

R E V I E W

BY

Prof. Dr. Elena Dimitrova Dimitrakova, M.D., Ph.D.

Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology , Medical University - Plovdiv

Head of Maternity Department, Obstetrics and Gynecology Department - St. George Hospital - Plovdiv

Regarding: Procedure for acquiring the educational and scientific degree "Doctor of Philosophy(Ph.D.)" in Obstetrics and Gynecology, field of higher education: 7. Health and Sport, Professional field 7.1 Medicine at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Faculty of Medicine of MU - Varna, according to the Order № R- 109-151/ 13.03.2025 of the Rector of MU - Varna.

I. BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Dr. Antonio Dushepeev was born in 1962. He graduated medicine at the Medical University - Varna in 1989. He worked as a resident physician at the Municipal Hospital - Aytos until 1992. Since 1993 he has been practicing at the University Hospital Burgas JSC, and since 2009 he has been the head of the Maternity Ward at the same hospital. He acquired the specialty "Obstetrics and Gynecology" in 1995. The candidate is a doctoral student in independent study at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Faculty of Medicine of the Medical University of Varna.

Dr. Dushepeev certifies additional postgraduate training courses: Ultrasound in Ob/Gyn, laparoscopy, endocrinological gynecology, colposcopy, surgical obstetrics, pediatric-adolescent gynecology, urogynecology, assisted reproduction and reproductive medicine.

Teaching activity of the candidate includes training of students in Obstetrics and Gynecology from the specialty "Medical Rehabilitation and Ergotherapy" and specialty "Physical Therapist"- respectively in the period 2017/2018 and 2018/2019; training in the discipline "Assisting in emergency care"- 2019/2020; assistant professor in Ob/Gyn since 01.12.2023 at the Faculty of Medicine of the University "Prof. Asen Zlatarov"- Burgas.

Member of BMA and BSOB Gyn.

Fluent in English and Russian.

II. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PROBLEM:

The topic of the dissertation is existent. It concerns the so-called adolescent pregnancy, which is a global problem with a number of health, social and economic consequences. Adolescent pregnancy is a public health challenge worldwide arising from the increased risk of complications to mother and fetus.

The aim of this thesis is to explore obstetric problems in pregnancy, labour and during the puerperium in adolescence in its own empirical experience.

7 tasks are formulated:

1. To determine the age profile of the study group.
2. To observe the level of demand for medical services and consultations in pre-hospital care.
3. To study the frequency of abortions on demand in the adolescent age group.
4. To study the incidence of abortion, preterm birth and prematurity in adolescent age.
5. To assess the etiology and frequency of intrauterine death.
6. To analyze the deviations and differences in natural childbirth, indications for cesarean section, birth trauma and peculiarity of puerperium in adolescent delivery.
7. To compare the results obtained with those of the control group.

III. STRUCTURE OF THE DISSERTATION

The dissertation is written in 149 standard pages. It has a classical structure and includes the following sections: introduction, literature review, aim and objectives, materials and methods, own results and discussion, conclusions, contributions, bibliography.

The references used are 182, of which 3 in Cyrillic and 179 in Latin.

The dissertation is illustrated with 39 tables, 71 figures and 1 appendix.

The literature review is presented in 33 pages, and the author discusses successively the characteristics of growth and development of non-pregnant and pregnant girls, the incidence of abortion on demand, miscarriages, stillbirths, premature births, the mode of delivery, the characteristics of puerperium and newborns of adolescent age.

MATERIALS AND METHODS: The study is retrospective in nature and covers the period between 2016-2022. The clinical material used is from the University Hospital of Burgas. Of all pregnancies, 1290 pregnancies were in the adolescent age, and the author formed 2 subgroups: the first, covering the age between 10-15 years and the second-between 16-18 years. 1039 births were analyzed, of which 1024 ended with delivery of live babies and 15 were stillbirths. A control group consisting of 120 pregnant women aged between 20-24 years was also included for comparison reasons.

For data processing, the author used various methods: MS Excel 2019, a package of application programs for statistical analysis, interpretation and presentation of data SPSS Inc., IBM Statistics, medical statistical software MedCalc, dispersion, correlation and regression analysis, etc.

RESULTS: The author draws the following conclusions:

- Regarding the age profile of the female patients, the highest number of female patients were 17 years old, followed by 16 and 18 years old;
- Early menarche influences the onset of sexual intercourse and the age of first pregnancy;
- Anemia has the highest rate as an accompanying disease of pregnancy at adolescent age;
- Miscarriages are more common in adolescent pregnancies;

- A higher rate of preterm births and a higher rate of breech presentations of the fetus were reported;
- Deliveries through the natural birth canal is associated with a significantly higher incidence of episioorrhaphy, perineorrhaphy and tracheorrhaphy, and also with that of forceps assisted deliveries;
- The rate of caesarean deliveries in adolescent pregnancies was significantly lower than that in other pregnancies.

12 conclusions were formulated.

CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE DISSERTATION

There are those of an original and confirmatory nature. Noteworthy is the developed algorithm for behavior towards the adolescent pregnant women in distinct social groups with the prospect of reducing the incidence of adolescent pregnancies and effective prevention of the phenomenon "children giving birth to children".

IV. CONCLUSION

The documents submitted by the applicant in the present competition comply with the national requirements in the ADASRB (Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria) and its implementation at the Medical University - Varna.

In view of the above, I recommend to the respected members of the Scientific Jury to vote in favor of awarding Ph.D. degree to Dr. Antonio Hristov Dushepeev.

30.04.2025

Plovdiv

Reviewed by

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

/Prof. Dr. Elena Dimitrakova, M.D., Ph.D./