

Why must we celebrate the 150th anniversary of the foundation of the National Academy of Medicine of Mexico?

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Dear Dr. Lifshitz:

The special 150th anniversary issue of the *Gaceta Médica de México* featured the article entitled *Why must we celebrate the 150th anniversary of the foundation of the National Academy of Medicine of Mexico?* (*Gac Med Mex.* 2014;150:218-26) subscribed by the undersigner.

I must bring to your attention that there is a mistake in the credits (p. 218), since it says *Presidente del Comité Organizador del CL Aniversario de la Academia Nacional de Medicina de México*, when it should have said *Coordinador General del Comité Organizador del CL Aniversario de la Academia Nacional de Medicina de México*, just as I informed you in my mail of March 31, 2014.

In the body of the article there is also another error, this one completely attributable to the author, since in page 224, third paragraph, it says *Comité Normativo de Especialidades Médicas (CONACEM)*, when it should have said *Comité Normativo Nacional de Consejos de Especialidades Médicas (CONACEM)*.

On the other hand, in the final part of page 219 there is a very important historical omission, which was brought to our attention in an e-mail sent on April 29, 2014, by Dr. Manuel Ruiz de Chávez to doctors Enrique Ruelas Barajas, Cecilia Rodríguez de Romo, Carlos Viesca Treviño, Rolando Hugo Neri Vela and myself, which I literally transcribe:

"In recent academic forums it has been stated that, throughout its history, the sessions of the National

Academy of Medicine of Mexico have only been canceled due to 2 significant events, a historical-social one and a catastrophic one.

However, a third event, very relevant to our Corporation's activities, should be highlighted: the A(H1N1) influenza epidemic in Mexico.

The Wednesday April 29, 2009 session was canceled according to the health authorities' agreement to cancel all collective activities; for this reason, the joint session of the Mexican Academy of Pediatrics, where Mercedes Macías Parra, Vesta Richardson López Colada and Guillermo Ruiz Palacios were to participate, was cancelled. Enclosed find the respective program.

On behalf of the presiding directive board, it responded to me to convey the aforementioned cancellation. Efforts were made to communicate this via internet with no success for different reasons".

The explanation, by no means justification, for this omission, is that when I prepared the referred work, I was based on a documental review, which doesn't report the session cancellation referred by Dr. Ruiz de Chávez and, honestly, it did not come to my mind at that moment, although I remembered it immediately once I received Dr. Ruiz de Chávez mail.

I send you all this information with the purpose of, if you consider it convenient, clarifications to be made in the way you deem more adequate in the Letters to the Editor section of the *Gaceta Médica de México*.

Cordially yours,

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