

On the 70th birthday of Evgeny L. Choynzonov, the member of the Russian Academy of Sciences



On December 14, 2022, Evgeny L. Choynzonov, Doctor of Medical Sciences, Professor, Academician of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Honored Scientist of Russia, Director of the Cancer Research Institute of Tomsk NRMC, turned 70 years old.

Evgeny L. Choynzonov is an outstanding Russian scientist and a talented organizer who has made a significant personal contribution to the development of medical science.

Evgeny L. Choynzonov was born in the village of Zhargalantuy in the Buryat ASSR. After graduating from the General Medicine Department of Tomsk Medical Institute in 1976, he entered clinical residency at the Otorhinolaryngology Division of the same institute.

At the opening of the Siberian branch of the All-Union Cancer Research Center of the Academy of Medical Sciences of the USSR in Tomsk, Evgeny L. Choynzonov was offered the position of a junior researcher at the Head and Neck Cancer Unit. In 1984, he successfully defended his PhD thesis on the topic “Treatment of patients with oral cancer and its effect on the parameters of the immune system” and was

promoted to senior researcher. After defending his doctoral dissertation in 1995 on the topic “Cancer of the upper respiratory and digestive tract (epidemiological, immunological, and virological aspects, evaluation of the treatment effectiveness)”, he became a leading researcher at the same department of the Cancer Research Institute. In 2002, he was awarded the academic title of Professor of Oncology. Since 2002, Evgeny L. Choynzonov has been the Director of the Cancer Research Institute of the SB RAMS.

Evgeny L. Choynzonov has outstanding organizational skills. He is able to determine the prospects for the development of modern medical science and is engaged in social activities. So, he managed to merge the academic institutes of the Tomsk Research Center into the current Tomsk National Research Medical Center (NRMC) of the Russian Academy of Sciences in order to achieve breakthrough scientific results that ensure the competitive global position of Russia in biomedicine and transfer them into healthcare. Tomsk NRMC, the director of which in 2016–2018 was academician Evgeny L. Choynzonov, is one of the largest and most authoritative medical research institutions in Russia, which cooperates with international research organizations in the fields as oncology, cardiology, pediatric cardiology, medical genetics, pharmacology, and psychiatry.

Academician Evgeny L. Choynzonov makes a great contribution to the training of senior biomedical staff. In 2006, he promoted the establishment of the Oncology Division at Siberian State Medical University (SibMed) on the basis of the Institute, the head of which he has been ever since. Evgeny Choynzonov is the Chairman of the Dissertation Committee 24.1.215.02 in the specialty “3.1.6. Oncology, Radial Therapy (medical sciences)” at the Cancer Research Institute of Tomsk NRMC and is a member of the Dissertation Committee 24.1.215.03 in the specialty “21.5.7. Genetics (Medical Sciences)” at the Research Institute of Medical Genetics of Tomsk NRMC.

Academician Evgeny L. Choynzonov is the founder of the scientific school “Malignant tumors of the head and neck. Development of personalized approaches to the

implementation of modern treatment and rehabilitation methods for patients with malignant neoplasms based on the study of clinical, morphological, and molecular genetic features of the tumor". The representatives of this scientific school include renowned scientists, professors who hold high positions in research, educational, and medical institutions, and young professionals who mastered modern high-tech methods of scientific research and treatment of patients. Under his scientific supervision, 16 doctoral and 21 candidate dissertations were completed and defended.

Evgeny L. Choynzonov is a recognized leader in Russia in the field of treatment and rehabilitation of patients with malignant neoplasms of the maxillofacial region, which is one of the most difficult groups of cancer patients. Back in the 1980s, he began to develop a new direction in the rehabilitation of patients with head and neck cancers to preserve their quality of life and social and labor adaptation. Today the Cancer Research Institute is one of the main organizations in Russia, providing assistance to patients from all over Siberia, the Far East, and the Far North.

Evgeny L. Choynzonov and his students developed methods of reconstructive surgeries using the latest achievements in the field of medical materials science and additive technologies. New high-tech methods of organ-preserving and reconstructive plastic surgical interventions using microsurgical equipment and biocompatible implants have been developed and introduced into clinical practice, which allows to ensure high quality of life for patients, their ability to work, and successful social adaptation. A unique technology was developed for creating artificial individual implants with a functionalized surface which could be integrated into bones and soft tissues of the body.

The proposed technologies reduce disability rate and improve the quality of life of patients and their social and labor adaptation, with more than 70% of patients being able to live their lives fully.

Evgeny L. Choynzonov made a huge contribution to the development of practical healthcare, providing scientific and methodological guidance to medical and prevention institutions of the Siberian Federal District on oncology issues and actively introducing advanced scientific developments into the practical healthcare in the region. He is a highly qualified specialist in oncosurgery and has been recognized as the leading professional in Russia in the treatment of socially sensitive tumors with complex localization. He is an actively operating oncologist of the highest category. He has conducted about 3,000 surgical interventions. Evgeny L. Choynzonov performs the most complex

operations, and patients with the most severe course of cancer are treated under his personal supervision.

He introduced into clinical practice unique surgical interventions using simultaneous replacement of postoperative defects with endoprotheses made of porous titanium nickelide and microsurgical autotransplantation of tissues, which eliminates the need for repeated surgery. He has developed and implemented new approaches to the treatment of thyroid, parotid gland, nasal and paranasal sinus cancer based on organ-preserving operations in combination with intraoperative electronic and remote neutron therapy.

Having worked in this field for many years, Evgeny L. Choynzonov published 27 monographs, 1 manual for doctors, 1 methodological manual, and 7 clinical guidelines. He obtained 53 Russian patents for inventions, 25 certificates of state registration of software products, 5 license agreements granting the right to use patents, which proves the high priority of his research. He is the author of more than 1,000 printed works, about 350 Russian and foreign articles indexed in the Russian and foreign citation databases of the RSCI, Scopus, and Web of Science.

Being one of the leading oncologists in Russia, Evgeny L. Choynzonov actively participates in the publishing of many Russian and foreign scientific journals. He is the editor-in-chief of "Siberian Journal of Oncology", a member of the editorial board of the journals: "P.A. Herzen Journal of Oncology", "Problems in Oncology", "Oncosurgery", "Head and Neck Tumors", "Siberian Scientific Medical Journal", "The Siberian Journal of Clinical and Experimental Medicine"; member of the editorial board of the journals "Annals of Oncology. New Approaches in Oncology", "Bone and Soft Tissue Sarcomas, Tumors of the Skin", "Head and Neck Journal", "Eurasian Journal of Oncology", "Journal of Oncology", "Creative Surgery and Oncology", "The Territory of Intelligence", and "CA: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians. Russian Edition".

Academician Evgeny L. Choynzonov is a member of the Presidium of the Russian Academy of Sciences, a member of the Council of the Russian Academy of Sciences on Evolutionary Medicine and Medical Heritage, an expert of the Russian Academy of Sciences, a member of the Presidium of the Association of Oncologists of Russia, the Council on the priority scientific and technological development of the Russian Federation "Transition to personalized medicine, high-tech healthcare, and health-saving technologies, including through the rational use of drugs, primarily antibacterial drugs", Deputy Chairman of the task group

“Head and Neck Cancers” of the Scientific Council on Malignant Neoplasms of the Russian Federation, Chairman of the task group “Oncology” of the Scientific Council on Medical Problems of Siberia, the Far East and the Far North of the Russian Federation; member of the commission under the Governor of Tomsk region for monitoring the achievement of goals in socioeconomic development in the Tomsk region, determined by the President of the Russian Federation; chief freelance oncologist of the Siberian Federal District, Chairman of the Tomsk Regional Society of Oncologists, representative of the Russian Federation in the International Federation of Head and Neck Oncology Specialists (IFHNOS, USA) and the Eurasian Community of Specialists in Head and Neck Tumors; he is a member of the Coordinating Council (Board of Directors) and Academic Council of Tomsk NRMC; the Chairman of the Academic Council of the Cancer Research Institute of Oncology of Tomsk NRMC.

Under the leadership of academician Evgeny L. Choyazonov, the following works and research were successfully completed: 10 projects within federal targeted programs (2006–2007, 2010–2012, 2016), 6 grants of the Russian Foundation for Basic Research (2008–2015), the integration project of Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Medical Sciences (2006–2007), the grant of the Tomsk City Administration (2008), 3 major grants of the Russian Science Foundation (2016–2018, 2019–2021, 2022–2024), a project within the federal targeted program “Development of Pharmaceutical and Medical Industry of the Russian Federation up to 2020 and beyond” (2017–2019), 2 projects within the federal targeted program “Research and Development in Priority Areas of Development of the Scientific and Technological Complex of Russia in 2014–2020” (2017–2019, 2019–2020).

The long-term research, organizational, and pedagogical activity of Evgeny L. Choyazonov has been highly appreciated and recognized. He was awarded the title of “Honored Scientist of the Russian Federation”. In 2021, Evgeny L. Choyazonov and a group of authors won the State Prize of the Russian Federation in the field of science and technology for 2020 for the creation of a fundamental interdisciplinary biomedical approach to the treatment, reconstruction, and rehabilitation of head and neck cancers. He won the Tomsk Region Prize in education, science, health, and culture (2012). Evgeny L. Choyazonov was awarded the medal of the Order “For Merit to the Fatherland” II class (2015), the badge “Excellent Health Worker” (2004), the jubilee medal “400 Years of Tomsk” (2004), the Certificate of Honor

of the State Duma of the Tomsk Region (2004), the R. Virkhov Medal of Honor (2005), the Certificate of Honor of the Trade Union of Health Workers of the Russian Federation (2009), the medal “For Merit to Siberian State Medical University” (2011), the Certificate of Commendation of the Department of Healthcare of the Tomsk Region (2011), the Certificate of Honor of the Tomsk Region (2012), the Certificate of Honor of the Russian Academy of Medical Sciences (2012), the silver badge “Coat of Arms of the Tomsk Region” (2012), the Honorary Silver Order “Public Recognition” (2012), the badge of the Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Russia “For the Fellowship” (2012), the medal “For Achievements” (2014), the Certificate of Honor of the Tomsk City Administration (2014), the jubilee medal “120 Years of TPU” (2016), the honorary title “Honored Veteran of the Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences” (2017), the badge of merit of the Federal Agency of Research Organizations of Russia “For Merits in the Development of Science” (2017), the badge of honor “Pride of Tomsk” (2017), the badge of merit “For Merit to the Tomsk Region” (2017), the Certificate of Honor of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation (2017), the diploma of the Tomsk City Chamber of the Public (2017), the Certificate of Honor of the Federal Agency of Research Organizations of Russia (2018), the commemorative jubilee sign “Legislative Duma of the Tomsk Region: 25 Years” (2019), the jubilee badge “75 years of the Tomsk Region” (2019). Evgeny L. Choyazonov was listed in the Book of Honor of the Federation of Trade Union Organizations of the Tomsk Region (2013); awarded the title of chevalier of the golden badge of honor “Heritage of Siberia” (2016) and the title “Honorary Professor of Siberian State Medical University” (2017). He received the Certificate of Commendation from the President of the Russian Federation, the Certificates of Commendation from the Head of the People’s headquarters of public support for the presidential candidate of the Russian Federation and the plenipotentiary representative of the President of the Russian Federation in the Siberian Federal District (2012), and the Certificate of Commendation of the Council of Rectors of Universities of the Tomsk Region (2019). Evgeny L. Choyazonov was awarded the medal “For Outstanding Achievements in Oncology” named after the founder of Russian oncology, Professor N.N. Petrov (2021), and the medal named after P.A. Herzen for outstanding achievements in the development of oncology (2022). He was awarded the title of Honorary Citizen of the Tomsk Region (2022).