



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](http://www.sciencedirect.com)

International Journal of Surgery

journal homepage: www.journal-surgery.net



EDITORIAL

To our Master ...

Renzo Dionigi is a full Professor of General Surgery, Honorary Member of the American Surgical Association, Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, and Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. At the University of Insubria in Varese, Italy, Professor Dionigi served first as Dean of the Medical School for a number of years, and then as Rector of the University. The Italian Government nominated him as a representative of the Surgical Community in the National Committee of Bioethics and in the National Health Committee. His publications are both numerous (more than 800) and highly rated.

Trying to summarize his multiple careers and his life we can say that he is like *an artist* ... he approached surgery in an inventive way and taught us that surgeons need to be able to develop new techniques and new ways of looking at procedures to figure out how to respond when something unusual happens.

He is an artist for his capacity to easily manage complex situations in the operating theatre and to solve them with an uncommon simplicity. Surgery is necessarily realistic and scientific, but it is also expressionistic and artistic ... he always demonstrated intense concentration in the hallmarks of successful surgery – but he is creative in all aspects of everyday life as well: writing books, not only on medical and surgical topics, but also on medieval history, on fly-fishing, on art, on photography ...

He knew that good hands give good surgery; but he knew better that only a great heart as well as a good mind give good hands.

He considered the operating room as a place where all participants must respect the quietness of the place; all attention must be focused on the patient and the surgical procedure. Outside of the operating room he focused on the doctor–patient relationship, which he considered central to the practice of healthcare and essential for the delivery of high-quality healthcare in the diagnosis and treatment of disease. He taught us from the beginning to maintain a professional rapport with patients, to uphold patients' dignity, and to respect their privacy.

And now ... reflecting on all days, months and years spent together, all teachings, all changes, all difficult periods, all beautiful experiences, we can say that he has been, and forever will be, our lighthouse.

In this Supplement we present many papers in honor of professor Renzo Dionigi: reports on the results of his teachings in surgical oncology, on surgical innovations and on surgical history, as well as contributions by friends, well-known colleagues who brightly walked the highway of Surgery along with our Professor.

Thank you Master, Thank you Sir, Thank you, our Professional Father!

Luigi Boni, MD, FACS, Gianlorenzo Dionigi, MD, FACS,
Stefano Rausei, MD, PhD, Francesca Rovera, MD

Local Editorial Committee

