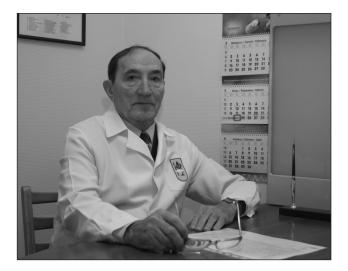
CHRONICLE

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Professor D. O. Yaremenko — an outstanding representative of the Sytenka school of orthopedics and traumatology (to the 90th anniversary of his birth)



Professor D. O. Yaremenko was a talented scientist and experienced orthopedist-traumatologist, an outstanding specialist in diagnosis and treatment of foot deformities, organization of prosthetic and orthopedic support and rehabilitation in the aftermath of injuries and diseases of the musculoskeletal system, a person with an active civic position, a devoted son of the Sytenko School of Orthopedics and Traumatology. This is how Dmytro Oleksandrovych is remembered by colleagues and friends from the orthopedic and traumatology community of Ukraine and abroad.

Dmytro Oleksandrovych was born on 11 October 1934 in the town of Uman, Cherkasy region. In 1955, he successfully graduated from Uman Medical School and entered the Medical Institute to continue his studies. In 1961, he graduated with honors from the Medical Faculty of M. I. Pirogov Vinnytsia Medical Institute and began working as a teacher at Uman Medical School and at the same time as a resident physician at the city hospital. However, the constant desire to deepen his professional knowledge and improve his level of skill as a specialist orthopedic traumatologist did not allow him to rest on his laurels, and in 1963 he entered the clinical residency in orthopedics and traumatology at the Professor M. I. Sytenko Ukrainian Research Institute of Orthopedics and Traumatology, and in 1965 to graduate school. On behalf of the Ministry of Health, in 1964-1968, Professor M. I. Sytenko Kharkiv Research Institute of Prosthetics, Orthopedics and Traumatology participated in the implementation of the comprehensive program "Diseases, Deformities of the Foot and the Design of Rational Footwear", therefore, a mass examination of children was organized to study the anatomical and functional features of the feet in normal and pathological conditions, under the leadership of Professor O. V. Nedryhaylov, and the direct implementation was carried out by D. O. Yaremenko. Dmytro Oleksandrovych conducted a comprehensive anthropometric and plantographic examination of 1,522 children aged 1 to 18 years (1,200 using plaster casts of the plantar surface of the feet and 289 using X-rays). Based on the obtained representative data, he developed a set of measures to prevent the development and progression of static foot deformities in childhood, and proposed a method of axial anteroposterior radiography of the foot, which made it possible to objectively determine the location of the metatarsal heads in limb loading and without it. The results of this study became the basis of Dmytro Oleksandrovych's candidate's dissertation on the topic "Age-related features of foot development in relation to the design of rational children's footwear", which he defended in 1968.

Since then, D. O. Yaremenko worked fruitfully on the scientific problem of diagnosing and treating foot impairment. He proposed a method of functional management of patients in the early postoperative period using a special plaster cast, the design of which includes a metal stirrup and a rubber heel with a flexible ankle part, for active rehabilitation treatment and early walking, in co-authorship with O. O. Korzh developed a method of reconstructive surgery on the forefoot with transosseous fixation of the metatarsal bones with a tendon auto- or homograft, as well as a device for fixing and drilling the metatarsal bones to perform the specified operation on the bones of the foot. In 1979, D. O. Yaremenko defended his doctoral dissertation "Clinical and biomechanical justification of treatment measures for static foot deformities".

Later, the scientist developed leading criteria for assessing the condition of the feet in normal and pathological conditions, proposed methods for functional radiography of the foot and ankle joint in 3 planes using a special device developed by him. In addition, he proposed a classification of the severity of foot deformities taking into account the amplitude of fluctuations in the height of the bone arch at different degrees of its flattening or increase depending on the length, provided detailed recommendations on orthopedic support in order to improve musculoskeletal function. In his works, D. O. Yaremenko also considered the issue of restoring the musculoskeletal function of the lower extremities after severe injuries to the supracalcaneal joint. His methodological recommendations on the treatment of foot abnormalities have become a desktop manual for orthopedic traumatologists for many years.

The diligence and perseverance in work inherent to D. O. Yaremenko, allowed him to climb the career ladder to the head of the biomechanics laboratory, and in May 1974 to be appointed director of the Ukrainian Central Institute for the Examination of Working Capacity and Labor Organization of the Disabled.

In a short period of time, Dmytro Oleksandrovych carried out significant work to improve the activities and reorganization of the institute entrusted to him, to establish the rehabilitation process and return to society of patients with severe consequences of injuries (limb amputations, complicated spinal fractures, severe irreversible bone deformities, etc.) and diseases of the musculoskeletal system. This became the basis for raising the category of the institution and its re-profiling in 1976 into the Ukrainian Research Institute of Prosthetics, Prosthetic Manufacturing, Examination and Rehabilitation of Disabled (UkrNIIprosthetics). Since 2023, UkrNIIprosthetics has been renamed into the State Non-Profit Institution "Ukrainian Scientific and Clinical Center of Prosthetics and Rehabilitation".

From 1989 to 2006, D. O. Yaremenko headed the scientific and organizational department (SOD), fruitfully combining managerial, highly professional medical, scientific and pedagogical activities.

On his initiative, the main direction of scientific research of the SOD was determined to be the study of medical and social problems of disability due to injuries and orthopedic diseases of the musculoskeletal system, the justification and development of medical and organizational measures for their prevention. The department engaged in detailed analysis of the cause-and-effect relationships of persistent limitation of vital activity in patients with different localization and different nosological forms of musculoskeletal disorders, the features of the dynamics of disability depending on the applied medical rehabilitation measures, rehabilitation potential. According to the results of scientific research, methodological recommendations were published on reducing disability in patients after severe injuries of the musculoskeletal system, recommendations on licensing of medical institutions of orthopedic and traumatological profile, a typical rehabilitation program for disabled with the consequences of injuries of the upper extremities.

These and other scientific achievements and proposals were repeatedly used by health departments of various levels in the preparation of regulatory documents and decisions on the organization of orthopedic and traumatology services.

Professor D. O. Yaremenko also showed great interest in the history of the science of orthopedics and traumatology. A significant number of his works highlight the contribution of Professor M. I. Sytenko Institute and prominent figures of orthopedic and traumatology scientists.

In 1993, D. O. Yaremenko was awarded the title of professor.

From 2006 until the end of his life, Dmytro Oleksandrovych worked as a chief researcher at the National Institute of Orthopedics, solving the most pressing scientific, organizational and practical issues of modern orthopedics and traumatology.

The results of his many years of scientific research on the problems of treating orthopedic and traumatological pathology by Professor D. O. Yaremenko presented in the monograph "Acquired foot deformities (diagnosis and treatment)" and in the collection of scientific works "Medical and organizational aspects of rehabilitation of disabled with consequences of injuries and diseases of the musculoskeletal system", which were published in the last year of his life.

Dmytro Oleksandrovych was the author of over 300 scientific publications and 38 inventions, including 2 international patents.

Throughout his professional career, Dmytro Oleksandrovych was selflessly and enthusiastically engaged in medical and advisory work. Over the years of his medical career, he conducted tens of thousands of consultations of patients with complex musculoskeletal disorders, performed hundreds of complex surgical interventions on bones and joints, improving patients' life quality.

A significant place in the work of D. O. Yaremenko was occupied by pedagogical activity. From 1994 to 2014 he was the head of information and internship courses in the cycle "Disorders of the foot, their prevention, treatment and prosthetic and orthopedic support".

The professor's lectures were always distinguished by erudition, scientific novelty, logical consistency and practical orientation. Professor D. O. Yaremenko organically combined intense scientific, pedagogical and medical-consultative work with organizational and public activities. His fellow orthopedic traumatologists knew him as an active participant and organizer of a number of congresses, symposia, plenums and conferences, a member of the Medical Council on Biomechanics of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences (1977–1986), three times elected as a deputy of the district Council of People's Deputies (1980–1987), elected as a member of the Presidium and General Secretary of the All-Ukrainian Society of Orthopedic Traumatologists (1991–1996). For many years, Dmytro Oleksandrovych was a member of the Academic Council of the Institute and a member of the specialized academic council for the defense of doctoral and candidate theses in the specialty "traumatology and orthopedics" at the State Establishment "Professor M. I. Sytenko Institute of Spine and Joint Pathology of the National Academy of Medical Sciences of Ukraine", a member of the editorial board of the journal "Orthopedics, Traumatology and Prosthetics", a member of the Board of the Ukrainian Association of Orthopedic Traumatologists and the Board of Kharkiv Regional Branch of the Ukrainian Association of Orthopedic Traumatologists.

On 15 October 2014, Doctor of Medical Sciences, Professor Dmytro Oleksandrovych Yaremenko passed away. Employees of Professor M. I. Sytenko Institute, students, colleagues and friends remember Dmytro Oleksandrovych with great respect as a highclass professional, a sincere friend and teacher.

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