

**22**  
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2024

**2nd INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM  
POST COVID SYNDROME  
AND CHRONIC FATIGUE  
SYNDROME**

**METHODOLOGICAL ASPECT  
OF DIAGNOSTIC AND TREATMENT**

**ORGANIZER**

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*Accreditation by Health Council Serbia*



# 2nd INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM POST COVID SYNDROME AND CHRONIC FATIGUE SYNDROME

## METHODOLOGICAL ASPECT OF DIAGNOSTIC AND TREATMENT

*Dear colleagues,*

*We have the great honor and pleasure to invite you to the Second International Symposium on Post-COVID Syndrome and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, which will take place on November 22, 2024, at the Institute for Cardiovascular Diseases "Dedinje". The symposium holds particular significance as it is organized by the Institute for Cardiovascular Diseases "Dedinje" under the patronage of the Ministry of Health and with the support of several institutions and associations: the Association for Neurocardiology of Serbia, the Serbian Medical Society, the Section for the Autonomic Nervous System of the Serbian Medical Society, and the Association of Patients with Chronic Fatigue Syndrome and Consciousness Crises. The symposium is also of international importance as it is organized under the auspices of the European Network of Patients and Experts (EMEA), whose members are actively involved in the organization of this and future events.*

*Although the acute effects of COVID-19 are well-documented, recent attention in the research community has shifted towards the chronic consequences of the disease. Approximately 87% of patients affected by COVID-19 continue to experience at least one symptom two months after the onset of the illness, and up to 30% of individuals continue to have at least one symptom six months after the onset, even when SARS-CoV-2 is no longer present. This chronic phase of COVID-19 has been termed "long COVID," "post-COVID syndrome," or "post-acute consequences of COVID-19 infection."*

*Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (ME/CFS) is a highly complex and debilitating multisystemic chronic illness affecting millions of people worldwide. Despite its increasing prevalence and exhausting nature, it remains largely unknown to the general public and many medical professionals. Understanding its etiology and pathophysiology is limited, diagnostic criteria are inconsistent, and guidelines for diagnosis and treatment are inadequate and outdated. The disease was initially defined solely as "persistent or relapsing, debilitating fatigue of new onset and of unknown origin," with the diagnosis based on excluding other possible causes of fatigue, often overlooking the significance of other symptoms.*

*Given the practically identical symptomatology, the question arises whether we are dealing with one or two distinct syndromes. In the hope of successfully addressing these questions, we warmly greet you and invite you to actively participate in the symposium proceedings.*

### LOCATION

New Amphitheatre of Dedinje 2 Facility, First Floor  
"Dedinje" Cardiovascular Institute  
Heroja Milana Tepica 1, 11040 Belgrade, Serbia

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