

STATEMENT

Head of Department General and operative surgery MU Varna.

for the award of scientific degree “Doctor of Science” in the field of higher education 7. "Health and Sport" in the professional field 7.1. "Medicine" and scientific specialty "Surgery" .

of MU-Varna P-109-452/06.11.23 г. I am elected as an internal member of of the scientific degree “Doctor of Science” to Assoc. Prof. Vasil Markov Bozhkov MD, PhD. By protocol №1/13.11.2023 of the first session I am elected to prepare a

The documents of the dissertation of Assoc. Prof. Vasil Markov Bozhkov MD, PhD are prepared according requirements to the The Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the regulations for its application and the rules of Medical University - Varna.

The dissertation consists 250 250 standard pages and the followed structure: Introduction – 3 pp., literature review – 48 pp., Aim and tasks – 2 pp., Material -12 pp., Methods – 15 pp., Results – 9 pp., Discussion – 83 pp., Conclusions – 1 p., Contirbutions – 1 p., Publications related to the dissertations – 3 pp., Bibliography – 60 pp.

The bibliography includes 510 sourses, 17 in cyrillic and 493 in latin.

The dissertation is illustrated with 45 figures, 12 tables and 29 images.

The topic of this dissertation is contemporary and dissertationable, addressing problems and proposing solutions regarding the treatment of postcholecystectomy syndrome.

The literature review is 48 pages long. It contains historical data, detailed anatomy of the gallbladder and extrahepatic bile ducts, definition and causes of postcholecystectomy syndrome. Imaging methods, surgical and minimally invasive procedures for its treatment are presented. The most common bacterial isolates from biliary cultures are also mentioned.

The dissertant sets a clearly formulated aim, namely: to study, analyze and apply in clinical practice the current diagnostic and therapeutic strategies and treatment methods in patients with PCOS, in order to optimize outcomes and reduce complications and mortality in operated patients.

The tasks, which are 5 in number, following a logical the aim.

In the section Material, retro and prospectively 1532 patients with GBD and its complications were followed up as 262 of them were with PCS, operated in the Second Clinic of Surgery of University Hospital "Sveta Marina" - Varna. Demographic characterization was performed in all patients, and it is noteworthy that the most affected age in both patients with CBD and its complications was 61-70, while in those with PCS it was 51-60, which is also in line with worldwide literature data.

In the Methods chapter, all modern imaging methods are described, as well as their combination with the main goal of identifying the cause of PCS. A detailed microbiological diagnosis with identification of the bacterial causative agents is performed, which is of particular importance for the correct choice of antibacterial agent.

The section Results describes the data obtained from the applied diagnostic methods, as well as the applied surgical interventions as their choice is strictly individual according to the intraoperative findings.

The Discussion section is divided into two stages of the development of biliary surgery up to the laparoscopic era and into the laparoscopic era. From the analysis, it is striking that the incidence of PCS, and especially of BDI, was much lower in the pre laparoscopic era than in the laparoscopic era. The financial aspects of laparoscopic cholecystectomy in different countries are also given special attention.

The dissertation ends with six conclusions that fully meet the aim and tasks.

The five contributions are of scientific, applied and confirmatory value and are the result of the activities of the dissertant and the team of the Clinic where he works.

Assoc. Prof. Vasil Markov Bozhkov MD, PhD graduates MU- Varna in 1998. 1999 – specialization in surgery. 2002 – surgeon in Second Department of Surgery UMHAT Saint Marina Varna. 2007- assistant in Department of Surgery in the Faculty of Medicine of MU -Varna. In 2013 PhD. In 2015 – Associate professor in Department of Surgery.

The dissertation of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vasil Markov Bozhkov MD PhD is of high scientific and practical value, meets all scientific criteria, which gives me the right to propose to the esteemed Scientific Jury to award the scientific degree "Doctor of Sciences" to Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vasil Markov Bozhkov MD PhD

06.12.2023r.

Varna

Reviewer

Prof. Dr Krasimir Ivanov MD PhD DSc.