

Opinion

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The dissertation work of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nikolai Todorov Evtimov, Ph.D. from Medical University - Varna

To obtain a Doctor of Science degree in urology. From Medical University - Varna, Faculty of Medicine and Clinic of Urology at St. Anna Hospital - Varna

By order No: P-109-662 / 14.12.2018. on the basis of Article 4, paragraph 2 of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, I am assigned to prepare an opinion on the procedure for obtaining a PhD degree "Doctor of Sciences" with candidate Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nikolay Todorov Evtimov, PhD from the University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Varna, on the topic: "The role of NGF and BDNF and their receptors Track-A, Track-B, p75 for the occurrence and metastasis of prostate carcinoma" in the field of higher education 7. Health and sport, professional field 7.1. "Urology".

The presented dissertation thesis by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nikolay Todorov Evtimov is properly structured. It contains 232 pages. It is illustrated with 58 figures of 44 tables. The bibliographic reference includes 290 titles, of which 27 in the Cyrillic alphabet.

Prostate cancer carcinoma is one of the most common malignancies in men. In recent years, scientific research has affected clinical, clinical, laboratory and morphological research, as well as the search for intercellular interactions between stromal cells and epithelial cells of the prostate gland. Nowadays, concepts of cell growth factors take a central place in the pathogenesis of many diseases. It is clear that the mechanism that controls these processes will also play a role in the treatment of prostate gland carcinoma. The idea of intercellular interactions is over 30 years old.

Assoc. Prof. Evtimov has set a clear goal for which 14 tasks have been correctly formulated.

For the period 2010-2016 257 radical prostatectomies were performed in the urology clinic of St. Anna Hospital in patients with localized prostate carcinoma. Patients are divided into two groups depending on the PSA and Gleason score. Tissue preparations have been routinely processed. 257 patients with prostate carcinoma were studied, with the formula being determined by the volume of the scar and the relative share assessment. Thus, the final number of patients is 208: 27 operated laparoscopic and 157 by conventional radical prostatectomy. From the clinical methods of investigation, the strictly defined pattern of material collection from a particular area in the biopsy of the prostate gland is impressed. 10 biopsy cylinders were obtained, which were examined histologically and immunohistologically. Thus, the preparation is stained with monoclonal antibodies and the expression of growth factors and their receptors can be determined. Modern statistical methods for processing received data are used.

The results obtained are well organized and illustrated in 40 tables and 19 figures. They are credible and received by the author.

In the discussion, the two main groups of parameters monitored during the study were analyzed: clinical and immunohistochemical. The correlation analysis of all parameters demonstrates BMI, prostate

volume, PSI, Gleason Score, and neurotrophic expression density, as well as their use in combination. These three factors lead to the creation of a prognostic model with a high positive predictive value.

Based on his in-depth scientific research, he has made 11 credible conclusions. In his dissertation, Prof. Evtimov has 8 contributions of an original nature and 4 contributions of a confirmatory nature.

In conclusion Prof. Evtimov is a very good specialist in urology. He earned the trust and respect of his colleagues. In his scientific work, he proves and analyzes the expression of BDNF and NGF in prostate carcinoma, this makes it increasingly possible to use target therapy to treat neoplastic processes. Thus, the use of growth factor inhibitors is rapidly becoming a promising treatment regimen for various solid tumors. His dissertation work is the result of many years of scientific research, fragments of which he presented to the Bulgarian scientific urological forums. There are scientific publications in our and foreign urological scientific journals. The present scientific work is entirely author's work and possesses all the qualities and required for awarding of educational and scientific degree "Doctor of Medical Sciences" of Assoc. Prof. Nikolai Todorov Evtimov, PhD. That is why, in-house lunch, I recommend that the members of the jury vote for the academic degree "Doctor of Science" of Assoc. Nikolay Todorov Evtimov, MD, MU - Varna.

Prof. Mitko Tzvetkov, date: 24.01.2019.

