

To
The Chairman of the Scientific Jury,
determined by Order No. P-109-411 of September 27, 2023.
of the Rector of the MU - Varna

O P I N I O N

by Prof. Dr. Nikolay Hristov Kolev, MD
Head of the Urology Clinic
UMBAL "Dr. Georgi Stranski" Pleven
Pleven Medical University

Regarding: defense of the dissertation work of **Assoc. Dr. Tosho Yordanov Ganey, MD, for the acquisition of the academic degree "Doctor of Sciences" on the topic: "Multimodal strategy for the treatment of high-risk prostate cancer"**, in the field of higher education education 7. **"Health care and sports"**, by professional direction 7.1. **"Medicine"** in scientific specialty **"Urology"**.

Dear Members of the Scientific Jury,

All the necessary documents were prepared by Prof. Ganey, in compliance with the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the

Republic of Bulgaria (ZRASRB), the Regulations to it and the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of the University of Varna.

For the competition, Prof. Ganev has submitted all the necessary documents, in accordance with the ZRASRB and the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff at the Medical University-Varna.

Professional and academic development

Associate Professor Tosho Ganev has 29 years of general medical experience, all of which was spent within the academic institution where the current competition is held. He graduated from the Medical University of Varna in 1993. In 1994, he was appointed as a resident of Department of Surgical Diseases, Department of Urology, Varna. From 1994 to 1999 he specialized in urology. In 1998, he was appointed as an assistant in the same department. Since 2008, he has been the main assistant. In 2009, he defended the educational and scientific degree "doctor". In 2013, he was elected as a docent in the scientific specialty "Urology" at Varna Medical University. From 2017 to now, he is the head of the Department of Urology.

Prostate cancer is the most common neoplasm in men over 50 years of age in developed countries. The dissertation is dedicated to a very current and widely discussed topic in the scientific urological literature - the multimodal treatment of high-risk prostate cancer. Prof. Ganev's work is a systematization of the world's scientific achievements in the field of surgical treatment of prostate cancer, with shared personal experience and observations of the results of the treatment of 871 patients with advanced prostate cancer. The patients were treated at the "St. Anna" Varna for the period 1996-2022. Based on extensive experience, statistical factors for disease progression, their impact on overall survival and predictors of patient death are considered. Multimodal treatment is the modern and current behavior in high-risk patients.

The methodological level of the dissertation is high. The conclusions drawn at the end of the dissertation correspond to the obtained results. The contributions are very well systematized, which I appreciate positively based on the results. The abstract reflects the scientific articles included in the dissertation and the conclusions formulated therein.

The conclusions made are based on scientific-theoretical and scientific-practical conclusions.

Scientific analysis.

It is clear from the presented reference that 10 scientific articles have been published on the topic of the dissertation, 1 of which in journals with an impact factor. In the publications, Prof. Ganev is the 1st author of 2 articles and the second author of 6 articles, which is indisputable proof of his leading role in research. The citations (according to Scopus and Web of Science) of the publications are 10. Assoc. Dr. Ganev was the scientific supervisor of 4 doctoral students. The scientometric analysis shows that the "Requirements" of the Medical University-Varna for a dissertation for the acquisition of the scientific degree "Doctor of Sciences" have been achieved by all indicators.

Abstract.

The presented abstract is done qualitatively, according to the requirements and clearly reflects the research carried out by Prof. Ganev.

Conclusion

With his dedication to the profession and his personal example, Prof. Ganev managed to train and educate many young urologists. I am convinced that the

high surgical qualification, the multifaceted diagnostic-therapeutic and scientific activity of Assoc. Dr. Tosho Ganev, MD. meet all requirements.

All this gives me a moral reason to recommend to the honorable scientific jury to vote positively for the acquisition of Assoc. Dr. Tosho Ganev, MD. of the academic degree "Doctor of Sciences" in the scientific specialty "Urology".

30.10.2023

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'N. Kolev', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Prof. Dr. Nikolay Kolev, MD