

TO THE SCIENTIFIC JURY

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OF THE RECTOR OF MU Varna

CONTRIBUTION

BY PROF. DR. VILIYAN PLATIKANOV, D.M.

Subject: dissertation "CHANGES IN THE WATER-ELECTROLUTE BALANCE IN ORGAN DONORS WITH MENTAL DEATH AND THEIR CORRECTION IN THE INTENSIVE CARE CLINIC" for the award of the scientific and educational degree "Doctor" in the specialty "Anesthesiology and Intensive Care" with the cipher 03.01.38

Dissertant – d-r Borjana Ivanova Georgieva.

Dear colleagues,

I have been presented with documents for the preparation of an "opinion" on the award of the scientific and educational degree "Doctor" to Dr. Boryana Georgieva, PhD student at the Department of CASIM at the Faculty of Medicine, Medical University Varna.

The documents are in accordance with the requirements of the HPA and the PRAS of MU Varna.

Data about the dissertant

Dr. Georgieva was born in Chirpan, Bulgaria. She started working as a physician at Emergency service in Vulchi dol Medical Center, and from 2019 and currently she is a doctor specializing in anesthesiology and intensive care at the Department of Anesthesiology of St. Marina University Hospital. Since 2020 he has been an assistant professor at MU Varna and a regular PhD student at CASIM of MU Varna.

Introduction to the topic

Early recognition and demonstration of brain death is key to the success of the donation process. Diagnosis of patients involves clinical examination followed by a number of instrumental investigations to confirm the results already obtained. Once the diagnosis is made, an aggressive donor management policy is initiated. The implementation of organ-protective therapy aims to ensure optimally good perfusion of the organs and preserve them in the best possible condition until the time of explantation. Given the alterations in regulation at the hormonal level, the lack of opportunities for fluid intake and regulated excretion, autonomic dysregulation and a host of other causes, VER disorders are a frequent concomitant of sign of donor situations and require strict, accurate and timely correction. In this sense, this dissertation has its serious significance in conditioning potential organ donors.

Dissertation evaluation

I approach the evaluation of the dissertation with the clear vision that each dissertation is a unique piece of authorship for which there are no definitive boundaries or templates, but there are accepted ones by the scientific community that have been proven over many years of practice by scientific boards, societies, and numerous public defenses.

It is written in 132 standard typewritten pages, in plain language. It is structured in 7 main sections. It is illustrated with 52 tables and 45 figures.

Relevance: the relevance of the topic is beyond doubt. In the conditions of organ donor shortage and difficult transplantation process in Bulgaria, I believe that the chosen topic is relevant, modern and important for the treatment of patients and in this sense dissertable.

Structure: methodologically the thesis is structured correctly. The sections related to introduction to the topic, analysis of the literature, stated aim and objectives to be fulfilled, the object of the study, results and discussion on them and conclusions and contributions are distinguished. The statistical methods used are sound and of the required reliability.

Literature review - The analytical reading of the specific literature is well done. 124 references were reviewed, 5 in Cyrillic and 119 in Latin.

Main objective - I believe that it has been defined accurately and in line with the dissertation title.

Tasks - 5 scientifically tasks have been set, aimed at fulfilling the stated aim. They are formulated accurately and academically and find their solution in the obtained results.

In the section "**Material and methods**" the dissertation presents the design of her study, It is retrospective, observational and monocentric, conducted in the Clinic of Anesthesiology and Intensive Care of the University Hospital "St. Marina", Varna, for the period from 2014 to 2020. The statistical treatment is standard, valid and reliable, well presented in graphical form.

The **Results and Discussion** section presents the information obtained very clearly and accurately. The figures and tables are clearly labelled, the data are described concisely and clearly, so that the reader is not for a moment confused or feels the need for further clarification. The set tasks are fulfilled. Here the reader will find the essence of the entire scientific work in a concise form.

At the end of this section, the dissertator proposes an algorithm for the management of a potential donor with brain death, a fact that I find very valuable, as it offers interested colleagues a possible way to correct severely altered parameters in the area of water-electrolyte balance in this patient cohort.

The substantive part of the thesis ends with 6 **conclusions** that I accept derived from the results obtained.

Contributions - 4 contributions are presented with which I agree.

Publications: a list of 2 real publications in Bulgarian medical journals is presented - in electronic version at the reading address, in which the dissertant is the first author.

Critical notes:

1. I find minor technical errors in the spelling of individual words.

Conclusion:

It has been a pleasure to read the dissertation, remaining satisfied with the methodology, the results and their orderly analysis.

In view of the above judgments and despite the critical remarks, I believe that the dissertation is valuable and has all the necessary qualities to be awarded the scientific and educational degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

Prof. V. Platikanov

17. 06. 2024

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