

## **STANDPOINT**

**Assoc.Prof. Petar Markov, MD, PhD**

obstetrician-gynecologist,

Medical University of Sofia

Ajibadem City Clinic Tokuda Hospital, Sofia

member of the Scientific Jury

According to the order: P - 109-237 / 26.07.2019.

for thesis defense

for the Doctor of Science degree

at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology,

Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" Varna

In the field of higher education 7. "Health and sports", professional direction 7.1

"Medicine" and scientific specialty "Obstetrics and gynecology",

cipher 03.01.45

the thesis: TUMOR INVASION OF THE LYMPHATIC AND BLOOD

VESSELS IN ENDOMETRIAL ENDOMETROID CARCINOMA - I STAGE

BY FIGO

of Assoc. Prof. ELIS HUDAYIM ISMAIL, MD, Ph.D.

### **According to the procedure:**

The regulations of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for its implementation in the Medical University - Varna, respectively - the clauses for the defense of the dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Science.

## **I. Structure of the thesis**

The dissertation contains 165 pages, including 20 figures and 33 tables, and a study map. There are 211 references cited, 3 of which are from Bulgarian authors, 3 from internet sources and 199 from foreign authors.

The work includes the following sections: introduction, literature review, purpose and objectives, material and methods, results and discussion, conclusions and contributions, practice recommendations and bibliography.

Assoc. Prof. Ismail has formulated 10 tasks, covered and studied a statistically significant contingent of 112 patients, made 14 conclusions, on the basis of which she made relevant recommendations and contributions. She has submitted 12 publications related to the topic of the dissertation.

## **II. Scientific value of the dissertation.**

From a medical point of view, it can be said that the topic developed in this work addresses one of the most significant and as yet well - defined problems in Gynecology and in particular Oncogynecology. Endometrial cancer is among the most common (and in some countries the most common) malignant process in the anatomy of the female genital system. This determines its societal importance, as well as the need for clear criteria in developing a strategy to combat this disease. Although, in most cases, endometrial carcinoma is characterized by a more favorable course than other genital malignancies (cervical and ovarian carcinomas), there are still ambiguities in the choice of the specific treatment plan for these patients. In a number of countries, incl. and in Bulgaria the criteria according to which therapeutic measures should be implemented in cases with initial and advanced endometrial cancer are not well defined. The issues of lymph

node dissection during hysterectomy, the volume of this dissection (pelvic and paraaortic), the volume of hysterectomy itself, the need for adjuvant therapy and its type are the subject of constant debate in a number of local and international scientific forums. In practice, it appears that in different countries there is a different therapeutic approach in cases of endometrial carcinoma, and in our country these differences are clearly distinguished in the different regions - clinics and wards in which this type of oncology is carried out. The lack of control and any attempt to certify this activity leads to the logical result that the approach to treating patients with endometrial cancer is not unified and standardized, but is decided at the individual level by the attending physician.

Therefore, in this context, the benefits of such a scientific work are even more clearly outlined, especially when it is well - objectified, sufficiently detailed and evidence - based, as in the case. It is this type of scientific work that should form the basis on which the national strategy for combating this disease should be built, and more importantly, to control the implementation of the type and volume of therapeutic activities by all specialists involved in the healing process.

### **III. Conclusion.**

The dissertation by Assoc. Prof. Elis Ismail, MD, PhD is an excellent completed study on a socially significant problem related to the construction of optimal diagnostic and therapeutic approach in patients with endometrial endometroid carcinoma in the first stage of FIGO. This work possesses the necessary qualities - significance, scope, originality and thoroughness, which makes its author worthy of obtaining a Doctor of Science degree. The conclusions and contributions of this dissertation should be cited at all levels responsible for developing regional and national strategies to combat this problem.

These are the facts on the basis of which I can confidently vote positively for the award of the Doctor of Science degree in Obstetrics and Gynecology by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Elis Ismail, MD, PhD.

Administratively, I would like to submit my admirations to the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Medical University - Varna for stimulating the academic development of the young professionals in the right way. Unfortunately, this practice cannot be found in many other academic units in Bulgaria. Still, the management of the Medical Universities of the region can hardly accept the simple fact that it is young professionals who should be stimulated to develop academically until the interest in innovations in medicine, the desire and the ability to create scientific work, and conduct clinical trials. The dogmas that determine the behavior of academic leadership in a number of universities in Bulgaria lead to many young professionals abandoning their academic development and in one way or another disconnecting from science because they encounter too many difficulties and obstacles. I would like to extend my compliments to the management of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, MU-Varna, and in particular to Assoc. Prof. Ismail, that they have successfully broken the status quo and set an example for imitation by other academic units in Bulgaria.

07.09.2019

Assoc.Prof. Petar Markov, MD, PhD