

TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SCIENTIFIC JURY
APPOINTED BY ORDER №15-03-432#1/15.11.2023
THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND THE PROCURATOR
ON „ACIBADEM CITY CLINIC UMBAL TOKUDA“ EAD
BASED ON A DECISION OF THE SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL
PROTOCOL № 49/01.11.2023

OPINION

**By Assoc. prof. Dr Lachezar B. Lozanov, PhD.,
Head of Internal diseases clinic
„Acbadem City Clinic University Hospital Tokuda“ EAD**

SUBJECT: Dissertation on topic „MALIGNANT ASCITES AND PLACE OF PERITONEAL TUNNEL CATHETERS IN THEIR TREATMENT“ for awarding educational and scientific degree «PhD», in the field of Higher Education 7. Healthcare and sports, professional field 7.1., Medicine, doctoral program „Internal diseases“.

Of Dr. KRASEN ZDRAVKOV IVANOV - PhD student of self-training at the Clinic of Internal Diseases „Acibadem CityClinic University Hospital Tokuda“ EAD

Scientific Supervisor: Prof. dr. Simeon Stoynov, DSc

Dear members of the Scientific Jury,

The dissertation work of Dr. Krasen Ivanov for the treatment of malignant ascites is devoted to one of the socially significant problems in clinical gastroenterology, closely related to clinical oncology, leading to severely impaired quality of life and increased mortality of these patients. In addition, ascites leads to local and systemic complications of a mechanical nature, impaired renal drainage and compression, which pose a danger for future severe disorders of cardio-circulatory and electrolytic nature. In this regard, the search for new algorithms for behavior in these patients becomes particularly relevant.

The author makes a detailed analysis of the different types of ascites and differential diagnosis, which gives him the basis to introduce scientifically-based criteria for conducting the procedure with tunnel catheters, which are related to the safety of their implantation and their effectiveness after that. Dr. Krasen Ivanov presents the Bulgarian experience, where he has played a leading role so far.

The advantage of this type of procedure is demonstrated over traditional paracentesis, both in terms of clinical impact and as a method requiring less financial resources. It has been shown that this type of treatment is significantly more physiological, safer and with fewer complications than those established so far.

The dissertation paper has a sufficient volume of 112 printed pages, observing the main generally accepted sections for dissertation, well illustrated with 22 figures and 38 tables, 146 titles are cited, of which 10 from Bulgarian authors and 136 from foreign authors are correctly formulated and structured.

The goal is clear and precise. A large number of patients – 124, for a period of 7 years, were examined. The 7 tasks were completed, and the analysis of the results allowed the goal to be fulfilled.

The dignity of the dissertation is the creation of an algorithm for the selection of patients suitable for the manipulation. There are 13 conclusions and 7 contributions with original and great scientific potential.

The abstract is consistent with the academic requirements and meets the content of the dissertation. The doctoral student has systematically participated with original publications on the topic, participated with presentations on the topic of scientific conferences and fulfilled all the necessary requirements.

CONCLUSION:

The presented documents and the dissertation work „Malignant ascites and place of peritoneal tunnel catheters in their treatment” meet all the requirements of the Law on the development of academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (RASRB), The Regulations for the implementation of RASRB and the specific requirements adopted in connection with the Regulations of „Acibadem City Clinic University Hospital Tokuda” EAD. No plagiarism was found.

The dissertation work of Dr. Krasen Zdravkov Ivanov is up-to-date and properly structured. The design of the individual studies and the overall design of the development correspond to the set goals and objectives. The material and methods are well selected and executed with precision. The conclusions are justified and result from the results obtained.

In view of the above, I confidently give my POSITIVE assessment of the dissertation and propose to the Honourable Scientific Jury to award the deserved educational and scientific degree „PhD” in the field of higher education 7. Healthcare and sport, professional field 7.1. Medicine, doctorate program „Internal diseases” of Dr. Krasen Zdravkov Ivanov, for which convincingly vote „Yes”.

Sofia, 07.12.2023

Drafted the opinion:
Assoc. prof. Lachezar B. Lozanov, PhD,
Head of Internal diseases clinic

