin (1884–1972) – a Russian neurologist and student of G.I. Rossolimo. In 1914, he was conscripted into the army as a military doctor. In November 1914, he returned to Moscow and received treatment at home. In 1915, he was a member of the board of health for the Northern Front. At the evacuation center for the Northern Front, F.D. Zabugin provided assistance to soldiers and conducted statistical studies. In 1918, he became an intern at the nervous diseases clinic and an assistant at the occupational diseases clinic at the 1st Moscow State University under the direction of N.A. Semashko. From 1918 to 1923, F.D. Zabugin was the director of Shelter for Minors (the former N.V. Rukavishnikov orphanage on Smolensky Boulevard).

This certificate proves to be a valuable source for reconstructing the biographical data of Zabugin. However, the document also raises many questions for researchers, as the absence of a clear clinical diagnosis leads to confusion about the purpose of issuing the certificate in the first place.

In the 1920s, Konchalovsky was began working for various state medical institutions, becoming the chairman of the Central Resort Commission²⁸ and later working for 15 years at the Moscow Hematology and Blood Transfusion Institute. The museum's collection contains a number of reprints of his articles from this period [17].

In the autumn of 1922, Konchalovsky was elected chairman of the Petrograd Union of Therapists, where he met therapists A.A. Nechaev and G.F. Lang²⁹. Their correspondence is preserved in the collection³⁰. The union decided to publish a journal called *Therapy Archives*, and Konchalovsky became its permanent editor [6, p. 30].

In 1923, Konchalovsky became chairman of the Moscow Therapy Society and served in this position until 1931, later to be reelected in 1938. Starting in 1931, he also served as chairman of the All-union Therapy Society, having been offered the position by Shervinsky³¹.

Konchalovsky kept an active correspondence with his teachers. The museum collection contains Konchalovsky's letters to Shervinsky from the 1920s and 1930s. In these letters Konchalovsky always addresses his teacher with unaffected respect. In a 1923 letter from Kislovodsk³², Konchalovsky mentions that he is managing the hospital therapy clinic at the 2nd MSU (fig. 6)³³. In a letter from the winter of 1939, Konchalovsky writes to wish Shervinsky a happy birthday (fig. 7)³⁴.

²⁸ By invitation of N.A. Semashko.

²⁹ G.F. Lang (1875–1948) – head of the clinic and department of faculty therapy of the First Leningrad Medical Institute (from 1922), secretary of the board of editors of the journal *Therapy Archive* (from 1923).

³⁰ I.M Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. OF 590/203.

³¹ In his memoir, Konchalovsky writes, “In my speeches and articles I always mention his [V.D. Shervinsky's] great services with enthusiasm”.

³² In 1923 in Kislovodsk, the sanatorium was opened, at which Konchalovsky taught a course on treating hypertension.

³³ I.M Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. OF 605/100/50.

³⁴ I.M Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. OF 605/104.

50 ✓
Кисловодск
31 авр. 1923
Михайловскому. 32.

Глубокоуважаемый Василий Дмитриевич!
Сиди здесь в Кисловодске и получи
номер "Медицинских Вестей",
посвященный Вишневскому.
Я очень сожалею, что владыка мой
отсутствует, а не могу передать Вам
его лично, а вместе со перемат
Вам из Редонки. Получили ли
Вы его? В нем Вы увидите не-
сколько оригинальных статей
из завед. моего клиника, к сожалению
много отбитых листов по-прежнему
попытайся нам всё в лучшем
виде, как это возможно для, этого

Fig. 6. Letter from M.P. Konchalovsky to V.D. Shervinsky, 1923 (a-c). First Page (a).
I.M. Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. OF 605/100/50. (Signed)

покажите Вам то убожество, которое
 Вы злословно назвали милое и
 драгоценное.

Как Вы ездите и собираетесь ли
 Вы в Крым? Перед отъездом из
 Москвы и несколько раз собираясь
 повесить Вы в Одессе, но
 все время возмущая разум и
 интеллект и семью и семейное
 счастье.

Здесь мы живем хорошо. Люблю
 чистый воздух и солнце.
 Медицина очень хорошая, но все
 не так, как в Москве. Мы
 живем здесь много лет в
 Москве. Видели все, что
 было с Д.Д. Пашковым, он здесь
 состоит на службе консула

Fig. 6. Letter from M.P. Konchalovsky to V.D. Shervinsky, 1923. Second Page (b).

Курорт и пивей уже Змеева.
 Видимо, очень доволен, немало
 прожитинцей и айдитает. Он
 обеспокоен организационн. частью
 съезда и очень заинтересован, ко-
 нтроль Говоринцев председателю
 Совета Терновитинским съездом,
 он указывает на проф. М.В.
 Яновский. Несколько мне. Коммуни-
 стическая рещи и айдит воеды пред-
 ставит Петербургу.
 Я писал айдит Ригорду Михаилу,
 но до сих пор айдит не имел.
 В Кисловодке и предположительно
 прибавит еще дней 10-12.
 Моему брату скорее окрепнет.
 Сердечно приветствую Анну Михайловну
 и Василию Соменовича.
 Искренне Предан
 М. Кончаловский

Fig. 6. Letter from M.P. Konchalovsky to V.D. Shervinsky, 1923. Third Page (c).

Заслуженный Деватель Науки
 ПРОФЕССОР
М. П. КОНЧАЛОВСКИЙ
 Ответ. редактор
 „Терапевтического архива“
 Москва, Б. Молчановка, 24
 Тел. Н-9-50-50

16. авг. 1939 г.

Глубокоуважаемый и дорогой Василий Димитриевич,
 поздравляю Вас с прекрасным днем
 Вашего Рождения и от всей души
 желаю Вам здоровья и радости в жизни.
 Не забывайте, что и Вас зовет, не
 закон и Ваше 14-е правило, что не
 могу урвать минуты времени.
 А всегда прибавлю к Вам особенную сим-
 -патию и благодарю и всегда буду
 помнить те ^{Ваши} уроки, благодаря которым
 я познакомился ^{со} всем ^и духом аромата
 к клинической медицине, особенно мое
 настоящее семейное дело работы.
 Очень приятно о нем написать напечатано
 в Тера. Арх. При первом возможности
 заеду к Вам, чтобы поведать.
 Искренне Вас любящий и благодарный
 М. Кончаловский

Fig. 7. Letter from M.P. Konchalovsky to V.D. Shervinsky (1939).
 I.M. Sechenov First MSU Museum of Medical History. OF 605/104 (signed).



Fig. 8. M.P. Konchalovsky with students.

Second row, first on left – N.M. Konchalovskaya. I.M. Sechenov
First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. OF 590/85.

Konchalovsky was interested in a broad range of problems in the field of internal medicine. In 1928 at the All-union Resort Union in Moscow, Konchalovsky helped create a committee devoted to the study and treatment of rheumatism. This committee was to become a part of the International League Against Rheumatism [6, p. 33].

Konchalovsky was invited to return to the 1st MSU a number of times. In order to return, though, he would have to leave his clinic and colleagues at the 2nd MSU, provoking a “long internal struggle”. However, A.I. Abrikosov’s invitation to transfer to the faculty therapy clinic proved to be decisive for Konchalovsky [12]. In 1929, he returned to manage his alma mater’s faculty therapy clinic. His personal

archive contains photo albums which show him with his students at the clinic (fig. 8). Konchalovsky recalled that he was very happy to return to the 1st MSU and enthusiastically devoted himself to his work [12].

Konchalovsky’s students (S.A. Pospelov, S.A. Gilyarevsky, A.G. Gukasyan) all defended their doctoral dissertations under his supervision. In all, he oversaw 14 candidate and 8 doctoral dissertations at the faculty therapy clinic [6, p. 32].

From 1927 to 1931 Konchalovsky was a consultant to the V.A. Obukh Institute for Labor Hygiene and Occupational Diseases and was part of the administration of the A.A. Bogdanov Institute for Blood Transfusion. From 1933 he was the head of the therapy clinic at the All-union Institute of Experimental Medicine [13, p. 230].

Konchalovsky was thrice a delegate at the International Congress on Rheumatism and was vice president of the International League Against Rheumatism [6, p. 35; 18]. He made important contributions to the study of rheumatism as a dangerous disease and is today rightly known as the “father of Russian rheumatology” [19].

In 1930, at the Second International Congress on Rheumatism in Belgium (Liege), Konchalovsky presented a paper on the pathogenesis of rheumatism. He also presented at the Third International Congress in France (Paris) and helped to organize the Fourth International Congress in Moscow (May 1934). In his memoir, Kon-



Fig. 9. M.P. Konchalovsky at the First International Congress on Blood Transfusion in Rome.

26-29 September 1935. a – meeting of 27 September; b – delegates go from Capitoline Hill to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. I.M. Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. OF 590/86.

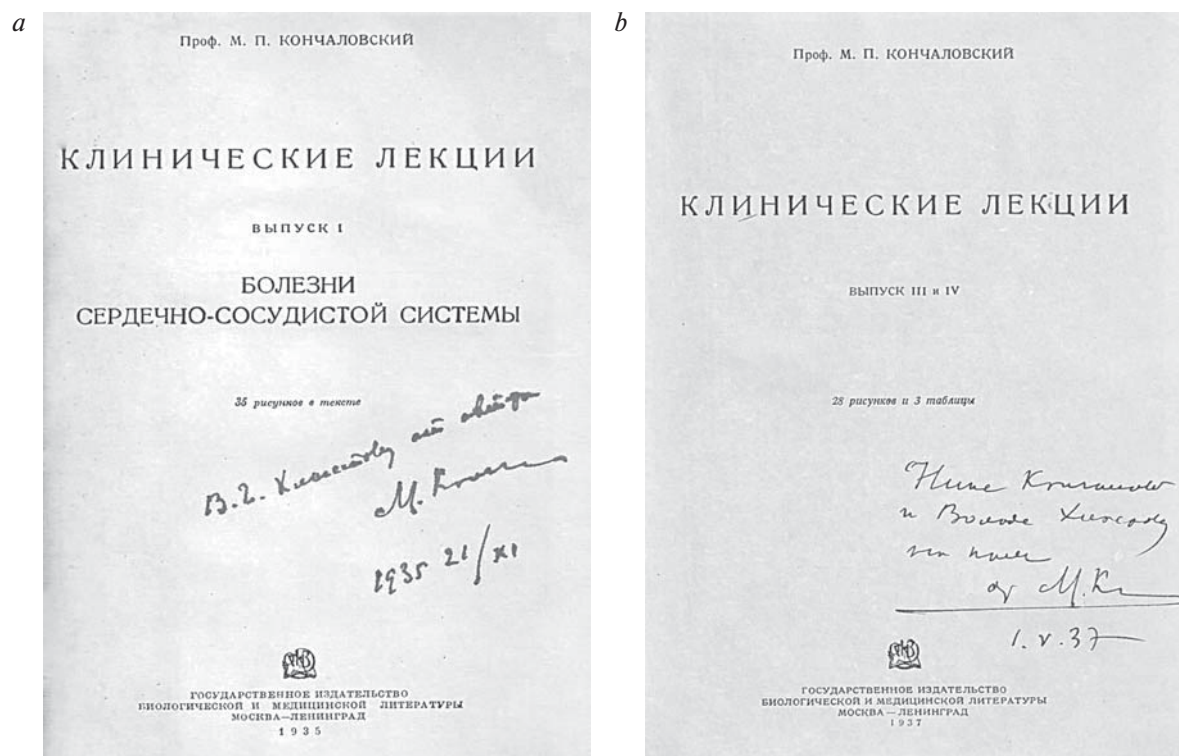


Fig. 10. Clinical Lectures by M.P. Konchalovsky: First Issue (a; signed by the author to V.G. Khlystov, 1935), Third and Fourth Issues (b; signed by the author to N.M. Konchalovskaya and V.G. Khlystov³⁷, 1937). I.M. Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. OF 590/29, OF 590/31.

konchalovsky notes that this event was the first international conference to be held in Russia under Soviet rule. The conference in Russia sparked a lengthy correspondence between colleagues. Delegates from England, the Netherlands, Belgium, Italy, and Germany “were shown methods of prevention in areas such as industry and transport, as well as factories”. Konchalovsky, as chairman of the conference, organized both academic and cultural activities. His personal archive contains telegrams from various conference delegates expressing their gratitude for his work [12].

In 1934, Konchalovsky was awarded the title of Distinguished Scientist of the RSFSR.

The First International Congress on Blood Transfusion was held in Italy (Rome) in September 1935, and Konchalovsky traveled to Rome with his daughter Nina. The event took place in a surgical clinic. A number of Konchalovsky’s acquaintances were part of the Soviet delegation, including professor A.A. Bogomolets (presenting a paper on “The Stimulating Effect of Blood Transfusion”), and professor A.A. Bagdasarov (giving a talk on “Preserving Blood”).

Conference delegates visited Palazzo Venezia (the residence of Benito Mussolini), Capitoline Hill, and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. There is a photo album in Konchalovsky’s personal archive labeled “The First International Congress on Blood Transfusion in Rome. 26-29 September 1935” which captures the important moments from this trip (fig. 9)³⁵.

In 1936, the Fifth Congress on Rheumatism was held in Sweden (Lund, Stockholm). Konchalovsky presented a paper on the allergic nature of rheumatism [6, p. 36].

Konchalovsky’s last trip abroad was in autumn 1937 to the World’s Fair in Paris. The trip, in his words, “was relaxing and pleasant”. In Paris he met N.N. Burdenko³⁶, who was the chief surgery consultant to the medical division of the Red Army. Konchalovsky visited the exhibition at the

³⁵ I.M. Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. OF 590/86.

³⁶ N.N. Burdenko – director of the surgery clinic at First MMI, chief surgeon of the Red Army (1937–1946).

³⁷ V.G. Khlystov – the husband of N.M. Konchalovskaya.

Soviet Pavilion featuring “a marvelous sculpture by Mukhina”, as well as the palace of science and the Pasteur Institute. He also visited Cannes, Rouen, and Fontainebleau [12].

In the middle of the 1930s, Konchalovsky occupied himself by editing the transcripts of his lectures [20] and worked on publishing a two-volume book on internal diseases³⁸ [21]. The book, called *Clinical Lectures*³⁹, was published in four issues. The first was dedicated to cardiovascular diseases (fig. 10a) and the second to diseases of the gastrointestinal tract, kidneys, endocrine glands, and metabolic disorders. The third and fourth (together) focused on respiratory, circulatory, and endocrine diseases [6, p. 36–37] (fig 10b).

Konchalovsky was the editor and co-editor of a number of leading scientific and popular science publications of the day, including Soviet Clinic, Medical Affairs, The Great Medical Encyclopedia, and Practical Doctor's Library [6, p. 30]. In addition to this work, he continued to give lectures practical lessons to students at the First MMI faculty therapy clinic.

In 1940, in conjunction with the 175 year anniversary of the medical faculty at Moscow University and with the 35th anniversary of his working there, Konchalovsky was awarded the Order of the Red Banner of Labor [6, p. 38]. His collection contains a congratulatory letter signed by V.P. Odintsov, A.A. Reformatsky, and P.N. Nikolaev⁴⁰. His colleagues from the First MMI and other Moscow medical institutions, as well as members of the Russian therapy societies, organized a celebration for him. The celebration, which took place in the House of Scientists, opened by V.N. Smotrov⁴¹, was attended by his students, colleague, and followers. Places of honor at the podium were given to V.D. Shervinsky, N.N. Burdennko, and E.V. Gautier-Dufayer [6, p. 38].

The 40th anniversary of Konchalovsky's career was widely celebrated. V.D. Shervinsky prepared a ceremonial speech for the occasion⁴² (fig. 11).

³⁸ reprinted three times.

³⁹ All editions of *Clinical Lectures* are preserved in the collection with the author's signature. I.M. Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. OF 590/29.

⁴⁰ I.M. Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. OF 590/96–99.

⁴¹ V.N. Smotrov (1900–1947) – therapist, professor at the 1st MMI, student of M.P. Konchalovsky.

⁴² I.M. Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of

Konchalovsky's personal archive contains a large number of letters dating from 1935–1939 from various scientists and artists; 52 of them are from colleagues from overseas and include letters of greeting (A.V. Vishnevsky, V. Gotovtsev, I. Loris, B.P. Tsitovich, N.F. Golubov, A.G. Likhachev, D.M. Rossiysky, and others)⁴³, letters from close colleagues (G.F. Lang, B.P. Kushlevsky, V.D. Shervinsky)⁴⁴, comments on his works (professor V.K. Vasilenko on *Clinical Lectures*⁴⁵, professor P.N. Nikolaev on *Clinic of Internal Diseases*)⁴⁶, and reference letters (A.L. Myasnikov)⁴⁷.

Konchalovsky received letters from colleagues in Leningrad, Novosibirsk, Kiev, Odessa, Berlin, Amsterdam, and there is also a letter with Turkish embassy letterhead written in 1934⁴⁸.

Konchalovsky's personal archive also contains copies of his articles dedicated to professors V.D. Shervinsky⁴⁹ [22, 23] and S.P. Botkin⁵⁰ [45]. There are also photographs and photo albums from the 1930s and early 1940s (with photographs of his relatives and friends⁵¹, colleagues and followers⁵², students and patients⁵³).

One of the last events that Konchalovsky took part in was a conference in February 1941 in Leningrad.

Medicine. OF 590/233. 4.XII.1939 (with Konchalovsky's signature).

⁴³ I.M. Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. OF 590/100–107, OF 590/114, OF 590/115, OF 590/138.

⁴⁴ I.M. Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. OF 590/116–119, OF 590/121–122, OF 590/130–133.

⁴⁵ I.M. Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. OF 590/126.

⁴⁶ I.M. Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. OF 590/129.

⁴⁷ I.M. Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. OF 590/136–137.

⁴⁸ I.M. Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. KP № 590/1-330. P. 15–26.

⁴⁹ I.M. Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. OF 590/59, OF 590/51.

⁵⁰ I.M. Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. OF 590/50.

⁵¹ I.M. Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. OF 590/1–11.

⁵² I.M. Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. OF 590/25–28.

⁵³ Medicine. OF 590/22, OF 590/85.

Засл. дефт. науки, проф. В.Д.Шервинский.

4.XII. 1939г.

ДОСТОЧТИМНЫЕ И ГЛУБОКОУВАЖАЕМЫЕ МАКСИМ ПЕТРОВИЧ, ГЕОРГИЙ ФЕДОРОВИЧ,
РОМАН АЛЬБЕРТОВИЧ И НИКОЛАЙ ДМИТРИЕВИЧ.

Я выступаю в настоящем торжественном заседании с чувством себе удовлетворения. Приятно и почетно находиться среди товарищей, собравшихся сюда ради того, ^{смысла} почтить и поздравить с выполнением сорокалетней работы выдающихся деятелей и славных советских ученых на поприще врачебной, научной, педагогической и общественной деятельности. С особенным удовольствием я присоединяю свой голос к многочисленным изъявлениям уважения, почта и благодарности дорогим юбилярам, принесшим массу труда и пользы в деле развития медицинских знаний и образования врачебных кадров. Прошу глубокоуважаемых юбиляров принять выражение моего искреннего пожелания им здравья, сил для продолжения их высоко полезной деятельности.

Теперь я позволю себе себе обратиться к Максиму Петровичу Кончаловскому. Да извинит высшее собрание престарелого моего сочлена за это обращение, ибо оно несет до известной степени личный характер. Я сказал в начале, что испытываю чувство себе удовлетворения выступая здесь с моим поздравлением. Максим Петрович, который именует меня своим учителем, был более сорока лет тому назад постоянным моим слушателем и усердным посетителем моих лекций. Когда мне, как профессору, приходилось беседовать с ним при клинических разборах больных, я убеждался, что имею перед собой знающего, умного и талантливого студента; он стал потом ординатором и ассистентом Факультетской Терапевтической Клиники, которой я тогда руководил. В настоящее время мне доводится быть на сорокалетнем юбилее моего ученика, которому я мог тогда дать только, так сказать, начатки клинического образования. Труд, настойчивость и природная одаренность доставили Максиму Петровичу его настоящее и могу сказать, блестящее положение. Так вот я и испытываю чувство себе удовольствия и, не скрою, некоторой гордости, когда я принесу ему мое поздравление и тут же выражение благодарности за его доброе отношение ко мне. Не обманулся я в Максиме Петровиче, а, подтверждение диагноза всегда приятно. Разве я не имел нравственного права обратиться к Максиму Петровичу с таким обращением и дать ему всего, чего только может пожелать старый учитель своему и другу.

Fig. 11. Speech by V.D. Shervinsky given at the event celebrating M.P. Konchalovsky's 40 year career, G.F. Lang, R.A. Luriy, N.D. Strazhesko.

I.M. Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. OF 590/233.



Fig 12. M.P. Konchalovsky in the operating room.
I.M. Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. NVF 367/17 (25).

Konchalovsky had suffered from migraines in his youth and, as he grew older, from hypertension. Although his health began to deteriorate, he continued to give lectures to students (fig. 12) and spend time with his grandson Vadim (fig. 13). After the outbreak of the Second World War his conditioned worsened. On December 4, 1941, he and his family evacuated to Kuybyshev, but he soon returned to Moscow and resumed his teaching career.

On November 29, 1942, M.P. Konchalovsky died of acute cardio-vascular failure⁵⁴.

M.P. Konchalovsky was one of the leaders of Russian clinical internal medicine from the

⁵⁵ M.P. Konchalovsky is buried at Novodevichy Cemetery in Moscow (family plot).

end of the 1910s to the beginning of the 1940s, an extremely knowledgeable therapist, an excellent teacher and lecturer, an author of numerous original scientific works, the founder of a major clinical school, and an innovator in the fields of physiology and rheumatology⁵⁶. He had an enormous impact on the course of Russian medicine.

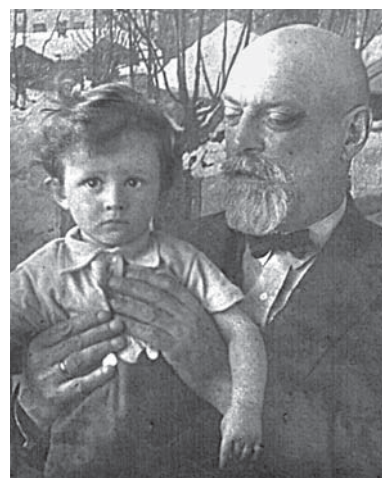


Fig. 13. M.P. Konchalovsky with his grandson Vadim (1935).
I.M. Sechenov First MSMU Museum of the History of Medicine. OF 590/10.

⁵⁶ In 2012, the City Interdepartmental Commission for Naming Territorial Units and Facilities of the City of Moscow, decided to name City Hospital №63 of the Department of Health of Moscow after professor M.P. Konchalovsky.

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