

Statement

by

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Under the procedure for competition for the degree of Doctor of Dermatovenereology from the Hospital Tokuda Hospital Sofia, in the specialty "Dermatology and venereology" / code 03.01.21 / professional direction 7.1 Medicine, higher education 7. Health and sports.

The applicant, Dr. Maria Kassini, is currently a specialist in Dermatovenereology and a freelance doctoral student at the Clinic of Dermatology and Venereology at the Acibadem City Hospital Tokuda Hospital Sofia.

1. General presentation of the procedure and the doctoral student

The presented set of materials in electronic form is in accordance with the rules and procedure for acquiring a doctorate degree at the Hospital of Acibadem City Hospital Tokuda Hospital.

2. Relevance of the topic

The dissertation submitted for my opinion on the topic: "DERMATOSCOPY AS A PRE-OPERATIVE TECHNIQUE FOR DIAGNOSIS OF MALIGNANT AND NON-MALIGNANT PIGMENT LESIONS"
The incidence of pigmented skin tumors has been increasing in recent decades and their early diagnosis and adequate therapeutic behavior are essential. Dermatoscopy is a modern method that enables early accurate diagnosis and differentiation of benign and malignant skin lesions. At the same time, the number of unnecessary surgical interventions in benign lesions also increases. These topics are the subject of my dissertation.

3. Knowledge of the problem

The doctoral student's familiarity with the problem is evident from the review of the dissertation (40 pages), which includes 170 citations, 1 of them in Bulgarian, most of them in recent years. The survey is well structured, shows a high level of awareness of the applicant and indicates the possibility of proper analysis. The purpose of the dissertation is clearly stated. The tasks set out are specific and can lead to achievement.

4. Research methodology

Modern research and statistical methods have been used. The research methodology allows to achieve the set goal and to receive an adequate answer to the tasks solved in the dissertation. The statistical methods used make the results obtained real and objective.

5. Characterization and evaluation of dissertation work and contributions

The candidate, Dr. Maria Kassini, presents a dissertation on "DERMATOSCOPY AS A PRE-OPERATIVE TECHNIQUE FOR DIAGNOSIS OF MALIGNANT AND NON-MALIGNANT PIGMENT LESIONS". The work is structured according to requirements and contains an introduction, purpose and tasks, material and methods, results, discussion, conclusions, contributions and bibliography. I find the results up-to-date and interesting in view of the contemporary vision for non-invasive diagnostics and prevention in dermatology. The conclusions drawn meet the stated goals of the dissertation. The contributions are grouped into several groups: original, confirmatory.

6. Assessment of publications and personal contribution of the doctoral student

The author provides 4 publications (all in Bulgarian) and a list of participations in scientific forums with reports or presentations on the topic of the dissertation (12 in total). The candidate has no independent articles but is the first author in 3 publications. I do not find any elements of plagiarism and find the data presented to be original and interesting.

7. Abstract

The abstract is 45 pages long and includes the main sections of the dissertation. The abstract is made as required. The content and quality of the abstract reflects the main results achieved in the dissertation.

8. Critical notes:

It takes a complete stylistic correction and layout of the text file, for example, individual chapters and sections to start on new pages. Content is missing page numbers.

Remove conclusions 7 and 8 and move to "results".

Remove Contribution # 6.

Expand the list of Bulgarian authors with publications on the topic.

The criticisms made do not diminish the scientific value of the work presented.

Conclusion

Having carefully read through my documentation of Dr. Kassini's professional and scientific development, I believe that my dissertation contains scientific, applied and applied results that make an original

contribution to science and meet all the requirements of the Development Law. the Academic Staff of the Republic of Bulgaria (DLASRB), the Regulations for Implementation of the DLASRB and the Regulations of the University Hospital Acibadem Cityclinic Tokuda Hospital.

The dissertation demonstrates that Dr Kassini possesses deep theoretical knowledge and professional skills in the scientific field of Dermatology and Venereology, demonstrating qualities and skills for independent research.

Because of the above, I am convinced of my positive assessment of the research presented by the dissertation reviewed above, author's abstract, results achieved and contributions, and propose to the Honorable Scientific Jury to award Dr. Maria Kassini's educational and scientific degree.

02/20/2020

Assoc. Prof. Dr.Zdravka Velitskova Demerdjieva