

STATEMENT

from

Prof. Dr. Anastas Batalov, MD, PhD

MU Plovdiv, Faculty of Medicine

Appointed as a member of the Scientific Jury by order No. R-1612/ 04. 07. 2022 of the Rector of the MU- Plovdiv, for the preparation of an "Standpoint" on the dissertation work of Dr. Irina Yavorova Zdravkova - doctoral student of independent preparation for the Second department of internal diseases on the topic "Specific serum and deposited autoantibodies and immunoglobulins in membranous nephropathy and their importance for a therapeutic approach", with scientific leaders Assoc. Prof. Dr. Eduard Tilkiyan, MD, PhD and Prof. Dr. Iliyan Doikov, MD, PhD for the awarding of the educational and scientific degree "Doctor", in the doctoral program "Nephrology", in the professional direction 7.1. Medicine from the field of higher education 7. Health care and sports.

1. General presentation of the procedure and the doctoral student

The presented set of materials on paper /electronic is in accordance with Art. 70 (1) of I. Sec. Acquisition of educational and scientific degree "DOCTOR" in MU- Plovdiv; Regulations of MU-Plovdiv from 28.01.2021

Dr. Irina Yavorova Zdravkova was born on September 19, 1982 in Odessa, Ukraine. She completed her secondary education at the "Exarch Antim I" Science and Mathematics High School, Vidin, in 2000. In 2001 began to study medicine in Romania and in 2004 continued her studies at the MU Plovdiv, completing her studies in 2008. She started working at CEMA-Plovdiv as a resident doctor, then worked as an assistant personal physician. October 2009 started working at the

Nephrology Clinic of UMBAL “Kaspela”, where she has been working until now. In 2018, she acquired the clinical specialty "Nephrology". Since 2015 was appointed to the position of assistant at the Department of Propedeutics of Internal Medicine.

2. Actuality, significance, expediency and knowledge of the problem

In her dissertation work, Dr. Irina Zdravkova touches on a current topic - Membranous nephropathy, the etiology and pathogenesis of which are still not fully understood, as the disease necessitates renal replacement treatment at a certain stage, despite the pathogenetic treatment carried out, and is characterized by frequent relapses.

For the first time in Bulgaria, an immunohistochemical study was performed for the presence of PLA2R antigen and deposition of IgG in kidney tissue, which also determines the great significance of the dissertation, related to the study of the most current markers in the primary forms of the disease.

A new approach in differentiating the type of membranous nephropathy is being developed, given new understandings of pathogenesis and epitope spreading, as well as innovations in understanding and differentiating primary from secondary membranous nephropathy.

A good impression is made by the in-depth knowledge of the doctoral student in the field of nephrology, in immunohistochemistry and its role in the diagnosis of membranous nephropathy, as well as excellent skills in conducting scientific research.

3. Research methodology

Modern and adequate scientific research and statistical methods were used for data processing, with high reliability of the obtained research results.

4. Characterization and evaluation of the dissertation work

The dissertation is written on 163 standard typewritten pages and contains 19 tables, 31 figures and 10 images. Its structure corresponds to the rules for building a dissertation work: introduction- 1 page, literature review 53 pages, goal and tasks- 2 pages, materials and methods- 7 pages, results- 40 pages, discussion- 20 pages, conclusions- 2 pages, contributions- 2 pages and bibliography- 25 pages. The bibliography contains 180 authors, of which six in Bulgarian and 174 in foreign languages, most of which have been published in refereed and indexed journals.

The literature review is written precisely and thoroughly, emphasizing the main details of membranous nephropathy and with a detailed consideration of the classification and pathogenesis of the disease. Immune mechanisms in primary and secondary membranous nephropathy are clearly described.

The purpose of the dissertation project is precisely and clearly stated. The tasks are set specifically and comprehensively, according to the achievement of the goal.

Materials and methods - The scientific research methods and statistical processing used are modern and adequate and allow a precise analysis of the obtained results.

Results - the chapter is organized according to the requirements according to the order of the tasks, and the results are illustrated through well-understood and accessible graphs, tables and images.

In the **Discussion**, the doctoral student shows in-depth and detailed reflections on the results obtained from the dissertation work. Makes a critical analysis of the obtained results in the context of the data presented in the literature review.

Formulates own conclusions. The presented new hypothetical pathogenetic model of membranous nephropathy is particularly valuable.

Conclusions: 12 conclusions are presented, 7 with original contributions and 5 with a confirmatory character.

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

Dr. Irina Zdravkova presents five articles and scientific reports related to the dissertation work, one of which is in a scientific publication referenced and indexed in the international database. Publications demonstrate in-depth knowledge in the field of the researched topic.

6. Abstract

The abstract is structured precisely, according to the requirements, containing the obtained and visualized results of the research and a brief discussion based on a comparative analysis with the data from the literature review.

7. Conclusion


Dr. Irina Zdravkova presents a dissertation on a current topic in the field of nephrology. The scientific work is properly structured, with excellently selected methods for carrying out the research, specifically assigned tasks and very well illustrated results. The dissertation shows that the doctoral student Irina Yavorova Zdravkova possesses in-depth theoretical knowledge and professional skills in the scientific specialty of Nephrology, demonstrating qualities and skills for independent conduct of scientific research.

The dissertation complies with the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ZRASRB), the Regulations for the

Implementation of the ZRASRB and the Regulations of the MU - Plovdiv. The presented materials and dissertation results fully correspond to the specific requirements adopted in connection with the Regulations of the Ministry of Education - Plovdiv for the application of the ZRASRB.

The data presented so far allow me to confidently give my positive assessment of the conducted research, and I propose to the honorable scientific jury to award the educational and scientific degree "doctor" to Irina Yavorova Zdravkova in the doctoral program of Nephrology.

09.08.2022



Заличено на основание
Чл.5 §1, б."В" Регламент (ЕС)2016/679

Prepared the statement:

Prof. Dr. Anastas Batalov, MD, PhD