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**ПРОБЛЕМА ЛЮДИНИ
У СОЦІАЛЬНО-ГУМАНІТАРНОМУ
ТА МЕДИЧНОМУ ДИСКУРСАХ**

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LIFE OF PROFESSOR LEOPOLD GIRSHMAN AS AN EXAMPLE OF DEVOTED SERVICE TO MEDICINE

*There is not last working hour for a doctor,
he just have the last patient
Leonard Girshman*

The life of Professor L. L. Girshman was the evidence of exemplary service to patients and medical practice. He was born in 1839 at the territory of modern Latviya. From the childhood he dreamt of being a doctor. He made a lot for that. He got a gold medal for the study in gymnasium, entered medical faculty of Kharkiv University and after the graduation went to Europe for probation period in famous clinics of Paris, Leipzig, Vienna, and Heidelberg, where L. Girshman worked under the guidance of a famous Hermann Helmholtz, occupying the skill to survive humans' vision. Later, he wrote of that period: "Under the supervision of my teachers the passion to ophthalmology was a usual thing. This field of medicine started to develop from a small desolated part of surgery developed into the independent science, appeared at the top of exact sciences". There he had got an invitation to America, but did not accept it, because accumulated material gave him the chance to write and defend the dissertation for degree of Doctor in Medicine. He backed to Kharkiv.

The beginning of the 20th century was full of revolutionary events in history of our city and the whole Russian Empire. In 1905 Kharkiv students participated in student unrests. Rector expelled from the university a group of students without the disciplinary court decision headed by Professor L. Girshman. Protesting against this Leonard Leopoldovych left the university. As a result he lost the clinical basis, so he decided to leave the city. Fortunately, the Kharkiv community intervened and through the newspapers it appealed to Kharkovites: "A special Committee for the building of a hospital for Professor L. Girshman had been formed, and for such project it is necessary to collect a big amount of money. The Committee asked to donate for the clinic named after Professor L. Girshman". In three years in the street Velyka Moskalivka the hospital for 10 beds was opened, and in 1912 the new big building for ophthalmological clinic was built. It got the name of Professor L. Girshman ("Eye Clinic named after Girshman") while he was alive. The hospital rules of that time included the points: "The outpatient recording was realized from 9 up to 11. The urgent patients could get medical help anytime". In reality, Professor L. Girshman accepted all the patients up to the last one. After the hospital admissions, he backed home, where people waited for him and his help. Professor accepted them up to midnight or 1 o'clock in the morning. He never told people: "Come tomorrow". In his medical practice L. Girshman never used general patterns, for diagnostics and appointments he necessarily took into account the growth, structure of the face, gait and general condition of the patient. There is a fact,

which proves his high professionalism: the cataract surgery he had been made for 1–2 minutes, and used for it both hands simultaneously. He considered the best own merit that he accustomed the people to get the care from professional doctors.

The disinterestedness of L. Girshman was unlimited. He helped people in different cases: to attach children for study, to find the work, to help in liberation of illegally arrested people, and even for money. Professor regularly gave it to poor ones. Terminally ill patients, Girshman taught a massage, thus giving the blind person an opportunity to make living costs. As a physician he accepted more than 1 million people in his life.

The great writers L. Tolstoy and A. Chekhov interested in L. Girshman's activity. Anton Pavlovych Chekhov had written of him: "Kharkiv ophthalmologist L. Girshman was a famous philanthropist and a Saint person".

The famous lawyer, academician Anatolii Koni told of this outstanding Doctor: "... if the future generations asked about L. Girshman, one can answered by Hamlet words – He was a Human Being..."

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STUDY DESIGN IN CLINICAL TRIALS FOR RARE DISEASES

Recently, Feb 28th was marked as "rare disease day." It is a great effort to raise awareness about rare diseases, which affect a lot people around the world. Rare diseases could be devastating for the patients as well as their families if they are incurable. Patients and their families hold high hopes in the scientists and science, hoping to get cure for their diseases.

Several clinical trials are underway, and there has been a strong collaboration between sponsors, CROs, and vendors in an attempt to find a cure. But there is still long way to go. Many clinical trials are failing after spending a lot of time (Figure 1) and money in their drugs. Mostly there has been pre-clinical success by successful working of drugs in the animal models. But, the problem arises with translational research when the same drug does not show affect in the humans. And it is very challenging because ultimate goal of all the preclinical/bench research is to have therapeutic benefit to patients.