

Pioneers – The History of Musculoskeletal Radiology.

By Iwona Sudół-Szopińska (radiologist) and Marta Panas-Goworska (culture expert)

António Egas Moniz (1874–1955) was a Portuguese neurologist, politician and writer. He is known in the history of medicine as one of the first to have ordered psychosurgery - prefrontal leucotomy, so-called lobotomy, in his mental illness patients (he could not perform the surgery himself because of gout that affected his hands). He thought that mental illness was due to abnormal neural connections in the frontal lobe. In 1949, he received the Nobel Prize "for his discovery of the therapeutic value of leucotomy in certain psychoses." Although he wrote a book about scientific reliability, he was paradoxically accused of controversies associated with lobotomy, and it was almost demanded of him to return the Nobel.

Why do we bring back such a controversial neurologist in our radiological newsletter?

António Egas Moniz contributed significantly and irrefutably to the history of radiology by becoming the **father of angiography** – the precursor of angioencephalography. In 1927, Moniz administered a radiopaque contrast medium to an epileptic patient. He postulated that the visualization of blood vessels in the brain by radiological support would allow a more precise localization of brain tumors.

The only thing to regret is that it was not this pioneering and important achievement that made him one of only two (next to José Saramago) Portuguese Nobel Prize laureates.



António Egas Moniz in Santa Maria Hospital in Lisbon.

<http://www.casamuseuegasmoniz.com/seccao.php?s=biografia>

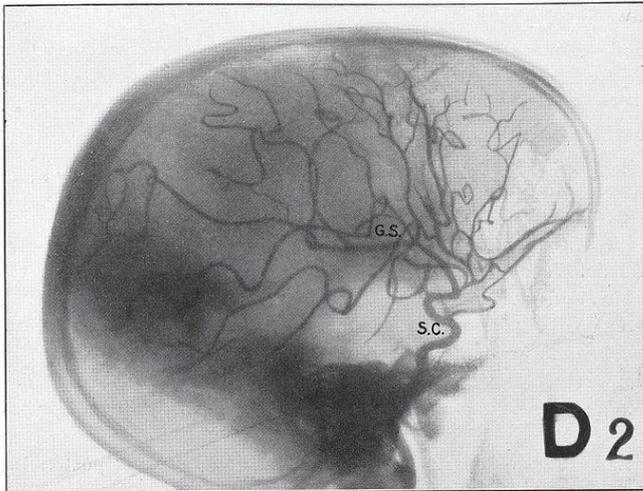


Fig. 163. — Artériographie à droite. Normale.
Forte circulation de l'hémisphère cérébral (obs. XXVIII).

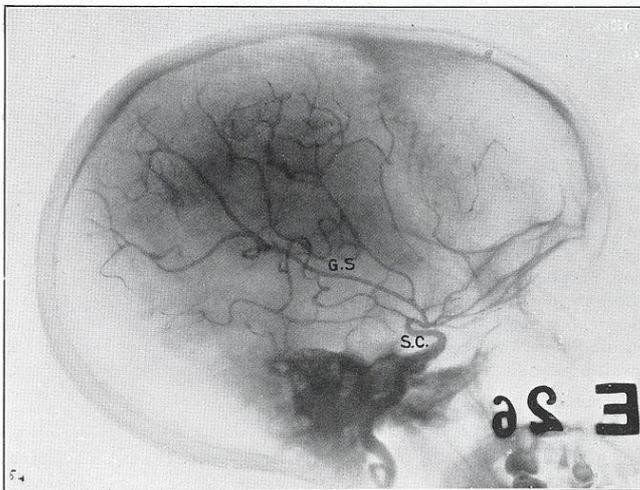


Fig. 164 — Artériographie à gauche. Le siphon carotidien (S. C.) et le groupe sylvien assez abaissés à leur origine. Tumeur du lobe frontal (obs. XXVIII).

The first angiographic image in the world: the upper part is normal, the lower part presents a frontal lobe tumour

https://pt.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ant%C3%B3nio_Egas_Moniz#/media/File:Arteriographie_a_droite,_a_gauche_Wellcome_L0040501.jpg

Iwona Sudot-Szopińska (radiologist) and Marta Panas-Goworska (culture expert)**Biographical notes**

Iwona Sudot-Szopińska was born in Zwoleń, Poland, in 1970. She graduated from the Medical University of Warsaw, and obtained first-degree specialization in nuclear medicine in 1998 and in radiology in 2002. She defended her doctoral dissertation in 1998 and was awarded a habilitation degree in 2003. The title of a professor was conferred upon her by the President of the Republic of Poland in 2012. Since 1996 she has been working at the Medical University of Warsaw, and in 2010 she was appointed the Head of the Department of Radiology in the National Institute of Geriatrics, Rheumatology and Rehabilitation in Warsaw, where since 2015 she has been also working as the Director for Research. In 2015–2018, she held the function of a chairperson of the ESSR Arthritis Subcommittee. She is the author of 280 articles, 30 chapters and 5 monographs. She is an editor-in-chief of “Journal of Ultrasonography” and “Acta Historiae Medicinae. Journal of the History of Medicine, Ethics and Deontology.” She is interested in the history of women in science and in the history of radiology and rheumatology.

Marta Panas-Goworska was born in Lublin, Poland, in 1980. She obtained a university diploma in cultural studies. With her husband, Andrzej Goworski, she wrote four books on the history of Russia. In 2017, their book entitled "Scientists under the red star" (in Polish, PWN, 2016), which tells a story of scholars in the Soviet Union, was awarded in the competition for the best scientific book in 2016 year, organized by the Jagiellonian University and the Euclid Foundation of Science Popularization. Moreover, she is the author of several dozen articles about culture and art. She is most keen on telling stories of figures, including inventors and pioneers in medicine, who, despite their pivotal discoveries, have been forgotten for various reasons or remain unknown to the wider public.