

Position

From Assoc. prof. Hristo Kirilov Zlatanov, PhD

Military Medical Academy – Sofia

Member of the Scientific Jury according to Order № P-109-414/25.11.2024г. of a dissertation for educational and scientific degree “PhD”.

Author: Dr. Polina Petrova Ivanova

Topic: “Postoperative period in rhinosurgery - packings, splints, postoperative care - types, necessity, effectiveness”

Research supervisor: Assoc. Prof. Georgi Petkov Iliev, PhD

Scientific consultant: Prof. Nikolai Rumenov Sapundzhiev, PhD

The presented dissertation concerns issues that face every otolaryngologist involved in rhinosurgery. The choice between nasal packing and splints after nasal surgery is a debatable topic and is usually dictated by the individual preferences of the surgeon, the price of the products, the hospital's material resources, and in some cases also by the patient's desire. There is no consensus in the literature regarding the optimal material for nasal packing in rhinosurgery, which makes the dissertation interesting and useful for everyday ENT practice. A comprehensive description of the various types of packing materials available on the market is valuable not only for their selection in planned surgeries, but also for their application in emergency situations in ambulatory practice.

The text is divided into 4 chapters, followed by conclusions and contributions. At the end of the scientific work, a bibliographic reference of 185 sources is presented. In the first chapter, an extensive overview is given describing the types of packing materials and the types of splints. Studies concerning complications after packing and use of splints, bacterial colonization, and the influence of nasal

packing on mucociliary clearance of the nasal cavity after use of such materials are cited. The second chapter describes the set goals, tasks, hypothesis and methodology of the conducted research. The third chapter presents the results obtained from the conducted research, presented in tables and graphs. Particular attention is paid to pain and discomfort before and after removal of tamponade and nasal splints. The effect of intranasal tamponades and splints on mucociliary clearance has been studied. The fourth chapter of the dissertation is dedicated to a detailed discussion of various studies that explore the advantages and disadvantages of nasal packing, usage of nasal splints, combined splints and tamponade, as well as the use of transseptal sutures in rhinosurgery.

In conclusion, I would like to highlight that the submitted scientific work tackles a crucial and socially relevant issue in the everyday practice of the otorhinolaryngologist. The comprehensive review of previous surgical experiences with nasal packing following septo/rhinoseptoplasty makes this work valuable reading for both specialists, residents and students in training.

I believe that the dissertation of Dr. Polina Petrova Ivanova complies with the requirements outlined in the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and its associated regulations, and I give a positive evaluation for the acquisition of the educational and scientific degree 'Doctor'."

20.01.2025
Sofia

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