

IN MEMORIAM DR. EVA THOMA-GREBER (1962-2004)

Dr. Thoma-Greber has died. A fact that is merely incomprehensible for her patients and colleagues at the outpatient's department for Immunology at the Clinic for Dermatology and Allergology. Those who knew Dr. Thoma-Greber, her vividness, her incredible energy and enthusiasm, as well as her joie de vivre, will understand our complete bewilderment.

Eva Thoma-Greber was born on 4th August 1962 in Munich, Germany. After finishing her final school examinations she started her medical studies, and very soon discovered her strong interest in Dermatology.

As of 1989 she worked for the Clinic and Polyclinic for Dermatology and Allergology, being a student of Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Otto Braun-Falco and Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Gerd Plewig. She finished her medical specialist training in 1996. From the beginning of her medical career, the Immunodeficiency Disease AIDS was the main focus of her work. The dermatologist's importance for an early identification of HIV-Infection, along with the thus improved therapy options for the patients, was a great concern for her. Being a well-known expert in the area of sexually transmitted diseases, she emphasized at an early stage the importance of broad sexual education for HIV prevention. This is documented by many congress invitations, entries in reference books and scientific lectures. More than once, Dr. Thoma-Greber was offered head of department positions and participations in doctor's surgeries. Due to personal reasons, as well as in consideration of her patients, she always rejected.

As a physician, Dr. Thoma-Greber showed a special ability to take into consideration her patient's entire personality. By doing so, she was in most cases able to come to difficult medical decisions in cooperation with and to the full satisfaction of everybody involved. From the beginning, an efficient cooperation between medical, nursing, psychology and social pedagogic, with regard to the outpatient's department for Im-

munology, was one of the deepest concerns she was most committed to. The patient's loyalty to the outpatient's department for Immunology was mainly her achievement.

Her sudden death leaves the outpatient's department for Immunology deserted. Only very slowly will the enormous gap she leaves be closed. Not only because of her medical experience and knowledge gained in fifteen years of treating HIV- and AIDS-Patients, but also because of her great social competence and warmth of character, her death means a great loss for all of us.

All of those, that knew Eva Thoma-Greber, respected her energy and discipline, as well as her joy in successfully working as a dermatologist in the difficult area of AIDS, and her selfless willingness to pass on her knowledge. She was very much committed especially to the area of education and advanced training, and she worked as consultant in the field of sexually transmitted diseases (STD) for the Bavarian Chamber of Physicians. The German AIDS Society has lost a major representative in the special field of dermatology.

Eva Thoma-Greber was not only a remarkably committed physician, and knew how to motivate those around her, she was also a good colleague to have medical discussions with. Furthermore, she was a caring friend, and her wit and humor lead to many cheerful moments. We will miss the joy of laughing with her.

Dr. Thoma-Greber's sudden death is hard to bear. Her husband Dr. Roland Greber and her five year old son Florian have experienced an incredible loss. We would like to express our deepest sympathy.

S. Zippel

N. H. Brockmeyer

Präsident der Deutschen AIDS-Gesellschaft