

The 80th birthday of Academician Leonid Barbarash

Dedicated to the 80th birthday of Academician Leonid Barbarash, the founder of Kuzbass Cardiology Center (Kemerovo) and Research Institute for Complex Issues of Cardiovascular Diseases.



Leonid S. Barbarash (born June 22, 1941) – Dr. Sci. (Med.), Professor, Academician of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Honored Doctor of the Russian Federation, a top-class cardiac surgeon, the founder of Kuzbass Cardiology Center (Kemerovo), a teacher, a scientist, and a director. The diversity of his knowledge and areas of research became the basis for progressive development of cardiology and cardiac surgery in Kuzbass. The principle of organization of the center that combines several clinical and research areas has proven its viability and effectiveness.

Thanks to the organizational talent of Leonid Barbarash, Kuzbass developed a unique and innovative closed model of medical care delivery for

patients with circulatory system diseases, which encompasses all levels of medical care delivery (from outpatient and inpatient care to high-tech medical care and rehabilitation) with a unified approach to strategic management. His outstanding qualities of a scientist, specialist, and professor helped to build a team of highly qualified doctors, scientists, cardiologists, cardiac surgeons, anesthetists and resuscitators, specialists in functional diagnostics, engineers, chemists, mathematicians, and biologists.

In 1987, Leonid Barbarash was the first surgeon behind the Urals to perform aortic valve replacement with combined coronary bypass grafting, followed by the first ascending aortic aneurysm surgery. He streamlined provision of high-tech medical care for patients with circulatory system diseases. For the first time in the world, Leonid Barbarash and his students developed and introduced to the market a fundamentally new generation of epoxy-treated bioprostheses, later implementing them into clinical practice. Research in the field of bioprosthetic heart valves resulted in establishing NeoKor closed joint-stock company in 1987. Under the leadership of Leonid Barbarash, the Laboratory of Reconstructive Cardiovascular Surgery was established in 2001, which was transformed into Research Institute for Complex Issues of Cardiovascular Diseases in 2009.

Leonid Barbarash has received many honorary awards and titles for his outstanding contribution to healthcare. The European Association for Cardiothoracic Surgeons awarded the team led by Leonid Barbarash the C. Walton Lillehei Award in 1997. In 2004, Leonid Barbarash was given the A.N. Bakulev Award for establishment of the cardiac surgery center and personal contribution to the development of bioprosthetic heart valves. Moreover, he received the 2001 Russian Federation National Award in Science and Technology.

In 2005, Leonid Barbarash was awarded the “Prizvanie” (Vocation) National Award of the

Ministry of Healthcare and Social Development of the Russian Federation for his contribution to the development of bioprosthetic heart valves and cardiovascular surgery. In 2007, he received the same award in the nomination “For developing a new method of treatment” for developing unique domestic bioprosthetic heart valves and a special method of their preservation.

In 2007, Leonid Barbarash was awarded the Order of Honor. In 2019, he was awarded the title “Honorary Worker of Science and Technology of the Russian Federation”. Moreover, Academician Barbarash

was awarded the titles “Hero of Kuzbass” (2013) and “Honorary Citizen of the Kemerovo Region” (2006).

For more than 45 years, Academician Leonid Barbarash has been passing on his knowledge to students, clinical residents, postgraduates, and young practitioners. Leonid Barbarash is the author of more than 700 scientific papers, including 15 monographs and books, as well as more than 70 inventions and utility models. Under his leadership, 14 doctoral and 30 candidate theses have been defended.

*Dear Leonid S. Barbarash,
happy 80th birthday!*