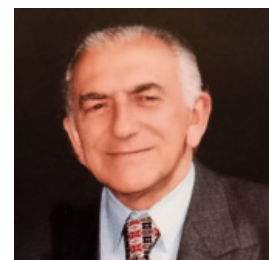


## In Memorium

**DR. TELO DE MORAIS (1929-2021)****Prof. Doutor Henrique Vilaça Ramos**

On January 9, 2021, our distinguished colleague, Dr. José Carlos de Carvalho Telo de Moraes, passed away.

Born on June 2, 1929, in Viseu (Abravezes), he studied there until he entered the University of Coimbra, where he graduated in medicine with a good classification, in 1952. At the beginning of the following year, he entered the Hospital of University of Coimbra for specialization in what, at the time, was called Roentgen diagnosis, whose mentors were António Fonseca and Álvaro Martins, being the latter one of the presidents of our SPRMN. During this period, he also worked in Caldas da Cavaca, in the thermal seasons. He finished the internship in 1956 and, as the examination for specialist by the College of Medicine, with exclusive competence for the purpose at the time, only took place in alternate years, he had to wait one year which, for his livelihood, he dedicated to the practice of sanitary medicine in Castelo Branco. After successfully completing the exam as a specialist, he was hired as radiologist by the radiology service where he graduated and, in 1959, as a radiologist physician on the staff of the same service, after a national public competition, where he obtained the maximum classification. In 1979, he ran for head of service at that hospital, having been approved with a classification of 19. It is also worth mentioning that, in addition to other hospital functions, he was vice president of the Hospital's Medical Commission, created by a 1988 decree, which included all service directors, although he himself was not the service director, which proved the prestige he had attained.

From the beginning of his hospital life, his intelligence and dedication became evident, leading a prestigious professor at his school to have encouraged him to dedicate himself also to a university career, but this perspective did not seduce him, despite the excellent collaboration provided to the service teaching task afterwards. The fact that he did not seek a PhD was the only reason why he was never allowed to assume the direction of his radiology service.

In the seventies of the last century, he was placed at the forefront of the radiology service extension of Celas hospital block, where several specialties were concentrated, including pneumology, which would be decisive for his further professional career. That service was directed by Prof. Robalo Cordeiro (father), a man of high intellectual strength and remarkable dynamism, whose intense scientific activity was recognized inside and outside our borders, with whom Telo de Moraes collaborated effectively. In an era where the CT scan did not exist yet and in which radiological

diagnosis was based almost exclusively on radiography and linear tomography, Telo de Moraes acquired an enviable knowledge and developed a worthwhile scientific activity, namely research in projects of the National Institute for Scientific Research, activity shaped by publications, conferences, round tables, etc. It is no wonder, then, that his value came to be recognized by the American College of Chest Physicians, who integrated him into the gallery of their fellows. Like almost all of his generation, his professional life was interrupted for two years by the military service, which took place in Angola. By his own decision, he retired in 1997, when either his health or his knowledge would have allowed him to continue his worthy hospital activity.

In his hospital (and not only there), he was frequently requested by clinicians from different areas to clarify their radiological doubts, having always found in him the most cordial reception and the most informed and sensible advice. Very committed to postgraduate education, part of his work was documented with the publication, in four widely disseminated volumes, of the themes presented in the scientific meetings of the service, which required of him intense correcting work in order for the texts to reach the quality he desired. His action in the training of specialization students left an impressive mark on successive generations of colleagues who owed him lessons in the technical-scientific area and also in the doctor-patient relationship, of which he was an excellent cultivator, having belonged to the National Council of Ethics and Medical Deontology, for 14 years.

In line with this humanist posture, his interest in bioethical themes is inscribed, having been one of the founders of the first institution dedicated to bioethics in Portugal, the Center for Bioethics Studies, an interest also reflected in his intervention in two congresses that have been noted in the history of our bioethics, promoted by the Association of Portuguese Catholic Doctors, one entitled Brain and Spirit and the other From Life to Death, both in the eighties.

For the general public, however, the name Telo de Moraes is linked to the arts, especially to painting. In his youth, he started to paint, with a clear inclination towards futurism, but ended up not pursuing this vocation, perhaps because he did not believe in his own genius. He then began to dedicate himself to the study and collection of Portuguese paintings, acquiring superior knowledge in it and collecting several canvases of great value. Always concerned with improving his pictorial collection, but limited to the walls of his house, which housed around three hundred canvases, he did not

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miss an opportunity to get rid of what seemed to him to be of lesser quality when he had the opportunity to replace it with a canvas that he appreciated more, enriching more and more his collection. It is known that this precious collection was donated, more than twenty years ago, to the Coimbra City Hall, housed in Museu do Chiado, and with it he donated his most valuable furniture, the most precious silverware and porcelain, which he had so passionately collected during his long life. Donating when you die is admirable, but much more so when donating in life everything that one gathers around oneself and which, in a way, constitutes the extension of one's intimate world. Once the donation was made, he continued to surround himself with paintings, now favoring Portuguese art from the last half century, thus constituting a new collection of another two and a half hundred canvases, which have also been given to the same Municipality for a symbolic value. In all this, his wife accompanied him, with equal detachment, in an exemplary conjugal symbiosis.

This short note does not allow us to allude to the much more in which his life was so full, from publications and lectures

on painting to books of poetry (muse that enchanted him in the autumn of life) or from his knowing oenophile taste to a hunting activity that he enjoyed so much.

What I remember about this dear Friend, more than everything that I owed him, professionally, was his example of a Franciscan soul, the generosity that bestowed with broad hands on so many unprivileged people, hiding with one hand what the other one was giving, so much so that much of what he did will be forever hidden in the hearts of those he helped. And if I am allowed an incursion into what would have been the deepest core of his being, I am convinced that it resides in his faith as an enlightened catholic in command of his entire journey.

SPRMN loses one of their most distinguished members in Dr. Telo de Moraes and presents their deepest condolences and sympathy to Mrs. Maria Emília Telo de Moraes and Family.