

From the editor

Od redakcji

The current issue of *Art of Healing* appears in the times when the world has been hit by a pandemic of a new virus. We are painfully aware of its consequences in the medical, economic, social and mental spheres. We are also beginning to realize more and more that the piece of earth on which we live, in the era of globalization is only a little element of a big puzzle comprising the whole world. However, the complex network of mutual relationships connecting its elements is silhouetted in our consciousness so dimly that their unexpected consequences, as it is happening now, can be a total surprise. All this is accompanied by the awareness of uncertainty of human existence in spite of the power of modern technologies which humanity has at their disposal. Thus, a question arises whether the present crisis is not a warning signal calling for change of human minds and making indispensable corrections in the currently dominating lifestyle and in the world of values, where the balance between the heart and the mind, humanity and technology seems to be disrupted?

In this present difficult situation, making us look for new ways of coping with and facing new challenges, we are continuing reflections and research referring to the questions we asked ourselves before, which did not vanish once the new ones appeared. It is them that the content of this issue concerns, and the common thread linking the texts included in it seems to be expressed in different contexts care for other people.

The issue of *Art of Healing* being presented to the Readers begins with a co-authorship study by Maciej Wiktor Klimasiński and

collaborators, entitled *Spiritual Care in Medicine: Spirituality vs. Perception of a Disease, Coping with Suffering – Quantitative Survey of a Polish Population of Chronically Ill Adults*. The study of empirical character provides interesting information on the connections between spirituality and perception of a chronic disease and efforts which the patients make in this sphere, trying to cope with suffering. The obtained results and conclusions drawn on the basis of them encourage to carry on research in this growing in popularity field. Another study, written by Marek Motyka and Beata Szpak, entitled *Psychological Support in Serious Gynecological Surgeries and the Patient's Need for Medication in a Postoperative Period*, brings convincing evidence for the fact that psychological support given to patients before a serious procedure can have an impact not only on improving their general sensation after the procedure but also on decreasing use of painkillers, sedatives and sleeping pills. The next study, also of empirical character, written by Aleksandra Cichoń and Jolanta Jaworek, entitled *Comparing the Impact of Classic Massage and Exercises in Water on the Functional Condition and Subjective Pain in the Lower Part of the Spine in Pregnant Women* points out that properly selected treatments, such as massage or exercises in water can be a useful form of therapy for pregnant women suffering from pain in the lower part of the spine.

The next part of the issue comprises theoretical and review articles. It begins with a study by Piotr Słowik and Piotr Passowicz entitled *The Role and Importance of Psychological Training as an Educational and Developmental*

Method within Psychological Studies. In their article the authors come back to the idea which was once popular and today quite forgotten, of conducting interpersonal training during studies, especially during psychological studies. According to them it can be very helpful in developing desired social skills of the students and supporting their mature development.

Another study included in this fragment of the journal is an article by Karolina Kwiatkowska, Olga Milczarek and Stanisław Kwiatkowski entitled *Neuropsychological and Psychological Therapy of Patients with Cerebellar Mutism*. It deals with the problem of communicating and care in case of serious neurological problems which appear in some patients after neurosurgical procedures within the rear base of the skull. As the authors emphasize, in such cases neuropsychological and psychological therapy is of central importance. The part of the issue devoted to theoretical and review studies ends with an article by Paweł Lipowski entitled *Legal Conditions of the Patient's Safety and Innovativeness of Health Care*. The development of contemporary medicine, which is facing more and more new challenges is accompanied by newer and newer complex problems of psychological, ethical and legal nature. The author tries to introduce the Reader into the latter ones, concentrating on the issue of the patient's safety.

Another short fragment of the discussed issue contains two reports. The first of them is a report from the 20th European Symposium of Somatic Therapy and Psychosomatic Education with the subject: *Man in the Situation of Medical Hazard from the Perspective of Psychosomatics and Somatic Therapy*, and the other one is a report also from the Symposium, which has been regularly held for many years, entitled *Pain and Suffering*. Both subjects in an unintentional way, as it seems, deal with vital problems which the world is facing nowadays and which are inscribed in human life.

The last part of the issue prepared for our Readers is devoted to memories. It so happens that at the beginning of this year two outstanding members of the Scientific Council of our journal passed away. Two memoirs included in this part concern the memory of them. The first one is devoted to professor Henryk Gaertner and the other one to professor Jan Łazowski. Quoting Wisława Szymborska in one of them: *Eternity of the deceased lasts until we pay them with our memory*, one would like to add that both of the deceased left behind not only good memory but also considerable achievements, such as books and numerous articles as well as other productive effects of their activity during their lives. Hail to their memory!

Editor in Chief
Marek Motyka