

STATEMENT

By Prof. Dr. Dimitar Zhivkov Stoykov, DSc

Vice-rector of the MU Pleven

Head of the Department Surgical diseases

Head of the First Surgical Clinic

University Hospital "Dr. Georgi Stranski" - Pleven

On dissertation:

"Intra-abdominal Abscesses."

for the award of the degree of Doctor of Science

in scientific specialty "Surgery

"Assoc. Prof. Dr. Plamen Milchev Chernopolsky, PhD

Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna,

Faculty of Medicine, Department of Surgical Diseases

On the basis of the Order № P-109-453/06.11.2023 of the Rector of MU - Varna I am appointed to participate as an external member of the Scientific Jury in the procedure for the acquisition of the degree of Doctor of Sciences of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Plamen Milchev Chernopolsky, PhD, and by Protocol № 1 of 13.11.2023 from the first meeting of the Jury I am appointed to prepare a statement.

The documents on the Dissertation of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Plamen Milchev Chernopolsky, PhD, for the award of the degree of Doctor of Sciences have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB) and the regulations for its implementation.

Biographical data: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Plamen Chernopolsky, PhD was born in 1980 and graduated in 1998 from the Secondary School of Foreign Languages - Vidin. In 2005 he graduated from the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna, specialty "Medicine". Acquired specialty in Surgery in 2011. 2015 - PhD, and since 2016 - Associate Professor. He speaks English and French.

Relevance of the dissertation

The dissertation work of Assoc. Prof. Plamen Chernopolsky, PhD treats one of the particularly problematic pathologies in the daily practice of surgeons, requiring rapid and adequate methods for diagnosis and treatment and often associated with multiple complications and prolonged hospital stay, and not rare with repeated surgical interventions.

Review of the dissertation

The dissertation of Assoc. Prof. Plamen Chernopolsky, PhD is written in 372 standard pages, of which 42 pages present the literature sources used. The bibliographic reference includes 362 titles, of which 18 in Cyrillic and 344 in Latin. The material is illustrated with 113 tables and 77 figures.

The aim is correctly formulated and the tasks for achieving it - 5 in number, are logically and directionally derived.

The design of the study is a retrospective analysis and covers a total of 555 patients with intra-abdominal abscesses who were hospitalized and treated at the Second Department of Surgery of the University Hospital "St. Marina"-Varna for a period of 10 years - 2011 to 2020.

All patients are examined in detail, and the dissertation presents the methods of examination comprehensive - clinical symptoms, laboratory tests, imaging studies, endoscopic procedures and laparoscopy. In all patients the analysis of the

type of microbiological causative agent was performed, according to which an algorithm for antibiotic therapy was derived.

The analysis of different localizations of intra-abdominal abscesses was performed and treatment methods were proposed according to the anatomical features of the affected organs, which were thoroughly justified.

Special attention is paid to the concomitant diseases and complications, and their impact on the outcome of the treatment process is demonstrated.

All the results of the examinations, operative and drainage procedures, available concomitant diseases and complications were subjected to statistical analysis, which confirmed the reliability of the results.

An algorithm for the diagnosis and treatment of intra-abdominal abscesses with real application in clinical practice was developed.

The conclusions are **8** in number and show that they answer the stated aim and objectives.

The contributions are **5** and are of an applied and confirmatory nature and reflect the activities of the dissertation and the team of the Clinic in which he works.

Assoc. Prof. Plamen Chernopolsky, PhD has 10 publications related to the dissertation work.

In conclusion, I would like to state that my submitted dissertation is complete, distinguished by original points and application in surgical practice. The thesis meets the criteria for the award of the degree of Doctor of Science.

I vote **POSITIVE** and recommend the members of the scientific jury to give their positive vote.

07.12.2023

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With respect:

/Prof. Dr D. Stoykov, DSc/