

# Reynaldo Quagliato, M.D.

1908-1973

Returning from a visit to Sanatorio Aimores, Dr. Quagliato lost his life in a car accident. A few months before the Bergen Congress, he had told me that this would be the last congress he would attend.

Dr. Quagliato was born in Capivari, State of Sao Paulo, Brasil, on 8 December 1908. In 1936 he completed the medical course in the Faculty of Medicine of Curitiba (Parana). He later pursued courses in leprology, dermatology, allergy, biostatistics, genetics, mycology and histopathology of the skin. He spent one month at the skin clinic of Professors Degos and Duperrat at the Hôpital St. Louis in Paris (1953).

In 1941, while I was in charge of the Regional Dispensary of Leprosy in Araraquara, I met him for the first time. He was working in a private laboratory and was the chief of the laboratory of Santa Casa in the same city. Impressed by his qualities and medical background I invited him to work in the leprosy control department. He spent about one year at the Regional Dispensary, working part-time without any remuneration, and after this he won a contest to be officially appointed as leprologist. He was in charge of the Dispensary of Bebedouro and, a few years later, of the Regional Dispensary of Campinas. He worked for more than 20 years in this position and accumulated considerable material and experience. During these years his prestige among colleagues increased due to his devotion to work and the leprosy patient, competence and great interest in leprosy control, and research.

He was twice elected secretary and general secretary of the Sociedade Paulista de Leprologia, and became a member of the WHO Panel of Experts in Leprosy. For several years he served as a short-term consultant for the WHO Leprosy BCG Trial in Burma.

Dr. Quagliato attended the International Leprosy Congresses of Madrid (1953), Rio de Janeiro (1963), London (1968) and Bergen (1973); as well as the PASB/PAHO Seminars in Leprosy Control in Belo Hori-

zonte, Brasil (1958), and Cuernavaca, Mexico (1963), and many other national meetings in which he reported papers or was invited as rapporteur.

In the last two years he was appointed as assistant professor in the chair of dermatology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Campinas (S.P.).

His main interests in research were epidemiology, therapy, control and prevention of leprosy. He was connected with the investigation by Bechelli on the lepromin test, prevention of leprosy by BCG vaccine and epidemiology; and by Beiguelman, on genetics. With the excellent material he collected during 20 years of continuous work in Campinas, he was the senior authority of three papers on inactivity and relapses of lepromatous outpatients treated with sulfones, one of them reported in London (1968) and the other in Bergen (1973). In these reports evidence was given on the need of treating lepromatous outpatients for decades, perhaps life, due to reactivation or relapses that occur in a high proportion of cases due to the limitations of sulfones.

Another important contribution was on the incidence of leprosy in contacts related to the lepromin test. As in the study of Dharmendra and Chatterjee (1955), and based on the surveillance of over 4,000 contacts, Dr. Quagliato showed that the incidence of leprosy is higher among nonreactors, who also developed lepromatous leprosy; smaller incidence, absence of lepromatous cases and a majority of tuberculoid cases were observed among the lepromin reactors.

Last but not least, Dr. Quagliato was an excellent person, loyal, honest, modest, rather timid, and possessed a good sense of humor. His death represents a great loss to his family and friends, the leprosy service, patients and students of the medical school of Campinas.

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