

**TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SCIENTIFIC JURY
DETERMINED BY ORDER
№ P-109-83 / 11.03.2021
OF HIS RECTOR - VARNA**

**OPINION
from Assoc. Prof. Dr. Stefan Vasilev Kisiov, MD
Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at MU - Varna**

**regarding the work presented for defense by Dr. Zhivko Stoyanov Zhekov
"METHODS FOR TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY IN OBSTETRICS AND
GYNECOLOGICAL PRACTICE" for obtaining the educational and scientific degree
"DOCTOR", in the scientific specialty "Obstetrics and Gynecology"**

The work submitted for official defense contains a total of 150 pages of printed text with a total of 25 tables and 72 graphics included. This volume also includes a list of publications in connection with the dissertation material, where a total of 207 titles appear, of which 33 are in Cyrillic and 174 - in Latin. The exposition of the bibliography corresponds to the standard adopted in our country. **THE LITERATURE REVIEW** (53 pages in total) is adequate in volume for the whole work.

Dr. Zhekov has carefully studied the literary sources, most of which are from the last ten years. All publications in Cyrillic are by Bulgarian authors. The book is correctly arranged in alphabetical order.

THE OVERVIEW is structured correctly, the current knowledge on the problem is reflected, its cognitive value is a good basis for the development of the dissertation.

The presented sources are from authoritative and specialized publications.

The **OBJECTIVE** set by the doctoral student is to perform a comparative analysis of the used abortion methods (surgical and medical) in the modern obstetric and gynecological practice, optimizing the criteria for application of the procedures during the I and II trimester of pregnancy. The dissertation sets itself six main **TASKS** for implementation. The tasks are logical and performed progressively - contingent selection, diagnostic process, comparison of the two types of abortion methods in terms of effectiveness, safety, success of early and late complications and the final comparative evaluation of the results.

OBJECT of the study is a group of a total of 420 patients pregnant with indications for termination of pregnancy. Patients are divided into two groups, according to the type of abortion (medical or surgical). The study was conducted in SBAGAL "Prof. Dr. D. Stamatov " - Varna and MBAL " St. Anna " - Varna for the period from 2013 to 2018. I believe that the scale of the studied contingent is sufficient to obtain reliable results and, accordingly, conclusions.

Dr. Zhekov presented his own **RESULTS** and **DISCUSSION** in a total of 51 pages in the paper. Medical abortion in the first and second trimesters is highly effective (91.4) and safe, requiring time to expel the uterine contents - an average of 7 hours (first trimester) and 8 hours for (second trimester). The relative proportion of early complications of medical abortion in the first trimester is two to three times greater than that of vacuum aspiration. The use of surgical abortion through dilatation and evacuation is associated with a higher relative risk of infertility and late complications. Risk factors for these late complications include previous vaginal infection, abortion, and a cesarean section.

I evaluate the obtained results of Dr. Zhekov as completely reliable and potentially reproducible in clinical practice.

The presented a total of eight **CONCLUSIONS** show the integral approach of the dissertation to this important surgical procedure. The advantages of medical abortion in the second trimester, and surgical abortion in the first trimester, in terms of effectiveness, early and late complications and economic feasibility, are clearly stated. The conclusions are logical and derive directly from the results of the dissertation.

THE **CONTRIBUTIONS**, also eight in number, are divided into two sections, contributions of a confirmatory nature and contributions of an original nature. The contributions are directly related to the results and the most significant should be those of an original nature, assessing the value of the relevant proven schemes for the use of Topogyne in medical abortion in the second trimester. The **LIST** of publications related to the topic includes a total of 3 titles, two of which are in the journal "Reproductive Health" and one in the journal "Obstetrics and Gynecology". This covers the minimum required publishing activity.

CONCLUSION

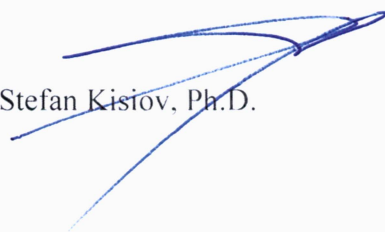
The dissertation material "Methods for termination of pregnancy in obstetric and gynecological practice" presented by Dr. Zhekov has the qualities of a dissertation. It is up-to-date, interesting

and complete material, with good structure and content. The set objectives and the tasks arising from it have been fulfilled reliably.

Having in mind the good and accurate presentation of the material and the adequate visualization of the material, I strongly suggest to the respected members of Scientific Jury to award Dr. Zhivko Zhekov the scientific and educational degree "DOCTOR", in the scientific specialty "Obstetrics and Gynecology".

05.04. 2021

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Stefan Kisiov, Ph.D.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping, sweeping lines that form a stylized, abstract shape.