To the Chairman of the Scientific Jury

At the Faculty of Medicine of the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna

Appointed by order No. R-109-93 of 21.03.2024.

of the Rector of Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna,

Conserning: The competition for the occupation of the academic position "Professor" in the field of higher education 7. Health and sports, professional direction 7.1. Medicine, specialty «Gastroenterology» -0.5 half-time position for the needs of the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology of the Faculty of Medicine at the Medical University «Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov"-Varna and one full-time position for the needs of the "Gastroenterology" Clinic at the University hospital "St. Marina" EAD-Varna, according to Order No. R-109-93/21.03.2024 of the Rector of the Medical University Prof. Dr. Dimitar Raykov, MD, PhD, DSc, wich has been published in State Gazette No. 7/ 23.01.2024and in accordance with a report with entry No. 102-696/29.02.2024 by Assoc. Prof. Stoyan Pavlov, MD,PhD - Head of Department of "Anatomy and Cell Biology" and decision of protocol No. 18/11.03.2024. of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Medicine with a single candidate – Assoc. Prof. Antonia Yordanova Atanasova, MD,Ph.D, DSc.

PEER REVIEW

Peer reviewer: Prof. Miglena Dimitrova Georgieva, MD,PhD

Pediatrician, Pediatric`s gastroenterologist, specialist in nutrition and dietetics

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By order of the Rector of Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna No. R-109-93 of 21.03.2024 I have been appointed as a member of the Scientific Jury in connection with the procedure for occupying the academic position of "Professor" in "Gastroenterology" for the needs of Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology, Faculty of Medicine - 0.5 half-time position and 1 one full-time position for the "Gastroenterology" Clinic at University Hospital "St. Marina" EAD-Varna with a single candidate, Assoc. Prof. Antonia Yordanova Atanasova, MD,PhD,DSc.

With the Record of the first meeting of the Scientific Jury, appointed by the above-mentioned Order, I am determined to write a REVIEW on the documents presented by Assoc. Prof. Antonia Yordanova Atanasova, MD,PhD,DSc.

The presented documents were prepared according to the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, as well as the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna.

1. Biographical data

Assoc. Prof. Antonia Yordanova Atanasova, MD,Ph.D. DSc., was born on 16.06.1961 in the city of Varna. In 1980, she graduated from the IV Language High School "Fr. Joliot-Curie" teaching French, high school flag assistant, with excellent marks, gold medal. In 1986, she graduated Medical Academy- Higher Medical Institute-Varna, assistant of the university flag, with excellent remarks. From 01.12.1986 - 17.06.1987 he worked as a resident doctor in the internal department of District Hospital -Shumen. After successfully passing a competitive exam from 17.06.1987 - 28.03.1994. was an assistant at the Gastroenterology Clinic "St. Marina", Medical University Varna, from 03/28/1994 - 07/07/1997. is a doctor, senior assistant at the Gastroenterology Clinic, and from 07.07.1997 - 12.16.2015 he is a doctor, chief assistant at the Gastroenterology Clinic. Since 17.12.2015 he is an associate professor in the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology; associate professor at Department of Internal Medicine, Department of Gastroenterology. Assoc. Prof. Antonia Atanasova, MD, PhD, DSc, from 07/09/2013. is enrolled as a free doctoral student at the Department of "Internal Diseases", scientific specialty "Gastroenterology" - with the topic "Clinical evaluation of patients with ulcerative colitis - a modern approach". On 12.12.2014 acquires a scientific and educational degree "Doctor", in the scientific specialty "Gastroenterology"; topic "Clinical assessment of patients with ulcerative colitis - modern approach", diploma with registration number 088/19.12.2014.

On 23.07.2021 obtained the scientific degree "Doctor of Sciences" with the topic of the dissertation work "The serum expression of microribonucleic acids in Inflammatory Bowel Diseases patients ". Dissertation work for the Doctor of Sciences, Medical University - Varna, diploma with registration number 454/23.12.2021.

Assoc. Prof. Antonia Atanasova, MD, PhD, DSc, acquired the specialty "Internal Diseases" on 02.02.1994, and the specialty "Gastroenterology" on 01.06.1996. She has qualified courses in abdominal ultrasound - 3-month course in 1989, conventional ultrasound: Abdominal ultrasound and surface structures: SDO-99-194/25.03.2008. Obtained diplomas for Diagnostic and therapeutic FGS and FCS, SDO-99-158/17.02.2008; Certificate of professional qualification and highly specialized activity Diagnostic and therapeutic FGS and FCS, PK series, reg. No. 0095, 20.05.2009, No. 100; She has a pedagogical qualification for trainers from medical institutions /СДО-99-596/28.12.2012; Obtains: Certificate of professional qualification and highly specialized activity Diagnostic upper and lower gastrointestinal endoscopy - first level, reg. no. 0336, 22.07.2016, series PK-MUV, no. 000360; Certificate of professional qualification and highly specialized activity Therapeutic upper and lower gastrointestinal endoscopy - second level, reg. no. 0337, 22.07.2016, series PK-MUV, no. 000361; Abdominal Doppler ultrasound in gastroenterology - 2nd level Reg.№0338/22.07.2016 series PK.MUV 000362; Interventional and endoscopic abdominal ultrasound in gastroenterology - third level Reg. No. 0339/22.07.2016 series PK.MUV 000363; Diagnostic upper and lower gastrointestinal endoscopy - first level Reg. No. 0336/22.07.2016 series PK.MUV 000360; Therapeutic upper and lower gastrointestinal endoscopy - second level Reg. No. 0337/22.07.2016 series PK.MUV 000361; Certificate of professional qualification and highly specialized activity Conventional abdominal ultrasound in gastroenterology and surface structures - first level, reg. No. 0456/06.12.2018, No. 000483; Certificate of professional qualification and highly specialized activity Abdominal Doppler echography in gastroenterology - second level, reg. No. 0338/22.07.2016, No. 000362; Certificate of professional qualification and highly specialized activity - Interventional and endoscopic abdominal ultrasound in gastroenterology - third level, reg. No. 0339/22.07.2016, No. 000363. Attends international schools on: ultrasound in the field of IBD 1-st Ultrasound Workshop 02.2014 Copenhagen, Danmark; Intensive summer course in epidemiology & biostatistics in public health, Erasmus University, Cambridge University, Varna, June 1997. Participates in the international program TEMPUS-PHARE/JEP09839-95 "Restructuring of medical education" France, University of Franche-Comté - Besançon, Clinic of

Hepatology and Clinic of Gastroenterology at the University Hospital Jean-Minjot, Prof. Jean-Philippe Miguet, 16.02-10.04 .1998. She has diplomas for participation in numerous international training schools and meetings of specialists: 35-th ECCO Educational Workshop 06.2014; Leading change in IBD. Optimizing IBD care: practical approaches to implementing changes. Athens, Greece, 20-21. 06.2015; 3-rd ECCO-ESGAR Ultrasound Workshop-17.03.2016, Amsterdam, The Netherlands; Speaker Training. Budapest, Hungary 2-3.02.2016; IBD AHEAD 1-3.07.2016; The Importance of continuous clinical response in UC control Regional Expert Input Forum, Belgrade, Serbia, April 1st, 2016; 4th ECCO Ultrasound Workshop, Barcelona, Spain 15.02.2017; Transforming Standards of care in IBD 13-14.10.2017 Brussels; 5th ECCO-ESGAR Ultrasound – MRI Workshop 14.02.2018 Bulgaria, IBD Academy 16-17, March, 2018, IBD School via clinical cases; Setting Targets For Optimal UC Care- 15-16.06.2018, Brussels, Belgium; IBD practice - modern management of IBD, June 20-21, 2019, Rome, Italy; 26-th United European Gastroenterology Week – October 20-24, 2018, Vienne, Austria. Part I + Basic Course: "Basic and Introduction in abdominal Ultrasound examination" 26-th United European Gastroenterology Week – October 20-24, 2018, Vienne, Austria.; Part II + B: Advance Course: "Pathology and special topics in abdominal Ultrasound examination"; Ultrasonography - a non-invasive monitoring approach to optimize IBD management. October 22, 2018, Vienne, Austria; UC& CD Clinical Experience Exchange Program 28-th November 2018; IBD Peer Preceptorship Meeting, Oxford, UK 4-6.09.2019; IBD Peer Preceptorship Meeting, Prague, Czech Republic 5-6.12.2019; 2nd ECCO-ESGAR Basic Imaging Workshop 12.02.2020; Gastroenterology Clinical Experience Exchange Program 28.10.2022, Leuven, Belgium; IBD Evolve – long-term goal in IBD & the importance of holistic monitoring, 8-10.092023, Barcelona, Spain.

Assoc. Prof. Antonia Atanassova, MD,PhD,DSc, is also a consultant to the Cystic Fibrosis Expert Center since August 2019.

2. Educational activities

Assoc. Prof. Antonia Atanassova, MD, PhD, DSc, has an impressive teaching load: in various departments - Second Department of Internal Medicine, Department of Gastroenterology and Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology, in the latter it continues to work. She went through all teaching positions - assistant, senior assistant, chief assistant, associate professor. The total teaching experience of Assoc. Prof. Antonia Atanassova, MD, PhD, DSc is 36 years, 07 months, 14 days.

Associate Professor Antonia Yordanova Atanasova, MD, PhD, DSc, teaches the courses "Anatomy and Cell Biology" and "Gastroenterology" to students from the specialty "Medicine" at the Faculty of Medicine of the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskkev Stoyanov" - Varna in Bulgarian and English. She is the supervisor of two successfully defended doctoral students and a third, which is in advanced development. She also has 1 gastroenterology residency. She participated as a reviewer in numerous Scientific Juries for "Doctor", "Associate Professor" (described in detail in the candidate's CV).

3. Main areas of scientific activity

The scientific interests of Assoc. Prof. Antonia Atanassova, MD, PhD, DSc. are in the field of gastroenterology, hepatology and nutrition. Her scientific works are related to various important areas in gastroenterology, such as: Inflammatory Bowel Diseases; chronic liver diseases; obesity and metabolic syndrome and their relationship with chronic inflammation and a number of oncological diseases; preventable infectious diseases, clinical cases of rare diseases; quality of life among different groups of patients; microribonucleic acids in clinical practice as modern markers for diagnosis and follow-up of inflammatory bowel diseases; microribonucleic acids as a non-invasive marker to assess obesity, metabolic syndrome in IBD patients, and immunohistochemical assessment of cell death/necroptosis as a prognostic marker in both ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease in active stage and clinical remission.

4. Publication activity

During her entire creative career, the scientific works of Assoc. Prof. Antonia Atanasova, MD PhD DSc, totaled 201 works. These are:

• Dissertation for awarding the scientific and educational degree "Doctor" - 1 item.

• Monograph 1 item.

• Participation in chapters of books, textbooks, collections - 3 items.

• Dissertation for awarding the scientific degree "Doctor of Sciences" 1 item.

• Scientific articles in full text - 98 nos. (including in magazines with IF)

• Scientific participations with abstracts – 97 items.

The scientific works of Assoc. Prof. Antonia Atanasova, MD PhD DSc, presented in the Academic Reference by "Professor" dated 30.01.2024. there are a total of 92 pieces. These are:

1. Dissertation work for obtaining the Educational and Scientific Degree "doctor" - 1 pc.

2. Dissertation for Scientific Degree "Doctor of Sciences" - 1 pc.

3. Ten scientific publications in publications that are referenced and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information - 10 items.

4. Publications and reports published in scientific publications, refereed and indexed in world-famous databases with scientific information - 14 pcs.

5. Publications and reports published in non-refereed journals with scientific review or published in edited collective volumes - 37 items.

6. Additionally - abstracts of reports in periodicals and collections, presented at national and international congresses, conferences, symposia and sessions at home and abroad 24 items

In the Scopus and Web of Science databases, 29 citations of the candidate's works were found for the period after 2018 (mostly in the period 2021-2022) (after the selection for "Associate Professor").

With an impact factor, there are 3 publications in full text, after the selection of associate professor. Total impact factor 101.6 (after selection for associate professor). (The impact factor has been calculated only for the system sources for it recognized by the regulations of the Varna Medical University).

According to the materials submitted by the candidate for the competition, she currently has a total of **1975.81** scientometric points, with minimum scientometric requirements - 550 points. In more detail, the minimum national requirements for occupying the academic position of "professor" are fulfilled as follows: section A - Educational and Scientific Degree doctor - 50 points; section B2 - dissertation work "Doctor of Sciences" - 100 points; B4 equivalent of a dissertation work-minimum requirement 100 points, presents publications carrying 336.5 points; section G7-9 - minimum requirement 200 points, presents publications carrying 884.1 points; section D10-12 - minimum requirement 100 points, presents data carrying 310 points; section E–minimum requirement 100 points, submit 295. These are the results presented by a detailed academic report.

5. Participation in national and international conferences, symposia and congresses, international and national projects

Associate Professor Antonia Atanasova, MD, Ph.D., DSc, participates in a number of national and international conferences and congresses. Participations in international congresses (posters), in national scientific forums with international participation and in national scientific forums (reports and posters) are 167.

She is the head of two national and educational projects financed by the Science Fund: "Metabolic syndrome in Inflammatory Bowel Diseases patients. Started in 2020, successfully completed and certified in January 2023; The other project "Research of modern biomarkers in non-alcoholic fatty liver disease"/SF-13/09.01.24, started at the beginning of 2024. It is also a participant in an international project: InterregDanube Transnational Program CD SKILLS - 2019-2022 - Funded by the European Union . Participated as a researcher in a national and educational project financed by the Science Fund "Etiology, clinical picture and diagnosis of non-alcoholic fatty liver disease in children and adolescents", 21.12.2020 - 21.12.2022.

6. Scientific contributions

Scientific contributions are systematized in 10 main directions.

I.Inflammatory Bowel Diseases. IBD, which are becoming more frequent both worldwide and in our country, are the subject of numerous publications, covering various aspects of the diseases: diagnosis (B.1; C.4.-3,4,5,6, 9,11,45,52,70,73,77,90,91), influence of various factors on evolution (B1-1; B.4-2,3,4,5,6,8,9;77; D.7-14,15,16,18,19,21,22,23,24; D.8-3,5,40,44,50,51,52,53,54,60,66,68, 70,73,74;II-71;III-75,76,77,79;IV-81,82,84,85,87,89,90,91), prognostic factors (B1,B4-2,3, 4,5,6,9;G7-12,14,15,16,17,18,19,21,22,23,24,34,35,37,40,45,46,50,5153,54, 57,59,60,61;II-66,68,70,69,70,71,72,73,74;III-75,76,77,78,79; IV-81,83,84,85, 86,89,90,91), treatment (B4.7,9; D7.11,12,18; D8.40,45,60), complications (D7.11,18; III-75,77,79; IV-82). The publications have a theoretical character (D8.56,57,58,59;D7.-19;II-65,66,67; IV-87) and a practical-applied contribution (B4.2,3,4,5,6, 9; D7.11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18, 21,22,23;D8.26,34,35,37,39,40,44,45,46,50,52, 54,57,61,63,64;II-70,71,72,73,74;III-75,76,77,78,79;IV-80,81,82,83,84,85,87, 89,90,91), revealing original developments and analyzes that are being published for the first time in the country. Theoretical-methodological and practical-applied contributions: a systematic analysis of the risk factors for the progression of CKD, data on preventable infections that negatively affect the course of treatment, as well as on the evolution of diseases, was made. For the first time in Bulgaria, data are published on the place and role of microribonucleic acids in the diagnosis and

follow-up of CHD in adults. Relatively rare cases of deep vein thrombosis have been described in these diseases in early childhood. An analysis is made of the causes of loss of response to biological therapy, the progression of Crohn's disease (CD) after surgery, the application of modern small molecule treatment, the side adverse events of treatments with established anti-TNF antibodies, the application of adjuvant therapies, based on microribonucleic acids. An essential practical-applied contribution is the analysis of IBD during pregnancy and breastfeeding and the determination of the time for vaccination of these patients. For the first time in Bulgaria, a systematic analysis of the application of various questionnaires on the quality of life in IBD patients and its correlation with disease activity is carried out as a first step in personalizing the therapy.

II. Chronic liver diseases

The contributions of the publications in this area are practical-applied. Modern concepts of the clinic, diagnostics and therapeutic behavior in various liver diseases are systematized: chronic viral hepatitis (G8.25,30,31; IV-86), metabolic diseases (Wilson's disease) (G8.27), metabolically induced fatty liver disease (B4.1,10; G8.42), Gilbert's syndrome (G7.20), malignant tumors of the liver (G8.30,31). Rare liver diseases - hemangiomas of the liver (B4.7) and their treatment with established and innovative therapies (B4.7) are described. The experience of genetic sdudies of Gilbert's syndrome in children and adolescents is shared. The role of microribonucleic acids (G8.43), serological tests and transient elastography for the complex evaluation of patients with chronic hepatitis of different etiologies was analyzed (IV-86).

III. Metabolic syndrome, overweight, obesity

Some of the publications in this direction have a practical-applied contribution. Worldwide, there is an increase in overweight and obesity, as well as their impact on a number of diseases of the gastrointestinal tract. Some potential mechanisms of the influence of obesity on the most common and socially significant gastroenterological diseases such as gastroesophageal reflux disease, Barrett's esophagus, adenocarcinoma of the esophagus, gastric carcinoma, functional gastric disorders, irritable bowel syndrome, diverticulosis, celiac disease, polyps colon,IBD, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, a number of neoplasms, their complications and the relationship between their occurrence and chronic meta-inflammation have been systematized. (G8.56,59). On a global scale, the prevalence of IBD is increasing, as is the frequency of metabolic syndrome among IBD patients. The pathogenesis of both diseases is chronic inflammation. Obesity has been found to promote the rapid clearance of biologic drugs, regardless of drug dose, and is an independent predictor of poor

response to drug treatment. By the end of 2022, systematized recommendations for gastroenterologists will appear for the first time, regarding the importance of the complex assessment of obesity in patients with IBD, already at the first meeting with them, as well as recommendations covering the correction of the various aspects of influence that this essential and until recently unappreciated comorbidity can affect the quality of life, the progression of the disease, as well as the response to the respective treatment. These publications have, on the one hand, a theoretical-methodological contribution, and on the other hand, they can also be considered as practical-applied (B4.1,10; D8.25,40,47,48,49,56,57,58,63 ,64;II-69;III-89). A state-of-the-art analysis of some basic anthropometric characteristics of IBD patients combined with levels of circulating miRNAs was performed. Some treatment strategies for obesity have been investigated and are yet to be confirmed by clinical practice (G8.49). These publications have innovative theoretical, practical and practical-applied contributions, being first-of-its-kind studies that provide a correlation between treatment, miRNAs expression and some basic anthropometric data in these patients.

IV. Microribonucleic acids - application in IBD

Worldwide, there is an increasing number of publications investigating the expression of various miRNAs in patients with IBD, but there are still no reports of established and validated threshold values of miRNAs in patients with ulcerative colitis (UC) and CD. When describing the results, different methods of analysis are often used, which makes it difficult to compare the results obtained in different studies. The only guidelines for processing the information are in the direction of comparing the expression of individual miRNAs between patients with UC or CD and healthy controls, as well as determining whether the expression is increased or decreased. Other limitations when comparing the results are the different populations, the small samples, the different methods of processing the results, the use of different miRNAs and the study of their expression in different materials (mucosal tissue, serum, saliva, feces and others). In order to avoid the mentioned limitations of the literature, when analyzing the results in these publications, the threshold values, the accuracy of miRNAs for distinguishing UC from CD, the specificity, the sensitivity and the positive and negative predictive value of healthy controls were established. When comparing the serum expression of the investigated miRNAs in the CD and UC patients and the healthy controls in these publications, increased expression values were found for all miRNAs. Different miRNA-signatures have been constructed for activity and remission of both diseases. The contributions in this section can be organized as follows: Contributions of a theoretical nature

1. For the first time in Bulgaria, the application of miRNAs in IBD adult patients has been reflected in detail and comprehensively. (B1; B4.3)

2. A reliable, accurate and detailed description of the expression of miRNAs in IBD patients in stage activity and remission was performed. (B1; B4.3)

3. The expression of miRNAs was comprehensively reflected according to the characteristics of IBD patients and treatment. (B1)

Contributions of a practical and applied nature

1. Threshold values were determined for distinguishing the expression of miRNAs. (B1; B4.3)

2. A specific profile of patients with CD and UC was prepared based on the expression of miRNAs.(B1;B4.3,4;II-74)

3. Specific miRNAs were identified for remission and activity, localization, form of disease and treatment. (B1)

Contributions of original character

1. For the first time in Bulgaria, a panel of miRNAs was studied for the assessment of IBD in adult patients. (B1; B4.3,4,5,6,9)

2. For the first time in Bulgaria, the role of miRNAs, which have proven their effectiveness in characterizing cancer patients (miR-16, miR-28, miR-96, miR-155, miR-199 , miR-363 and miR-451).(B1;B4.9;D7.22;D8.46,51;II-66,67,70)

3. For the first time in Bulgaria, the expression of the studied miRNAs in relation to the applied therapy in patients with IBD has been described. (B1)

V. Vitamin D and its influence on gastroenterological diseases

This section of publications has a marked practical-applied contribution (B1; D7.14,15,21;D8.50;II-68,IV-85,89). A correlation was established between the serum expression of the investigated panel of miRNAs and vitamin D levels in IBD patients. It is still unclear whether vitamin D deficiency is a cause or a consequence of IBD, but vitamin D deficiency has a high prevalence among IBD patients. An in-depth analysis of the expression of miRNAs according to vitamin D levels was performed. For the first time in Bulgaria, studies of vitamin D levels were published, a correlation between the expression of certain miRNAs and vitamin D deficiency in IBD patients was proven.

VI. Preventable infectious diseases

The latest views on the etiology, pathogenesis, classifications, clinical variations, diagnosis and therapeutic impact of enterovirus enteritis are presented (G8.41). The main nosological entities, occurring with chronic diarrhea (G8.28), were analyzed. The frequency of Clostridium difficile infection (G8.37;IV-81), other preventable infections such as chronic hepatitis B, C, B+D (IV-83), among IBD patients, the factors influencing their occurrence were monitored , as well as the impact on the activity of UC and CD. The cases of latent and active tuberculosis in IBD the patients were analyzed. For the first time in Bulgaria, the data from a reference center for diagnosis, follow-up and treatment of IBD, regarding the frequency of latent and active tuberculosis in patients before and during biological treatment with anti-TNF-alfa antibodies (B4. 8; 44). These publications have both theoretical and practical contributions. The results are compared with data from similar European studies and global data, as there are no available publications on similar studies in other reference centers from Bulgaria. Analysis from another publication with small bowel tuberculosis mimicking CD (G8.38), a differential diagnosis that should not be missed in daily clinical practice, is also presented.

VII. Therapy of gastroenterological diseases

The contribution of these publications is theoretical-methodological and practical-applied. The application of various therapeutic modalities in the course of some gastroenterological diseases was analyzed, such as: gastroesophageal reflux disease (G8.64), HF (B4.8;G7.11,18;G8.35,44,45,61), probiotics in wide spectrum of gastroenterological diseases - controversial and established therapies, in obesity (Г4.10;Г8.49), in viral enteritis and in chronic diarrhea (Г8.28,41), therapy with incretins through the eyes of a gastroenterologist (Г8.32), nutrition as a therapy in immune-mediated diseases (G8.39), the application of Aronia Melanocarpa juice in overweight and obesity (G8.49), as well as an analysis of the possibilities of innovative treatment based on microribonucleic acids, probably the future of personalized therapy in many areas of medicine (G8.60).

VIII. Necroptosis in IBD

The analysis of a group of studies on a new marker for cell death has a theoretical and practical contribution. Studies in this area reveal the great possibilities of immunohistochemical evaluation of inflammation by the application of RIPK3 for the detection of necroptosis in patients with CD and UC in active and remission stages, after surgical intervention in connection with IBD, and as a prognostic factor in the course of various therapeutic regimens (D7.23,24;D8.53,54,55;IV-87).

IX. Genetic diseases - modern diagnostics

In recent years, many conventional modern non-instrumental and instrumental methods for the diagnosis of diseases of the digestive tract, biliary-liver and pancreatic systems have been approved worldwide. Of great importance is the increasingly widespread introduction of modern genetic methods for the diagnosis of both relatively more common diseases of the digestive system and rare single cases. HLA genotyping of children and adults with suspected celiac disease and their first-line relatives was analyzed, after which invasive endoscopic examination is not always necessary (G8.36). Genetic results confirming Gilbert's disease (D.7.20), a common disease in clinical practice and consultative gastroenterology, are presented. Theoretical-methodological and practical-applied contributions: for the first time in Bulgaria, the results of genetic studies of HLA genotyping in patients with celiac disease and their relatives and the genetic results for suspected Gilbert's disease are published.

X. Clinical cases

Several clinical cases from the rich palette of gastroenterological practice are presented. These diverse publications have mainly practical-applied contributions. The frequency of these diseases is different, but their presentation brings the experience of long-term practice: liver hemangiomas in childhood (B4.7); deep vein thrombosis in IBD in very early childhood, debut at the age of 2 years, and development of the complication in the course of relapse at the age of 3 years (G7.11); diagnosis, treatment and follow-up after resection of desmoid tumors of the small intestine in a kidney transplant patient (G8.33); the path of diagnosis and differential diagnosis between CD and small intestinal tuberculosis (G8.38); non-alcoholic fatty liver disease in frail individuals with a wide range of differential diagnosis (G8.42); the severe picture, evolution and follow-up of hematogenous-disseminated tuberculosis in an immunosuppressed patient with JA, with the formation of milia in the brain parenchyma (G8.44); diagnosis and treatment of musculus ileopsoas abscess in CD patient (IV-82).

7. Memberships

1. Bulgarian Medical Union

2. Bulgarian National Society of Gastroenterology, gastrointestinal endoscopy and abdominal ultrasound

3. Bulgarian Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy

4. The Bulgarian Society of Pediatric Gastroenterology, hepatology and nutrition (co-founder)

5. European Crohn's Colitis Organization

Conclusion:

The documentation presented to me for evaluation by Assoc. Prof. Antonia Yordanova Atanasova, MD, PhD, DSc shows excellent professional qualities, very good skills in conducting scientific research, making an adequate analysis of the obtained results and synthesizing the relevant conclusions. Assoc. Prof. Antonia Yordanova Atanasova, MD, PhD, DSc actively deals with students and interns at the Faculty of Medicine of the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" Varna, as can be seen from the submitted study load report.

I recommend to the respected Scientific Jury to vote positively for a decision - Assoc. Prof. Antonia Yordanova Atanasova, MD, PhD, DSc, to occupy the academic position of "PROFESSOR" in "GASTROENTEROLOGY" at the Department of "Anatomy and Cell Biology" of the Faculty of Medicine of the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna and Clinic of gastroenterology in University Hospital "St. Marina" EAD - Varna.

09/08/2024

Varna

With respect:

Prof. Miglena Georgieva, MD, PhD

Заличено на основание чл. 5, §1, б. „В“ от Регламент (ЕС) 2016/679