

Congratulations, Dr. Braile

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On February 12, 2009, in the newly-opened branches of the Specialty Outpatient Clinics, in São José do Rio Preto-SP, the governor José Serra granted to Dr. Domingo Marcolino Braile the highest honor of the state of São Paulo - the Honorific Order of Ipiranga - in the presence of great public and the President of the Legislative Assembly, congressman Vaz de Lima, and the Secretary of the Civil House of the government of State, the former minister Aloisio Nunes Ferreira Filho.

This Order is granted for Brazilian citizens who provided notable services to São Paulo in the social, scientific or cultural fields.

According the former governor Cláudio Lembo, it is “an unique order, granted sparingly to those who have the respect of the society”.

This fair public recognition confirms the concept that we cardiovascular surgeons, cardiologists and entrepreneurs have of Professor Braile.

Throughout his whole career, he had the privilege to participate - since the beginning of the specialty in the early 1960s - and to be an actor and not just an observer in all cardiac surgery's stages from its birth through adolescence and maturity.

He showed courage and determination in the interior of São Paulo, outside the big capitals, which would constitute an important center of vanguard and opinion leader.

Recognizing, since the beginning, the need for support from industry for the development of cardiac surgery in Brazil, he created Braile Biomédica to meet the creativity of Brazilian and international surgeons, aiming at developing high-technology products that would be applied not only in heart surgery, but also in other specialties.

Among many projects achieved successfully we mention: the heart lung machines, adult and infant oxygenators, biological heart valves, inferior vena cava filters, cardiac fibrillator, cardioplegic solutions, aortic stents, and more recently the heart valves implanted by catheter, which is his latest challenge.

The quality of the products manufactured, as well as the cost much lower than those imported, made economically possible many procedures that use stents and prostheses, by consisting of a paradigm of cost when compared to the imported products.

Currently, Braile Biomédica intended 15% of its manufacturing for exporting, serving mainly the domestic needs and other countries such as: Argentina, Bolivia, Chile,

Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela, Portugal, Germany, UK, Turkey, Kuwait, Trinidad Tobago, Dominican Republic, Romania, Russia, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, India and Thailand.

With 25 years of existence, the company provides direct job to 437 employees, 1,500 indirect, with average salary of R\$ 2,300.00, which characterizes its social and economic importance.

It is worth emphasizing that the experience in cardiovascular surgery and humanist vision of Dr. Braile enabled heart surgery in hospitals in needy or default, providing oxygenators, valves or stents without knowing how and when he would be reimbursed.

The tradition of pioneering work in developing our own products launched by Hugo Felipozzi, Euryclides de Jesus Zerbini, Adib Jatene, Domingos Junqueira de Moraes and many others was continued and enhanced in the figure of Dr. Braile.

In the field of cardiac surgery he was present in all its successive advances: in valve surgery, myocardial protection, aneurysms of the heart and aorta, heart failure surgery and in artificial electrical stimulation. It is also opinion leader when reviewing a scientific study, offering his expertise in the area of statistics, linearized incidence of events and actuarial curves.

Complementing his many qualities and functions, is crucial figure as editor responsible for the Brazilian Society of Cardiovascular Surgery. His effort, dedication and determination have become our journal a forum of credibility and visibility.

In this brief and certainly incomplete exhibition of the contribution of Dr. Braile to the Brazilian heart surgery, I could not forget to emphasize his qualities of leadership, becoming a model to be followed by us all and especially for new generations. We believe to be true that in the figure of Dr. Braile, the human figure of leadership overcomes his own curriculum.

Finally, I could not forget to mention his most important work, which is the building of his family, wife, daughters and grandchildren.

In this testimonial, I have the desire to express what we think about him.

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