EDITORIAL
Iran J Allergy Asthma Immunol
March 2006; 5(1): 1

Obituary:
Abolhassan Farhoudi (1924-2006)

Abolhassan Farhoudi, professor of pediatrics and clinical immunology in Tehran University of Medical Sciences died on April 19, 2006, at the age of 82. We were terribly shocked when we heard his sudden death. He had been working continuously until last week before his death.

Prof. Farhoudi was born on March 23, 1924 in the city of Qom, Iran. Having completed his primary and secondary educations in Qom, he moved to Tehran, the capital of Iran, to study medicine in the Tehran University, which he successfully graduated and he was awarded the MD degree in 1953. He accepted to be the physician for university students in the Faculty of Agriculture in Karaj, a town near Tehran, during 1954-1964. Then he continued his medical education in pediatrics in the Tehran University, which he graduated and became a pediatrician in 1967; he then showed interest to join the pediatrician of the Tehran University and he was accepted as assistant professor in the Children Medical Center, a referral children hospital affiliated to the Faculty of Medicine, in 1971. During 1976-1977, he became a research fellow in the Immunology Department at London University. Upon returning to Iran, he established the department of Clinical Immunology and Allergy in Children Medical Center for the first time in Iran. Finally, he was granted a full professorship in clinical immunology and allergy of this department at Tehran University of Medical Sciences and continued his career as president of this department.

Professor Farhoudi became a member of editorial board of the Iranian Journal of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology in the year 2000. In addition to writing several papers for this journal, he served as a reviewer for the journal. He served also as a council member of many International and Iranian institutes such as the Immunology, Asthma and Allergy Research Institute and several societies such as the Iranian Society of Asthma and Allergy. He wrote more than 50 scientific papers and presented more than 150 lectures at national and international congresses. He contributed in writing several books such as Immunodeficiency Disorders in Iran [reviewed in: Iran J Allergy Asthma Immunol 2000; 1(3):165] and supervised many research projects.

Professor Farhoudi was an outstanding academian as well as dedicated clinician, who paid a great deal of time and love for his patients. He was a prominent pediatric immunologist who made many valuable contributions to the field during his career. He was committed to helping researchers, as well as young medical doctors in the field of clinical immunology, allergy and asthma. He was a truly wonderful man who has influenced the attitude of many colleagues, patients and friends who all love him.

We must not forget that this remarkable scientist was also a caring family man. He always showed his love for his family as well as for his patients, students, colleagues and friends. The loss of such an outstanding personality has been met with great sorrow by the international scientific community. We will always remember him with great affection and respect.

We would like to acknowledge the receipt of letters of sympathy from International Board of consultants of the journal, especially Prof. E. Richard Stiehm, Prof. Raif S. Geha, Prof. Hans D. Ochs, Prof. Alessandro Plebani, Prof. Ruby Pawankar, Prof. Jean-Laurent Casanova, Prof. Connie Katelaris, Prof Jonathan Brostoff, Prof. Rudolf Valenta, and Dr. Esther de Vries for writing up and sending the sympathy sentences.

The Editorial Board of Journal would like to appreciate and thank them all.

Nima Rezaei, MD
Immunology, Asthma and Allergy Research Institute,
Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran