

In Memoriam: Dr.^a Olívia Bordalo (1951 – 2011)



Dr. Olívia Bordalo was born in Macau on March 14, 1951. She died, surrounded by her family, on Tuesday, May 11, 2011, after a year of intense and courageous battle against a fatal illness.

Olívia graduated brilliantly in Medicine from the Medical School of the University of Lisbon in 1974 and was classified at 89% (the 5th of 700 candidates) at the admission exam for her internship in Dermatology and Venereology, which she completed at the Hospital de Santa Maria in Lisbon in 1985.

Her main interests became clinical dermatology and contact dermatitis, fields in which her dedication was marked by extreme accuracy throughout her professional career.

In 1979 she became a member of the Portuguese Society of Dermatology and Venereology and in 1990 of the European Society of Contact Dermatitis. In 2003, she became the General Secretary of the Portuguese Contact Dermatitis Research Group and in 2005 the head of the "Centro de Dermatologia Médico-Cirúrgica" in Lisbon.

She was an excellent and welcome lecturer at international meetings, and the author of several scientific papers in the field of contact dermatitis. We will always remember her exceptional talk on fragrance allergies at the 2008 Congress of the European Society of Contact Dermatitis in Estoril.

Because of her special interest in contact dermatitis, I had the great privilege of knowing Olívia personally and having her as our guest at our Contact Allergy Unit in Leuven. Olívia became one of my closest personal friends. I also got to know her family, which was so important for her and to which she was intensely dedicated.

We will remember Dr. Olívia Bordalo as a very gentle, respectful and distinguished person and particularly as a good and loyal friend to many of us. We are very grateful.

An Goossens

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