Michail Mescheryakov died on 24 May at the age of 84. A prominent follower of I.V. Kurchatov in 1938-1940, M.G. Mescheryakov created the first cyclotron in Russia at the Radium Institute, Leningrad, then was involved in the investigation of neutron absorption on nuclei and proton emission in deuteron-nuclei interactions.

From 1947 he was the scientific leader of engineering and construction for Dubna's 680 MeV synchrocyclotron. When this machine was put into operation in 1949, he became the head of the high energy physics research centre established around it, and transformed into the Institute of Nuclear Problems of the USSR Academy of Sciences in 1953. His main scientific interests was nucleon-nucleon interactions. In 1955 he discovered the resonant character of pion production in proton-proton interactions, and the direct knock-on of deuterons from nuclei by projectile protons.

A gifted organizer, he was one of the founders of the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research in 1956. After the establishment of JINR's Laboratory of Computing Techniques and Automation under his leadership in 1966, he was LCTA Director until 1988. Despite his terminal illness, he continued to take an active part in Dubna's scientific and public life.