HISTORY

In the prewar period, one of the biggest health problems in Serbia, were patients with tuberculosis. In 1955, the Federal Executive Council has decided to build a new hospital for the treatment of bone tuberculosis and polio, with a capacity of 400 beds. The decision has been made to build a hospital on the foundations of the building intended for the sanatorium of the Presidency of the Yugoslav Government in Dedinje, Belgrade. Management of the Hospital was entrusted to Medical School in Belgrade.

According to the construction project, the building supposed to have 19,865m² and to be divided into seven hospital departments. ORs were never envisaged under this plan, since conservative treatment methods were taken into account. Decision on the establishing the Hospital was issued by the Federal Executive Council in 1957. In this document the official name of the hospital was given: “Special hospital for polio and osteoarticular tuberculosis”. The current project was done according to the plans of architect S. Kliško, with additional changes in order to adapt its purpose.

In the meantime, new findings and possibilities significantly altered the epidemiological situation in the world and Serbia, primarily, thanks to polio vaccines, BCG vaccine, as well as the introduction of streptomycin. These measures have reduced new outbreaks of polio and pulmonary tuberculosis. For these reasons, and the fact that the construction went in the direction of the recreational treatment, certain changes had to be made. It was decided that the future hospital will become orthopedic institution. The first director was appointed in 1958. It was Branko Radulović MD, PhD, Assistant at Clinic for Orthopaedic Surgery and Traumatology, Medical School in Belgrade.

The opening was planned for the 1st of July 1961, and by then some corrections of existing plans were performed by architect Zloković and his team. He accepted the amendment and additionally merged hospital and administrative buildings with constructing six concrete pillars and the extension of the area to the main entrance of the hospital, providing space for an amphitheater with 150 seats.

The Institute for Orthopedic Surgery "Banjica" is health care institution that operates under its present name since October 23rd 1997, and it is located in 28 Mihaila Avramovića street, Belgrade, Serbia.

From year 2012 The Institute for Orthopedic Surgery "Banjica" is the first accredited orthopedic institution in Serbia, which confirms that it meets the highest professional standards, in accordance with contemporary medical strategies and professional protocols.

**DIRECTORS (1958-2014)**

- Prof. Branko Radulović MD, PhD (1958-1980);
- Prof. Ljubiša Janković MD, PhD (1980-1990);
- Prof. Slobodan Slavković MD, PhD (1990-2000; 2009-2014);
- Prof. Zoran Blagojević MD, PhD (2000-2009);
- Prof. Zoran Baščarević, MD, PhD (2014 onwards)

**THE HEAD NURSES (1961-2014)**

- Ljubica Baltić - Čelić (1961-1980);
- Olga Radoman (1980-1993);
- Milena Ignjatović (1993-2000);
- Snežana Pejnović (2000-2011);
- Mira Pešić (2011-2014);
- Jadranka Nedić (2014-2015);
- Snežana Blašković (2015 onwards)