

Obituary-Daniel Marchac

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Daniel Marchac

Sir,

It was indeed a shocking news for most of us and it is hard to believe that we will never see the always smiling face of Dr. Daniel Marchac ever again in our plastic surgery conferences and aesthetic surgery meetings and workshops. Daniel passed away on the night of October 16, 2012.

Dr. Daniel Marchac was trained in plastic surgery in Paris with Claude Dufourmentel, Daniel Morel-Fatio and Paul Tessier. He spent a year in the USA in 1968–1969 with Doctors Cronin, Converse and Millard. Dr. Marchac devoted his interest in plastic surgery to three main areas—craniofacial surgery, skin tumours and aesthetic surgery.

Trained under Dr. Paul Tessier, Dr. Marchac established his own centre in 1971 at the Lariboisière Hospital, and

later, in 1976, at the Hôpital Necker-Enfants Malades (Paris) and remained there till 2001. In this specialty, he organized a multidisciplinary group and gained personal experience in approximately 1,500 operated cases. Dr. Marchac published numerous papers, a book *Craniofacial Surgery for Craniosynostosis*, in 1982, and was the editor of two proceedings of craniofacial congresses. His papers, ‘Anterior fronto-orbital remodeling for trigonocephaly’, ‘Scaphocephaly correction with retrocoronal and prelamiboid craniotomies (Renier's "H" technique)’ and ‘Hypertelorism correction: what happens with growth? Evaluation of a series of 95 surgical cases’, remain his landmark contribution to craniofacial surgery. He was amongst the first few craniofacial surgeons to embrace distraction histiogenesis and his paper ‘Quadruple internal distraction with early frontal-facial advancement for faciocraniodysostosis’ is a testimony to this.

In the field of skin tumours, Dr. Marchac devised a frontal nasal flap for nose repair, developed aesthetic evaluation of the repair of basal cell carcinomas of the face, which he published in book form in 1986–1987, in both French and English, entitled *Surgery of Basal Cell Carcinoma of the Face* and had been a pioneer of the early removal of giant naevi.

In the realm of aesthetic surgery, he developed a personal technique of mammoplasty with a short horizontal scar, published in 1980, and produced extensive studies and work in extramucosal rhinoplasty, frontal lift, blepharoplasty and endoscopy applied to plastic surgery. For face lifts, he always tried to limit the sequelae and published in 2002 in the P.R.S his vertical technique of face lift with hidden scars, about which he talked to the members of our association on several occasions. His papers ‘Avoiding the operated on look in multiple face lifts’, ‘Mammoplasty with a short horizontal scar—Evaluation and results after 9 years’ and his bold adventure with ‘Face lifts and sprayed fibrin glue: an outcome analysis of 200 patients’ endeared him to all of us.

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Dr. Marchac, during his later years, was in private practice at the Clinique des Princes (for aesthetic surgery) and at the Surgical Center of Boulogne-Billancourt (for reconstructive and craniofacial surgery). He had been a Professor of the ‘Collège de Médecine des Hôpitaux de Paris’ since 1991. He was the President of the French Society of Plastic Reconstructive and Aesthetic Surgery in 1997–1998 and President of the European Association of Plastic Surgeons in 1998–1999, after having been its Secretary General for 6 years, from 1989 to 1995. He was the founding member of the International Society of Craniofacial Surgery, and he was its President from 1993 to 1995 and was also President from 1997 to 1999 of the European Society of Craniofacial Surgery.

Dr. Marchac was an Honorary Member of the British Association of Plastic Surgeons and a Distinguished Fellow of the American Association of Plastic Surgeons, as well as

a member of the American Society of Plastic Surgery. He was selected to give the Maliniac Lecture in 2002. His commitment for aesthetic surgery made him become a member of the International Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery (ISAPS) since 1989 and was appointed the ISAPS Traveling Professor in 2006. In 2007, he was decorated with the ‘special achievement award’ of the American Society of Plastic Surgery.

He published 5 books, wrote 23 book chapters and authored over 160 papers. All his publications can be studied in http://www.biomedexperts.com/Profile.bme/883011/Daniel_Marchac.

In his sad demise, the Association of Plastic Surgeons of India has lost a very good friend, a very sincere teacher and a wonderful human being. May God give strength to his immediate family and his friends all over the world in this hour of grief.