

In memoriam, Professor Marcio Versiani

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One of the wisest and most elegant Brazilian psychiatrist left us recently. Professor Versiani is no longer among us, but his teachings and publications will always be with us. An excellent teacher never dies, he just cannot give more lectures.

Everyone who knew and learned from Professor Versiani recognized in him the unique intelligence, his sagacious mood, and the wisdom of a great teacher. His publications and conferences have spread to the scientific world long before the internet. During his very productive career he was interested in a wide range of psychiatric conditions. He published more than 170 peer-reviewed papers. Of note, he has led some seminal pharmacological studies, with focus on the pharmacotherapy of social phobia^{1,2}, panic disorder³, and depressive disorders^{4,5}. Those publications have had significant and far reaching international impact and are among the most cited Brazilian works considering all sciences. Professor's Versiani international visibility is also evident in the contributions that he has made to important clinical guidelines and consensus such as the *Guidelines for Biological Treatment of Unipolar Depressive Disorders in Primary Care of the World Federation of Societies of Biological Psychiatry*⁶ and, a *Consensus Statement about Antidepressant and the Risk of Suicidality of the World Psychiatric Association*⁷.

Professor Versiani was born on October 8, 1947 in Belo Horizonte city, at the State of Minas Gerais, Brazil. He graduated in Medicine from the Federal University of Minas Gerais, and master's degree and doctorate with brilliance in the Institute of Psychiatry of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro. He was approved in a public contest for Full Professor of Psychiatry at the Faculty of Medicine of the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro in 1998. He was the founder and coordinator of the Anxiety and Depression Program of the same Institute for more than 30 years. This research Program was a very fruitful clinical psychiatry institution leading many important trials in psychopharmacology and producing a vast and productive generation of researchers and clinical psychiatrists.

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Professor Marcio Valadares Versiani Caldeira, MD, PhD

Photograph by A.E. Nardi from an oil painting (M. Duprat, 1998) collection of the Institute of Psychiatry, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Reprinted with permission.

Professor Versiani was editor-in-chief of the *Jornal Brasileiro de Psiquiatria* for many years, Director of the University's Institute of Psychiatry (2003-2009), member of several national and international psychiatric societies. Most of all, he was a good fellow, always ready to guide young psychiatrists, and beloved by his patients. We all miss him very much.

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