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### **NOTES FROM THE HISTORY OF AUTOIMMUNE ORBITOPATHIA**

Autoimmune orbitopathy, also called thyroid eye disease, for a long time is one of the enigmas in the field of autoimmune thyroid disease. Its immunopathogenesis is poorly understood, and management can be complicated. There are not many comprehensive texts that bring together all aspects of this peculiar condition. The present EUGOO seminar on autoimmune orbitopathy aims to give a thorough update on all aspects of thyroid orbitopathy, be it immunological, clinical, medical, surgical or psychological. This has been accomplished in a multidisciplinary approach, involving endocrinologists, ophthalmologists and orbital surgeons.

The development of our knowledge about a nature, pathogenesis and outcome of the orbital disease in autoimmune thyroid disease was very slow, with a multitude of controversies and dead ends. It is some strange that first descriptions of connections of thyroid disease and ocular changes dated from lawyer not from doctors. After that a huge achievement was noticed by arabian doctors and philosophers. Western medicine used these eastern discoveries and incorporate it in european rationale system. Even at the end of the past century the progress of our knowledge about AO become more rapid and we today much better understand the complexity and natural history of orbital changes in autoimmune thyroid diseases.