



STATEMENT

By Associate Professor Dr. Kremen Tsvetanov Tsvetkov, Ph.D.
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Regarding: Competition for the occupation of the academic position "associate professor" in the field of higher education 7. Health care and sports, professional direction 7.1. Medicine, scientific specialty "Obstetrics and gynecology", with candidate
Dr. Zhivko Stoyanov Zhekov, MD

EVALUATION OF CONTRIBUTIONS

Personal contributions can be grouped into the following areas:

I. Contributions related to the dissertation work

In his dissertation work on "Methods for Termination of Pregnancy in Obstetrics and Gynecology Practice", Dr. Zhekov examines an actual and very important problem. Termination of pregnancy is the most frequently performed gynecological procedure, with more than 56 million abortions performed annually worldwide, the largest percentage of which is in the developing countries. In recent years, the efforts of doctors have been mainly aimed at improving the conditions and technique of performing abortions, as well as in terms of efficiency, safety and reduced risk of complications. Dr. Zhekov has focused his attention on this surgical manipulation.

The aim of the dissertation is clearly stated. For the fulfillment of the scientific goal, the dissertation student has set himself 8 tasks. For the fulfillment of the tasks, the author examined and studied 420 pregnant women who had an abortion. Randomized into four cohorts, two for each trimester: 140 MA I/ 140 VA; 70 MAII/ 70 D&E. The groups were compared by age of the patients, gestational week in which the abortion was performed, parity, mode of delivery (p.n., SC), history of previous abortion and number of abortions, history of previous vaginal infection and indications for termination of pregnancy (optional and medical). The structure of the compared groups for the two trimesters is approximately the same. The study was conducted at SBAGAL "Prof. Dr. D. Stamatov" EOOD - Varna and MBAL "St. Anna" - Varna, and covers a five-year period, from 2013 until 2018 and is retrospective and prospective in nature.

The methodology section of the dissertation is presented clearly. Patient data from both groups are presented clearly in tabular and graphical form. Patients were divided into two groups:



- First trimester pregnant (MA I VA)
- Second trimester pregnant (MA II D&E)

The results are presented in detail according to the research criteria in 25 tables and 72 graphics. Medical abortion in the I and II trimesters is highly effective (91.4) and safe, requiring time to expulse the uterine contents - on average 7 hours (I trimester) and 8 hours for (II trimester). The relative proportion of early complications in medical abortion in the first trimester is two to three times greater than that of vacuum aspiration. The use of surgical abortion by dilation and evacuation is associated with a greater relative risk of sterility and late complications. Risk factors for the occurrence of these late complications are previous vaginal infection, abortion, and previous cesarean section.

II. Contributions in other thematic areas not related to the dissertation work:

The presented scientific works and the results of the research work of Dr. Zhivko Stoyanov Zhekov, Ph.D. are thematically divided into the following scientific areas:

- I. Organization, conditions and conduct of abortion in hospital settings
 1. Organization of abortion activities - our and world experience
 2. Carrying out medical abortion
- II. Clinical evaluation of the procedure Abortion on medical indications
- III. Obstetric behavior in case of established pathology of genital or extragenital origin
 1. Pregnancy and infectious diseases
 2. Pregnancy and accompanying pathology
- IV. Innovations in obstetrics and gynecology practice

III. Contributions related to a monographic work on the topic: "Modern methods of artificial abortion in obstetrics and gynecology practice". Dr. Zhivko Zhekov examines important problems of medical and social importance. Abortion is the most frequently performed gynecological procedure. Unfortunately, Bulgaria ranks first in Europe in terms of the number of voluntary abortions.

In his monograph, Dr. Zhekov has analyzed the efforts of obstetrician-gynecologists, which are mainly aimed at improving the conditions and technique of performing abortions, as well as in terms of efficiency, safety and reduced risk of complications.

Of particular interest is the comparison between medical and conventional abortion. The advantages and disadvantages of each of them, risk factors for early and late complications, clinical effectiveness and safety, economic feasibility and patient satisfaction are described in detail.

In his monograph, Dr. Zhekov examined a large number of literary sources in Latin and Cyrillic, most of them from recent years. Analyzing and interpreting contemporary productions etc. Zhekov clearly emphasizes the topicality of the targeted problems and his desire to study them.

The author has extensive practical experience in the field of obstetrics and gynecology, accumulated over the years in the gynecology department of the "St. Anna" Medical Center and the SBAGAL "Prof. Dr. Dimitar Stamatov" Varna. He is the head of the gynecology department at SBAGAL "Prof. Dr. Dimitar Stamatov" Varna and chief assistant at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Medical University of Varna.



In his monographic work, Dr. Zhivko Zhekov emphasizes that the treatment of patients should be individualized according to the specific characteristics, offering an optimized approach in the selection of patients for termination of pregnancy.

Dr. Zhekov's monograph is an example of a scientific work with a clinical and practical orientation. The monographic work of Dr. Zhivko Zhekov is a significant contribution to the modern specialized literature in the field of gynecological practice.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH ACTIVITY

The candidate submits for the competition a dissertation on the topic: "Methods for termination of pregnancy in obstetrics and gynecology practice", a monograph on the topic "Modern methods of artificial abortion in obstetrics and gynecology practice", as well as 26 full-text publications in our and foreign scientific journals, meeting the regulatory requirements.

Participation in courses

Dr. Zhivko Zhekov's professional interests are in the field of gynecology, oncogynecology, endoscopic gynecological surgery, obstetrics, ultrasound diagnostics in obstetrics and gynecology, for which he has the relevant certificates.

1. Laparoscopy
2. Colposcopy and cryodestruction of the cervix of the uterus
3. Operative gynecology
4. Gynecological laparoscopy and hysteroscopy
5. Ultrasound diagnostics in Obstetrics and Gynecology
6. Maternal-fetal medicine

Brief biographical data

Dr. Zhivko Stoyanov Zhekov was born on October 26, 1961, in the town of Silistra. He graduated from the Medical University - Varna in 1987. He acquired a specialty in Obstetrics and Gynecology in 1993. From 1993 to 2016, he worked at the "St. Anna" city of Varna, as a doctor in the gynecology department. From 2016 until now, he works at SBAGAL "Prof. Dr. D. Stamatov" city of Varna, as the head of the gynecology department.

From 2017-2021, Dr. Zhekov is an assistant at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna. In 2021, he successfully defended his dissertation on the topic: "Methods for Termination of Pregnancy in Obstetrics and Gynecology Practice", with scientific supervisor Assoc.Prof. Dr. Kremen Tsvetanov Tsvetkov, MD.

After successfully winning a competition in 2021, he was appointed to the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - city of Varna, as chief assistant.

Conclusion

The scientific production presented by Dr. Zhekov meets the generally accepted standards. Based on the scientometric criteria and the educational and teaching activity, I believe that Dr. Zhivko Zhekov, Ph.D. meets all the requirements for acquiring the academic position "associate professor".

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I take the liberty of recommending to the respected members of the Scientific Jury to vote positively for awarding the academic position of "associate professor" in the scientific specialty "Obstetrics and Gynecology" to Dr. Zhivko Zhekov, according to the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff at the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov", city of Varna.

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