



1st Congress of Italian Surgery and SICCR: the foundations for a continuous development.

The first congress of Italian Surgery, which was held in Rome at the end of September, deserves at least a few words of acknowledgement.

First of all concerning the choice of the prestigious venue: the Auditorium Parco della Musica by Renzo Piano, where the event was held. The President of the Republic Giorgio Napolitano attended the opening ceremony. Nineteen scientific associations that deal with surgery, took part. The topics discussed were not only scientific but concerned healthcare and training, the objective was to confirm the strategic value of our profession.

The SICCR accepted the invitation to participate in this grand event with the intention to represent science and with the awareness that great part the financial resources required to carry out our activities would be necessary for this event.

The perplexities and consideration which accompanied this important decision were linked to some negative past precedent; having been previously treated inappropriately without due respect and underestimating the scientific merit that our association has gained through the years. Filippo La Torre and Claudio Mattana were chosen to represent our association at the event. They were assigned the difficult task of safeguarding SICCR's role both from a scientific point of view as from the point of view of organization. They managed to carry out this task superbly; in fact The SICCR was present at all sessions concerning colorectal surgery, furthermore many of us were present at the Consensus of cancer of the rectum, which was indirectly an event inside the event. Discussion with colleagues who were not totally aware of our activities, gave us the opportunity we had awaited, which is, to be able to exhibit the activities we, as an association, are involved in. We would like to congratulate all members who worked hard to present papers worthy of our association; the audience present appreciated our precise exposition of facts, frankness in the exposure of case histories and our capability to discuss openly. A special thanks goes also to those who participated indirectly sharing their enthusiasm with the SICCR by giving their full support.

From a financial point of view, the association will soon receive a refund for a part of its expenses, as decided in the organizational phase. The promoters of the event have already expressed their wish to repeat this event in two years time. The Directive Council has also discussed this eventuality and thanks to numerous expectations, are inclined to accepting this proposal and repeating this positive experience.

I would like to ask all members their views on this proposal and to inform us of any possible hindrances.

Last but not least, I would like to congratulate all members of the association and wish them all the best for their future activities.

Mario Trompetto