

Standpoint

By Prof. Dr. Stefan Ivanov Ivanov, MD, PhD, DSc,

Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology

Medical University - Varna

ON

**Acquisition by Dr. Elis Hudaim Ismail of the Doctor of Science
Higher Education 7. Higher education in sports, professional field
7.1 Medicine and specialty "Obstetrics and Gynecology"**

INTRODUCTION

Endometrial cancer is one of the most common malignancies in women with high incidence and mortality worldwide, including in Bulgaria. In the USA, over 60.000 newly cases have been diagnosed. The main risk factors for this type of cancer are hypertension, diabetes, obesity, polycystic ovaries and anovulation. The aging and obese populations of the developed world are contributing to this. As a doctor, I defended 2 dissertations in the field of endometrial carcinoma and it made me very pleased that the doctoral thesis was directed to endometrial carcinoma stage I according to FIGO, which is interesting for research from a research point of view. Assoc. prof. Ismail has tried to research and study her experience by comparing it with the world trends and results in this field. In this way, it seeks to contribute to the way diagnostics, treatment, survival and the creation of algorithms in this field.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

Associate Professor Elis Hudaim Ismail was born on 04.06.1983 in the town of Shumen. In 2001 she graduated from high school at Tr. Simeonov's profile biology and chemistry Shumen.

In 2002 – 2008 acquired a specialty in medicine at the Medical University - Varna
November 2015 she graduated with a Master's Degree in Health Management from the Medical University - Varna.

December 2015 - takes a specialty in Obstetrics and Gynecology

Courses and specializations

It is noteworthy that many of the courses taught by Assoc. prof. E. Ismail:

- May 14-15, 2012 - Sofia - a colposcopy course with Prof. Albert Singer.
- June 1-2, 2012 participation in ENYGO, Skopje Macedonia
- 10 - 12 November 2012 participation in ENYGO TTT - Workshop, Berlin, Germany
- 2014 and 2015 - training and certificate for "Diagnostic laparoscopy in gynecology" - level I and II, Pleven
- June 25 - 26, 2015 - training and certificate for "Diagnostic and office hysteroscopy" - Level I, Pleven
- May 30, 2013 defends dissertation work for the acquisition of the Doctor of Medicine
- September 28, 2015 - June 13, 2016 - Assistant Professor at the Shumen Branch, Department of Health Care
- September 2017 until now works as Associate Professor at the Department of Health Care - Shumen - Medical University - Varna
- Since 2013 until now a national representative of ENYGO for Bulgaria.
- Languages - Bulgarian, English and Turkish

SCIENTIFIC PRODUCTS

It is noteworthy that the rich scientific production of Assoc. Prof. Ismail - 120 publications.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Assoc. Prof. Ismail has scientific interests both in the field of cervical cancer T1B1 and in the field of endometrial carcinoma - FIGO stage I.

STRUCTURE OF THE DISSERTATION

Assoc. Prof. Ismail's dissertation is very well structured: contains 165 pages, 20 figures and 33 tables. 211 literary sources were cited, of which 3 were from Bulgarian authors, 3 were internet sources and 199 were foreign authors.

STATISTICAL RESULTS

A retrospective clinical trial for the period 2009 - 2014 was conducted, involving 159 patients with endometrial cancer treated and monitored at the Gynecology Clinic of the „St. Anna ”- Varna AD and Oncology Hospital - Varna

DISSERTATION CONCLUSIONS

I completely agree with all the conclusions made by the dissertation of this so current, modern and innovative work (14 in number). I would like to point out some of them:

- The overall and disease - free survival rate of stage I endometrial endometroid cancer is 89.3% and 93.75%, respectively. This histological appearance has a favorable prognosis.
- The recurrence rate (local and distant) of the studied contingent is 6.25%.
- Distant recurrences in parenchymal organs (liver, lung) are 71% of recurrences.

- Over 50% of relapse cases occur within the first 2 years
- Thorough staging with precision imaging (CT scan with contrast, MRI or PET / CT) of the abdomen and lung before surgery is essential, especially in cases with adverse histological data (G3, LVSI).
- Treatment for recurrence is unsuccessful regardless of the therapeutic agents used (TGT, ChT and hormone therapy).
- Lymph node metastases have poor prognostic treatment regardless of the TGT /ChT applied.
- LVSI (positive) patients have a 28-month less median survival than negative
- Patients at increased risk (MI > ½, IB stage, G3, LVSI, LNM) radiotherapy should be combined with brachytherapy and / or chemotherapy.
- LVSI and G3 are independent factors that reduce both overall and disease-free survival.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE DIAGNOSIS OF “ENDOMETRIAL CARCINOMA”

- In the absence of distant or lymphatic metastases from imaging, the volume of surgical treatment is total hysterectomy with adnexa and assesment by palpation of the retroperitoneal lymph nodes.

It is very good to note that the dissertation is in solidarity with other authors such as Prof. N. Hacker, Prof. S. Ivanov, who have worked in this field, recommending lymph node dissection only at enlarged lymph nodes.

- Chemotherapy and brachytherapy are recommended postoperatively in the presence of LNM, LVSI, G3.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE DISSERTATION

I agree with all the contributions of the dissertation (13 in number).

I want to look at some of them:

- For the first time in Bulgaria, is performed a retrospective clinical and epidemiological study covering 112 patients with endometroid endometrial carcinoma.
- Quantitative assessment of risk factors for unanticipated survival (for the first time in Bulgaria)
- Analyzed of the unfavourable histological factors to influence disease-free survival.

CONCLUSION

I know Assoc. Prof. Elis Ismail as an extremely conscientious, hardworking and innovative colleague who works beautifully in a team. I have a great impression on her and will rely on joint present and future work in the field of research as well as modern oncogynecologic surgery.

Her dissertation fully meets the rules and scientometric criteria and requirements of Medical university - Varna.

On the basis of the above, I strongly recommend that the Honorable Members of the Scientific Jury vote with a positive vote for the Doctorate of Science degree in Obstetrics and Gynecology from Assoc. Prof. Elis Ismail.

05 Sep 2019

Prof. Dr. Stefan Ivanov Ivanov, MD, PhD, DSc

Varna