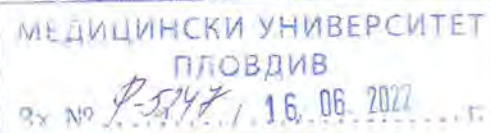


## Statement

by Prof. Dr. Valeria Kaleva, PhD



Department of Pediatrics, Medical University – Varna,

a Member of the Scientific Jury on a procedure for Dissertation defense for awarding the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in Doctoral Program "Social Medicine and Organization of Healthcare and Pharmacy", professional field 7.2. Dental medicine, according to Order № R-1347/07.06.2022

**Author:** Dr. VIKTORIYA DINKOVA MANDOVA

**Form of PhD:** independent

**Department:** "Social Medicine and Public Health", Faculty of Public Health, Medical University of Plovdiv

**Topic:** Dental care in children with hemophilia

**Scientific Supervisor:** Prof. Dr. Rumen Stefanov, PhD – Department of Social Medicine and Public Health, Faculty of Public Health, Medical University of Plovdiv

### 1. General description of the procedure and PhD candidate

#### *General description of the procedure*

The presented set of materials in paper and electronic form comply with Art. 70 (1) of I-Section: Procedure of acquiring an educational and scientific degree "DOCTOR" at Medical University– Plovdiv, Regulations of Medical University- Plovdiv from 28.01.2021 including the following documents:

- Application to the Rector of MU-Plovdiv for starting the procedure for defense of doctoral dissertation
- Curriculum vitae European format
- Notarized copy of a diploma of high education
- Rector's order for termination with the right for defense of doctoral dissertation
- Protocol for passed examination for doctoral minimum
- Protocol of Department council for preliminary discussion of the dissertation and the decision to start a procedure for defense and the selection of a scientific jury
- Dissertation
- Dissertation Abstract

- List of scientific publications related to the subject of the dissertation
- Copies of scientific publications
- List of participations in scientific forums
- Certificate for completed Doctoral School training at the Medical University- Plovdiv
- Declaration of authenticity and trustworthiness of the attached documents

The submitted materials are in complete accordance with the requirements of this procedure. I have no additional notes or comments on the documents.

*Short biography of PhD candidate*

Dr. Mandova was born in 1990 in Plovdiv. She went to English Language School- Plovdiv and graduated with a diploma for extremely high achievements in the educational activities and excellent grade. From 2009-2015 she was a student in the Faculty of Dental Medicine, Medical University-Plovdiv, and gained a master's degree in dental medicine. Her work experience began as a doctor of dental medicine in her self-managed outpatient individual dental practice in Plovdiv. In 2018 she started a specialization in the Department of Social Medicine and Public Health, Faculty of Public health, Medical University-Plovdiv, which successfully finished in 2021, acquiring a specialization in "Public Dental Health".

Since 2017, she is an Assistant professor at the Department of Social Medicine and Public Health, MU-Plovdiv. She is leading practical classes in Bulgarian and English to medical students II course, discipline SMME, dental medicine students II course, discipline SMME, medical students III course, discipline SMME II and dental medicine students V course, discipline Public dental health. Over the years, as an assistant prof. she taught the subject medical statistics to students in medicine and dental medicine, II course. In 2020, she started as a doctorate student in an independent program in the same department.

Dr. Viktoriya Mandova actively participates in training and scientific research related to health promotion and prevention of dental diseases. Her interests include dental care improvements through prevention and health policy.

In 2018, she completed a one-month specialization at the Hemophilia Center in Bonn, Germany. She speaks three languages - English, German and Spanish. She has advanced skills in computer software such as Microsoft Office - Word, PowerPoint, Excel; Photoshop; SPSS.

## **2. Relevance of the subject**

Health education, and in particular awareness of the importance of dental hygiene and regular dental check-ups, are essential for the prevention of dental diseases in the general population. Moreover, they are even more important in patients with congenital bleeding disorders, considering the complications associated with high risk of bleeding. Hemophilia is the most common disease in the group of rare diseases and is a serious challenge for dental professionals in providing dental care, especially for pediatric patients. Recent international guidelines for management of patients with haemophilia have identified dental care as a mandatory component of overall medical-social care, and dental specialists as integral part of multidisciplinary teams. These circumstances, as well as the lack of recommendations for protection and improvement of dental health in children with hemophilia in Bulgaria define the topic of Dr. Mandova's doctoral dissertation as relevant and dissertable in scientific and applied aspects.

## **3. Knowledge of the problem**

The doctoral candidate has presented an in-depth literature review, which discusses in details the medical-social aspects and contemporary knowledge related to the topic of the dissertation. The literature review is written in a high scientific style, highlighting the author's ability to extract and analyze data from the scientific literature, as well as to draw conclusions.

## **4. Characterization and assessment of the dissertation and contributions**

The structure of the dissertation is fully consistent following the general academic requirements. **The literature review** logically and thoroughly explores subtopics that have a direct connection to the main problem addressed in the dissertation work. It provides a detailed description of the oral status of patients with hemophilia, and the information provided is not only from publications for medical professionals, but also from recommendations aimed at children and adults with hemophilia. The **research aim** and the **objectives** are clearly defined. Sociological and statistical **methods** are used, which are illustrated in graphic images. The obtained **results** are presented very well and, in a sequence, according to the order of the assigned tasks. They are thoroughly analysed and are compared with data from similar studies by other authors. The same section examines and analyzes the awareness and readiness of dentists to care for people with hemophilia. The differences are outlined and scientifically substantiated hypotheses for their existence are proposed. I consider the volume of the obtained results to be completely sufficient, and the scientific judgments made to be correct and based

on statistical evidence. The **findings** are clearly and precisely formulated. They are logically derived from the obtained results and their adequate interpretation.

I fully accept the contributions made by the doctorate candidate and I think that some of them could be of great practical significance. An original scientific contribution of the dissertation is the developed Handbook for dental care of people with coagulopathies, which could be introduced as an information tool for improving the health culture and improving the oral health of people with hemophilia. A contribution of practical methodological value is the model of a multidisciplinary team, including a dentist, to be applied in complex centers for the treatment of coagulopathies. The lecture-game for children with hemophilia related to dental health has also applied scientific contribution. It is a great example of health promotion activity that used from an early age would have a positive effect on dental health and quality of life in patients with hemophilia.

#### **5. Assessment of the publications and personal contribution of the PhD candidate**

Related to the dissertation work, Dr.Mandova has promoted her scientific developments through 3 full-text articles and 4 scientific communications. In all publications and communications presented, she is the first author and an independent author in one publication and three communications.

The dissertation is own scientific work of Dr.Mandova under the supervision of her research supervisor, which further contributes to the quality and value of the scientific work. In my previous Statement for termination of the dissertation with the right for defense, I had some critical remarks and recommendations, which the doctoral student fully complied with.

#### **6. Dissertation Abstract**

The dissertation abstract is written in 53 pages. It is properly structured, well illustrated, it corresponds to the different sections and reflects the main results, conclusions and contributions of the dissertation work.

#### **7. Conclusion**

The presented dissertation of Dr. Viktoriya Dinkova Mandova on topic "Dental care in children with hemophilia" is an up-to-date and original research with theoretical scientific and applied scientific contributions in the field of social medicine and dental care in children with hemophilia. The presented thesis shows that the PhD candidate possesses



deep theoretical knowledge and professional skills in the field of dental medicine and demonstrates the qualities and skills for conducting scientific research independently.

The dissertation meets the requirements of the Academic Staff Development Act in the Republic of Bulgaria (ASDARB), its Regulations for implementation of ASDA, and the Regulations of Medical University – Plovdiv for application of ASDA for awarding the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in the specialty "Social Medicine and Organization of Healthcare and Pharmacy".

I strongly give my positive evaluation of the dissertation work "Dental care in children with haemophilia" and propose to the esteemed Scientific Jury to vote positively awarding the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" to Dr. Viktoriya Dinkova Mandova.

Date 11.06.2022

**Statement prepared by:** .....

Prof. Dr. Valeria Ignatova Kaleva, PhD

Заложено на основание  
Чл.3 §1, 6 "в" Регламент (ЕС)2016/679

