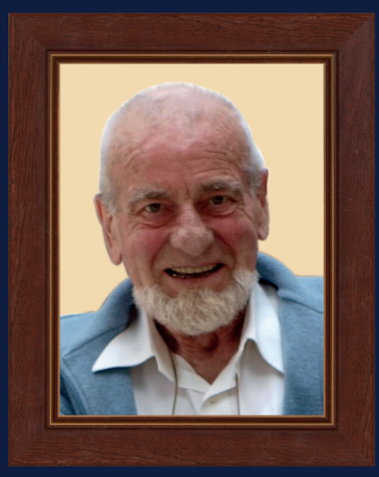
Historical Exhibition Brochure

DESNOS, SCANDINAVIA AND THE 1918 CENTENARY



eau History Office

Presented on the occasion of the 33rd Annual EAU Congress

EAU18 | COPENHAGEN 16-20 March 2018

The History of Urology in Scandinavia

The 33rd Annual EAU Congress is being held in Copenhagen, which gives the EAU History Office a chance not only to celebrate the urological history of Denmark, but of Scandinavia. This year's exhibition also sees a biographical display of the urologist and historian Ernest Desnos (1852 – 1925) and commemorates the centenary of the end of the First World War that shook Europe and temporarily delayed the blooming trans-European collaboration of urologists, which eventually led to the formation of the SIU and ultimately the EAU.

Norway

In Norway there is some evidence from mediaeval manuscripts of medical treatments for bladder stones. These were usually herbal or used zootherapy, for example the drinking of the blood of a goat. Interestingly, a similar remedy is found in the English Leechbook of Bald c.900AD. An early, rare example of stone surgery is found in Norway when Ravn Sveinbjørnson, a visiting Icelandic surgeon performed a urethrolithotomy in around 1213 AD.

The cystoscope, that instrument which heralds the birth of urology in a country, was introduced to Norway in 1887 by Alexander Malthe (1845 – 1928). The first nephrolithotomy was carried out in 1892 by Fredrik Jervell (1859 – 1921). The first perineal prostatectomy was in 1903, in Oslo and the first transvesical one in Bergen in 1904. TURP was introduced by Stein Holst (1891 – 1955) and Ragnar Andersen (1905 – 1993) in 1932. Holst was the first Norwegian surgeon who exclusively practiced urology, in the Vor Frue Hospital in Oslo. Urology was recognised as a speciality in Norway in 1948 and the Norwegian Urological Association was founded in 1962.

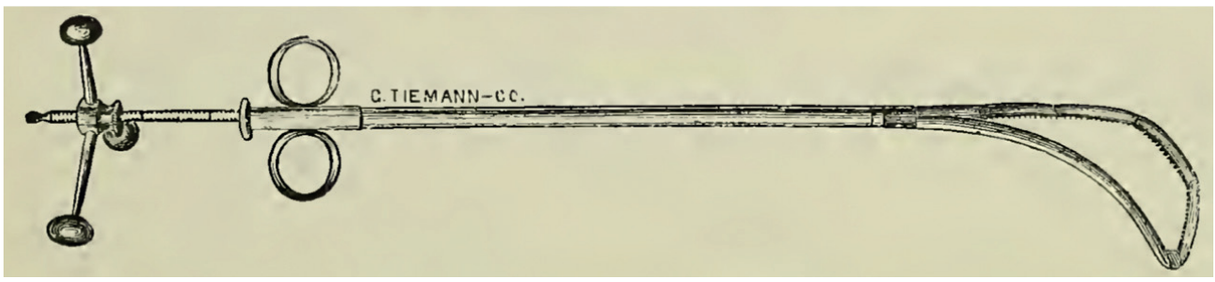
Sweden

Very little is known of early stone surgery in Sweden, it's likely that itinerant stonecutters were active as they were in the rest of Europe. The barber surgeons formed a guild in 1496 but it was not until the 18th century that the surgeons were accepted into the Collegium Medicum.

The father of Swedish surgery, Olaf af Acrel (1716 – 1806) studied in several European countries including France where he learned lithotomy from Nicholas Le Cat. Urology as a distinct speciality was slow to develop in Sweden although some general surgeons took a particular interest in urological conditions.

Einar Key (1872 – 1954) represented Sweden at the International Urological Society and with John Hellström (1890 – 1965) pioneered urology in Stockholm. Hellström developed a large experience of stone surgery and brought TURP from America. Gustav Giertz (1906 - 2002) a pupil of Hellström, became the first Swedish Professor of Urology in 1967 in Stockholm.

Internationally recognised names from Sweden include Karl Folke Knutssen (1901 – 1993) who devised the Knutssen clamp for urethrography, Sven Ivar Seldinger (1921 – 1998) whose guide-wire technique we use daily and Jan-Erik Johansson (b. 1946) whose name is synonymous with the non interventional management of prostate cancer.



The Jacobsen Lithotrite. Image from the catalogue of Tieman & Co. Ltd, 1879

Denmark

In 18th century Denmark the surgeon Georg Heuermann (1723 – 1768) was one of the few in Europe to promote the suprapubic approach to remove bladder stones. Although it had been described in the 16th century by the Frenchman de Franco and an attempt had been made to revive it in England by Douglas in general it was feared. Heuermann also described a careful anatomical approach to the bladder via the perineum under direct vision, dismissing the blind fumbling of most. The 19th century saw a race to find a safer non-invasive way of removing bladder stones. This race was won by Jean Civiale of France with his blind lithotrite but this then fuelled a fierce rivalry across Europe to find the best instrument to carry out this modern method. Ludvig Levin Jacobsen (1784 – 1843) presented Denmark's version of the lithotrite in 1828. His ecraseur won him the Prix Montyan of the Académie Royale des Science in Paris.

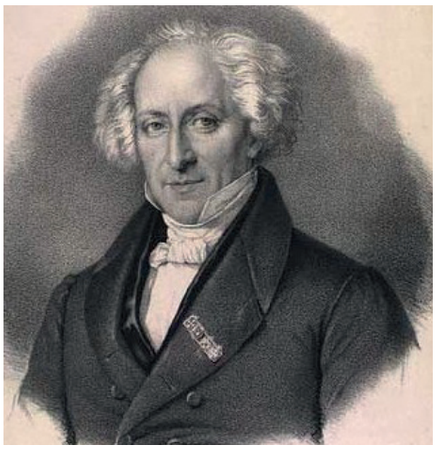
The Cystoscope was introduced to Denmark in 1890 by Jens Schou (1854 – 1935) and transurethral prostatic surgery was first performed in 1933 by Eduard Kindt (1892 –1975) using the cold punch and in 1934 by Harald Abrahamsen (1885 – 1995) with the McCarthy resectoscope. However, Abrahamsen's assistant Jens Christian Christoffersen (1913 – 1992) carefully audited the results and finding them poor, TURP numbers fell until better optics reinvigorated the procedure in the 1970's.

One of the most well-known Danish names in European urology is Tage Hald (1934 – 2004). A founding member of the International Continence Society his "Hald's rings" are an inspired visual depiction linking and explained lower urinary tract symptoms.

The SAU

The Scandinavian countries are linked by cultural and linguistic ties and it is unsurprising that urologists from these countries soon banded together to form professional and friendly bonds. In 1950 Olav Povlson of Copenhagen and Gustav Giertz of Stockholm brought together several Scandinavian surgeons with a mutual interest in urology; they formed a urology travelling club. In 1956 at their meeting in Helsinki this became Scandinavian Association of Urology. The SAU represents Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland and Iceland.

Alexander Malthe (1845 – 1928) who introduced the cystoscope to Norway in 1887

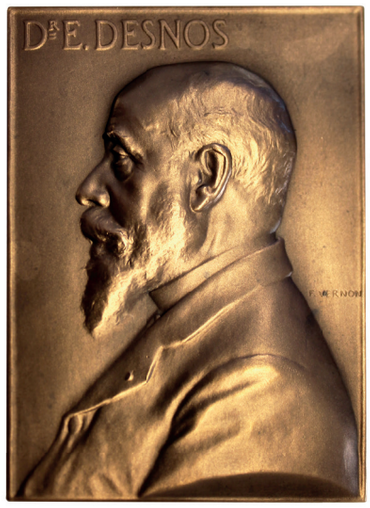


Ludwig Levin Jacobsen (1784 – 1843)

Tage Hald (1934-2004)
(Courtesy of the Scandinavian Journal of Urology and Nephrology)

The Ernest Desnos Prize

In 2017, the EAU decided to award an annual prize for the History of Urology. It will be presented for the first time at the 33rd Annual EAU Congress, taking place in Copenhagen on 16-20 March, 2018. This prize is given at the initiative of the EAU History Office to an individual, a group of individuals or an organisation for special merits in the field of the History Of Urology. The prize bears the name of Dr. Ernest Desnos as a tribute to this pioneering French urologist who was also an eminent historian of Urology and who wrote the first book only devoted to the History Of Urology.



Biography

Ernest Louis Desnos was a French urologist specialised in urological surgery. He was born in Paris on the 27th of December 1852 and became 'interne' at the Paris Hospitals in 1877. His teachers were Damaschino, Besnier and Lasègue. However, his most important 'maitre' was Felix Guyon who introduced him to urological surgery and appointed him in his department, the first 'service' in France and probably in Europe specifically devoted to urological problems and pathology.

His fame spread over Europe and when the French Emperor Napoleon III, exiled in Chislehurst (GB), needed a lithotripsy for a large bladder stone, Desnos was one of the French doctors that was consulted.

As a major element in his career Ernest Desnos was, together with his fellow colleagues Octave Pousson (from Bordeaux) and Carlier (from Lille), very instrumental in stimulating Guyon to create the 'Association Française des Chirurgiens et Medecins Urologues'. After a first meeting it was decided to transform the name to 'Association Française d'Urologie (AFU)'. The AFU had its first meeting on October 22nd, 1896 and was one of the first professional urological organisations in the world. Obviously Felix Guyon was the first president, but Ernest Desnos became the General-Secretary (in effect doing all the work).

In 1907, Guyon together with Ernest Desnos and Octave Pasteau from Bordeaux and also some 20 fellow urologists from Europe, the United States and South America founded the Association Internationale d'Urologie. In 1919, it became the Société Internationale d'Urologie (SIU).

Desnos died at the age of 72 in November 1925 from cholera while he was on a voluntary mission in French India at the request of the French Ministry.

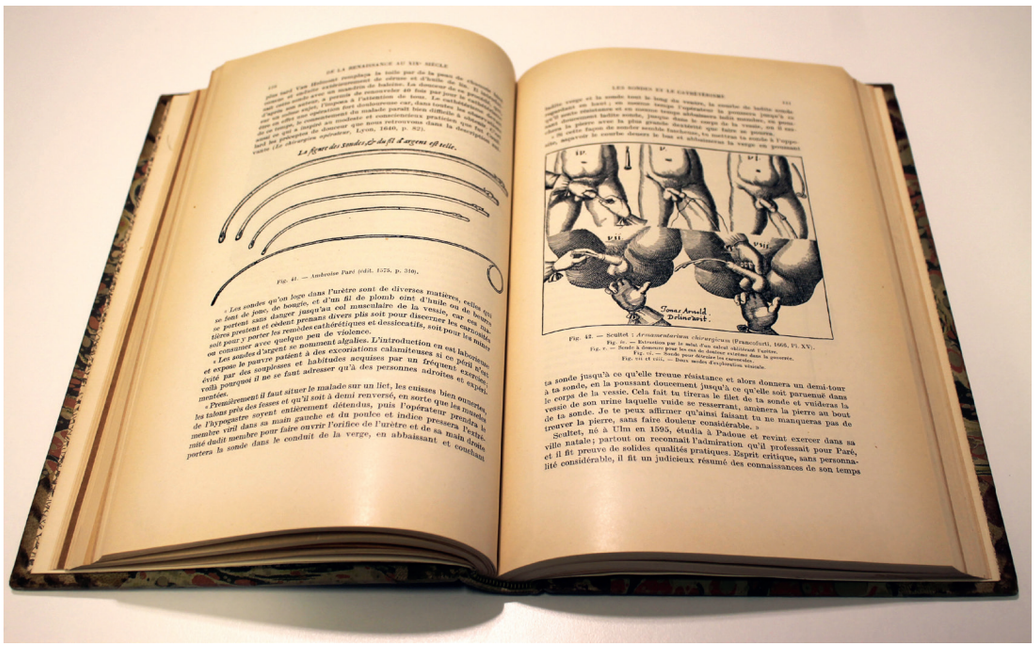
Clinical developments and research

Desnos had a particular clinical interest in the treatment of urethral strictures and did clinical research on kidney tuberculosis and prostate hypertrophy. He published extensively on a variety of urological subjects. However his major pioneering work was on prostate brachytherapy.

Desnos also developed in 1890 a special clamp in order to facilitate partial circumcision and around 1900 a special container for disinfection of urethral catheters.

However his most significant contribution was in the field of the History of Urology. Therefore his 'magnum opus' is the first book on the History of Urology ever. This book was published in 1914 as "Histoire de l'Urologie" (History of Urology, Paris. Doin éditeur, 1914). The large volume presents in 294 pages with 196 beautiful black and white illustrations and 9 coloured reproductions a complete overview on the History of Urological Surgery and Urology from its origins to the beginning of the 20th century.

The entire volume was later translated into English by the Australian urologist L.J. Murphy and first published in 1970 as "History of Urology" (Springfield, Charles C. Thomas, 1970). Ernest Desnos hence can be considered the father of History of Urology and still is inspiring for all that have interest in the history of our specialty.



Ernest Desnos's Histoire de L'Urologie (1914), the world's first volume dedicated to the history of urology.

Sergio Musitelli: Inaugural Winner of the EAU Ernest Desnos Prize

The board of the EAU History Office has decided unanimously to award the 2018 EAU Ernest Desnos prize to Professor Sergio Musitelli from Milan, Italy for his enormous contributions to the history of medicine but more in particular his profound work in the field of the history of Urology.

Sergio Musitelli was born in Milan in 1928. After Greco-Latin secondary school he studied Ancient Arts and Greco-Roman Philology at the University of Milan, and got his degree in 1951. He obtained a Philosophy degree in History in 1953, specialising in classical philology , glottology, oriental literatures and languages (Sanskrit, Prakrit, Hindi, Sindi, Hindustani), Egyptology and in Roman Philology. Since 1954, he has devoted himself to the History of Ancient Science and in particular of Medicine (from its origins up to the 18th century). He was Visiting Professor of History of Urology, Sexology and Andrology at the University of Pavia.

Since the start of the EAU History Office, Prof Mustelli functions as a professional history expert and participates in all activities. Based on his position as an expert in history, Sergio was one of the most active contributors to the work of the EAU History Office, not only with numerous articles and books but also in reviewing submitted articles for the annual *De Historia Urologiae Europaeae* volumes. Furthermore he was responsible for a detailed and reliable index of all published volumes of these series.

His own publications bring in an original viewpoint, always based on extensive literature search, but with a very critical interpretation of the available material. He teaches us all that history, and hence also history of Urology is much more than telling an interesting story, but that it is also a science. Hence he was responsible for a further professionalization of historiography in the field of Urology, and we all profit from his efforts.

Prof. Sergio Musitelli

1918 - 2018: British Urologists in the Great War

At the time of The First World War, in many European countries the specialty of urology did not exist, but there were surgeons who were experts in the field of Genito-Urinary Surgery and there were others who, in the future, would become famous urologists.

In 1914 these men, like many others, were called to war. One hundred years since the end of the First World War (1914-1918) this exhibit looks at the part played by some well-known British urologists. Some, as you would expect became war surgeons, some, older men remained at home to serve and some were yet to become medics and found themselves fighting in the largest conflict the world had known.

Clifford Morson (1881 – 1975), a young doctor, took on full naval duties as a Surgeon Lieutenant and served in Gallipoli. The Gallipoli Campaign saw nearly half a million casualties with a further 145,000 British soldiers ill with enteric fever, dysentery and diarrhoea. Morson served on the Royal Navy ships patrolling the Dardanelles dealing with the appalling casualties as well as those dying of disease. After the War he became a urologist at St Peter's Hospital and pioneered the development of radiotherapy for urological cancers.

Ronald Ogier Ward (1886 – 1971) a qualified surgeon, was mobilised as an artillery officer; this was unusual, army surgeons were a valuable resource. He was already a volunteer in the Honourable Artillery Company and became a Major commanding an Artillery Battery. Ogier Ward was awarded the Military Cross and the Distinguished Service Order. Ronald Ogier Ward became a well-known urologist; he initiated the idea of a British Association of Urologists becoming the first president of BAUS in 1945.

Eric Riches (1897 – 1987) deferred his place at the Middlesex Hospital Medical School in 1915 to join the army. He was also awarded the Military Cross for conspicuous gallantry. After the war Riches returned to his medical studies. He was appointed as surgeon to the Middlesex Hospital in 1930 specialising in urology. In 1955 he described a new cystoscope in an attempt to standardise equipment in the UK. A leading British urologist of the 20th century, Riches was knighted in 1958.

Victor Wilkinson Dix (1899-1992) also fought in the Great War before commencing his medical studies. At the age of 18 he joined the Royal Flying Corps. The life expectancy of a pilot in the First World War was six weeks but Dix survived. After the war he trained in Cambridge and at the London Hospital Medical College qualifying in 1923. During the 1930's he learnt the new method of intravenous urography in Berlin and brought this technique back to England. In 1947 Dix was appointed Professor of Surgery at the London. He was a founder member of the BAUS, becoming president in 1962.

Ronald Ogier Ward, first President of BAUS, an Artillery Officer in WW1. Reproduced with permission of the Honourable Artillery Company.

Eric Riches (centre rear), later Sir Eric Riches. Reproduced with permission of the family of Sir Eric Riches.

The first wounded at the London Hospital (John Lavery, 1914) – as treated by urologist Edwin Hurry Fenwick. Reproduced with permission of the Royal London Hospital Archives.

Urologists also were kept active on the Home front. On 30th August 1914, 100 wounded men arrived rather unexpectedly, at Waterloo station. **Edwin Hurry Fenwick (1856 – 1944)** immediately took some medical students there to treat them. With no ambulances, he mobilised fourteen Lyons & Co. tea company horse drawn delivery vans to transport the wounded back to The London. Of course Fenwick was a well-known surgeon with expertise in urology. He did much to introduce and popularise the cystoscope in Great Britain and was a founder of the International Association of Urology (see also p4).

Sir Peter Freyer (1852-1921), a contemporary of Hurry Fenwick was world famous for his open prostatectomy. He had made his fortune in the Indian Medical Service. With the outbreak of the First World War it was not surprising that he was quickly brought back into the army medical service, becoming consulting surgeon to the Indian soldiers in the Brighton Military Hospitals.

About one million Indian troops served overseas in the First World War; 62,000 died and another 67,000 were wounded. King George V instructed that the Royal Pavilion be used as a military hospital for wounded Indian soldiers and the Brighton General Hospital, renamed the Kitchener General Indian hospital, was converted and especially adapted for them. Freyer subsequently was awarded the Companion of the Order of the Bath (CB) in February 1917 and six months later became a Knight Commander of the Bath (KCB). Sir Peter Freyer was the first president of the Urology Section of The Royal Society of Medicine in 1920.

Unfortunately, some of the wounded men coming back from France were left with serious long term disabilities. One group were the spinal injuries. It was already known that the main cause of death in these patients was urine infection.

Sir John Thompson-Walker (1871-1937) took an interest in these patients. A urologist at King's & St Peters, he was a pioneer of early cystoscopy and open prostatectomy. He taught the importance of draining the bladder by suprapubic cystotomy, lecturing Medical Officers going to the front but sadly the treatment in the trenches and at the casualty clearing stations was sporadic. Thompson-Walker lamented that the management of the bladder in these cases was one of the surgical failures of the war. However, the experience gained by Thompson-Walker and others with spinal injury patients during the First World War did eventually lead to the improved management of their bladders and improved survival.

Many urologists served their countries in the First World War, the above are but a selection of those British men who were or became leaders in urology. Their experiences must have affected and formed their future lives; all were great organisers and leaders as well as talented clinicians. War tends to advance medical innovation but in 2018, one hundred years after the end of the Great War let us reflect and hope that our advances occur in peacetime.

The EAU History Office at EAU18

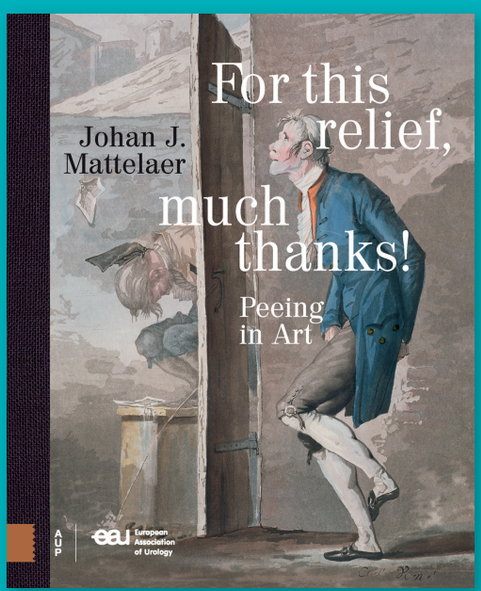
EAU History Office Specialty Session:
Danish Contributions to Urology and more
Friday, 16 March 9:15 - 12:15
Orange Area, Room 2 (Level 0)

This session is divided into two parts. The first part covers the development of urology in Scandinavia, and Scandinavian contributions to urology as a whole, with an emphasis on Denmark. The speakers are experts from Copenhagen and beyond. The second part of the session features the History Office chairman discussing the new Ernest Desnos Prize, British Urologists in the First World War and the presentation of the new publication *For this Relief, Much Thanks!*

Poster Session 14: History of Urology
Friday, 16 March 14.15 - 15.45
Blue Area, Room 2 (Level 0)

This poster session features submissions on a wide variety of topics from the history of our field.

Available at EAU18 for EAU Members



For this relief, much thanks! Peeing in Art and *De Historia Urologiae Europaeae Vol. 25*

Both books can be collected by entitled EAU Members at the EAU Booth (H69) in the Exhibition on a first-come, first-served basis.