

OBITUARY

IVAN NIKOLAEVICH MAISKII

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The death is announced of Professor Ivan Nikolaevich Maiskii, a veteran of the Communist Party, Honored Scientist of the RSFSR, Doctor of Medical Sciences, and an eminent scholar in the fields of immunobiology, microbiology, and epidemiology.

After graduation from the S. M. Kirov Military Medical Academy in 1936, Maiskii served as Regimental Medical Officer in units of the Red Army and took part in the Soviet-Finnish War of 1939-1940. During World War II Ivan Nikolaevich was in charge of the Department of Especially Dangerous Infections, Ministry of Health of the USSR, he made many visits to the front lines, and was concerned with the eradication of infections both in the Soviet Union and elsewhere. Responsible steps in the campaign against diseases such as plague, cholera, and tularemia are associated with Professor Maiskii's name.

Maiskii was responsible for work on the treatment of primary pulmonary plague by a combined method, in which he utilized his personal experience of the eradication of this infection, gained in North-Eastern China in 1949. Ivan Nikolaevich also made a great contribution to the establishment and development of new branches of immunology: immunology of tumors, incompatibility of organs and tissues, and immunology of reproduction. He was a pioneer in medicobiological research in space. In 1960 Maiskii's paper "On theoretical problems in space biology" appeared, and in 1961, he published his "Results of the first microbiological and cytological experiments in cosmic space on Earth satellites" in the Journal "Artificial Earth Satellites" in which he reported the results of biological experiments carried out by a group headed by Maiskii, as well as the data obtained by Academician N. N. Zhukov Verezhnikov. Since 1963, Professor Maiskii directed research into experimental embryogenesis and reproduction, and the study of acquired immunological tolerance, on a model of mother and fetus.

Until the last days of his life, Ivan Nikolaevich Maiskii was a member of the Editorial Board of the journal "Bulletin of Experimental Biology and Medicine."

For his services to the USSR I. N. Maiskii was awarded the Order of Lenin, the Order of the Red Banner, two Orders of the Red Star, the Order "Badge of Honor" and many medals.

The illustrious memory of Ivan Nikolaevich Maiskii, as a man, a communist, and a scientist, will remain forever in the hearts of all who knew him.