

STANDPOINT

By Prof. Dr. Eugene Hristakieva Hristakieva, MD

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On the procedure for acquiring the ONS "Doctor", PN 7.1. Medicine, doctoral program "Dermatology and Venereology", of **Dr. Dimitar Todorov Cherkezov**, external doctoral student in independent training at the Clinic of Skin and Venereal Diseases of Acibadem City Clinic Umbal Tokuda" EAD Sofia

The documents provided to me by the candidate meet the requirements of the ZRASRB, the regulations for its implementation and the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff at "Acibadem City Clinic Umbal Tokuda EAD Sofia".

The candidate, Dr. Dimitar Todorov Cherkezov, obtained a specialty in skin and venereal diseases at the Medical University - Sofia in 2022 and currently holds the position of Head of the Department of Skin and Venereological Diseases at the St. Sofia Hospital - EOOD, Sofia

The presented dissertation on the topic "Genital warts in dermatovenereological practice - diagnostic and therapeutic aspects" complies with the requirements for obtaining the educational and scientific degree "Doctor".

The dissertation is written on 130 standard printed pages and is illustrated with 32 tables and 6 figures. Its content includes: introduction, literature review, material and methods, results, discussion, conclusions and recommendations, contributions and bibliography. The purpose of the work is clearly formulated, and the tasks, 10 in number, are adequately defined and implemented. The in-depth literature review of 119 sources, of which 32 by Bulgarian authors, shows that the doctoral student knows the topic very well and creatively evaluates the literary material. The statistical methods used are modern and allow for the reliability of the results of the dissertation work. The results are presented in detail and in detail, arranged according to the formulated tasks and included methods.

The dissertation work is extremely up-to-date, with epidemiological in-depth studies on genital HPV infections and with high practical value for Venereological science in Bulgaria. The basis of the study included 332 men with anogenital warts, subjected to a thorough clinical, virological and therapeutic study. The methodology is systematized and covers a wide range of studies - PCR-typing, evaluation of clinical data and comparison of the effectiveness of six



different therapeutic approaches. The statistical processing of the results is thorough and consistent with good scientific practices.

The contributions are presented as 4 original and 4 of a scientific-applied nature. I find the large-scale epidemiological study on the spread, course, treatment and prevention of genital HPV infection in men in Bulgaria, as well as the correlation and comparative analysis between the viral genotype, the clinical form of warts and the applied therapeutic method, particularly significant. I believe that the conclusions of a scientific and applied nature are extremely important for the Bulgarian dermatovenereological care, relevant for the Health Insurance System and the responsible institutions in the country for implementing an adequate policy on the registration, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of HPV infection. The dissertation also contributes to the comprehensive approach to treatment, including six methods analyzed in terms of effectiveness, recurrence and side effects, assessment of the quality of life in patients and the impact of the infection on reproductive health, research on the role of immunomodulatory agents and development of a practical strategy for their application.

Critical notes:

- No publication submitted in an international journal
- The literature review includes 2 sources presented as publications related to the dissertation.
- The 14 conclusions can be shortened and related only to the specific results of the dissertation work without repeating the analysis of the results

Summary:

The dissertation work contains in-depth scientific and applied scientific results, which represent a significant contribution to Bulgarian venereology. The candidate demonstrates the necessary theoretical knowledge and practical skills for independent scientific research. The research is relevant and could be of benefit to the Dermatovenereologist in clinical practice.

Conclusion:

I believe that the dissertation work of Dr. Dimitar Todorov Cherkezov meets the requirements of the Act on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria. I confidently give my positive assessment and propose to the members of the Scientific Jury to approve it for the acquisition of the ONS "Doctor".

18.12. 2024



