



STATEMENT

by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rositsa Valerieva Karalilova, Dsc

of a dissertation for the award of a scientific degree "Doctor of Science"

professional field Medicine

doctoral program in Rheumatology.

Author: Prof. Dr. Stoyanka Georgieva Vladeva, PhD, Professor of Rheumatology, Faculty of

Medicine, Trakia University

Topic: "CURRENT ASPECTS OF THE OSTEOPOROSIS FRACTURE RISK"

1. General presentation of the procedure and the doctoral student

The presented set of materials on paper and electronic media is in accordance with the requirement for the procedure according to the LDASRB, PP LDASRB, Regulations of MU-Plovdiv dated 28.01.2021 and includes the following documents:

- Application to the Rector of MU-Plovdiv for disclosure of the procedure for the defense of a dissertation work
- CV in European format with the doctoral student's signature
- a notarized copy of the Doctor's diploma
- protocol from the departmental council for the preliminary discussion of the pre-dissertation work and the decisions taken for the disclosure of the procedure and for the composition of the scientific jury
- dissertation work
- abstract
- a list of scientific publications on the topic of the dissertation

- copies of scientific publications
- list of noticed citations
- declaration of originality and authenticity of the attached documents
- other documents related to the course of the procedure

2. Brief biographical data for the doctoral student

Prof. Stoyanka Vladeva graduated in medicine from the Higher Medical Institute of Plovdiv in 1987. Since 1992, he has been a full-time doctoral student in Rheumatology at the Rheumatology Clinic, Sofia University, defending his doctoral degree in 1996. Prof. Vladeva acquired clinical specialties in internal medicine in 1998, rheumatology in 2003, cardiology in 2021. Since 1998, he has been the Chief Assistant at the Department of Propaedeutics of Internal Medicine, Trakia University. Since January 2012, she became Associate Professor of Rheumatology at the DIM and Department of Health Care of the Medical faculty, Trakia University, Stara Zagora. Since April 2014, she has been elected as a professor of rheumatology at the Faculty of Medicine of the Trakia University. From 2012-2014, she was the Head of the Rheumatology Clinic, "Prof. Dr. Stoyan Kirkovich" UMBAL, Stara Zagora.

The doctoral student has a long-standing rheumatology practice. She has multiple national and international trainings, including the methods of current scientific studies from the dissertation work.

Prof. Vladeva is an active public figure on the problem of osteoporosis as the Chairman of the Stara Zagora Association against Osteoporosis. She participates in activities of patient organizations with rheumatological diseases, trainings and diagnostics of patients in the country. She is the author of many handbooks, books and publications on the topic of osteoporosis.

3. Actuality of the topic and appropriateness of the set goals and tasks

As the population ages, the incidence of osteoporosis and resulting fractures is increasing. Comorbidities and lifestyle factors contribute significantly to the risk of developing osteoporosis – addressing these factors provides an opportunity to reduce the incidence of fractures. Thus, the fracture risk becomes an important focus of in-depth knowledge of scientists in the world for the recognition and prevention of osteoporosis. Due to the above, the topic of the dissertation is current and contemporary. The study of the epidemiology of BMD, the use of the global calculator of the absolute fracture risk -FRAX among the Bulgarian population, as well as the creation of the National Fracture Risk Model for Bulgaria, as part of the team with the participation of the doctoral student, is an invaluable contribution. There is relevance of the studies developed in the dissertation both in scientific-theoretical and in scientific-applied terms.

4. Knowing the problem

The doctoral student shows in-depth knowledge in the field of the researched issues.

5. Research methodology

The chosen methods in the conducted research allow to achieve the set goal. They are modern, corresponding to the tasks solved in the dissertation work to obtain an adequate answer.

6. Characterization and evaluation of the dissertation work

The dissertation is presented in a volume of 173 standard pages and is illustrated with 30 figures, 7 tables and 2 appendices. The bibliography contains 255 scientific sources, of which 7 are in Cyrillic and the rest are in Latin.

The introduction is accurate and specific. It systematizes modern ideas on the researched problems and points to the necessity of the conducted studies.

The literature review is comprehensive and covers 42 pages. It shows good knowledge of the aspects of osteoporosis under consideration.

The goals and objectives are clearly formulated.

The material and methods section is described in 10 pages. The results of DXA examinations of 12,478 people are retrospectively evaluated. DXA scans of 1573 persons (812 Bulgarians and 761 Bulgarian Turks) aged 59 ± 10 years were evaluated. A total of 324 women with an average age of 62 years were examined with the innovative REMS technology. A frailty index (FS) of each individual is evaluated and according to the combination of the measured REMS T-score and FS values using the interpretation table, women are classified into risk classes. By means of a specially structured survey, not only the awareness of belonging to the disease osteoporosis was analyzed, but also the willingness of the patients to conduct an examination for osteoporosis, as well as to assess their awareness of the fracture risk. Statistical processing is modern and competently performed using the SPSS vs.19 program.

The results are presented in a logical and consistent manner, meeting the tasks set. They are referenced to each of the studies presented along with detailed discussion and analysis over the course of 62 pages.

There are 12 conclusions based on the set tasks.

The work also includes two appendices that complement and enrich the dissertation work.

7. Contributions and significance of the development for science and practice

The contributions are - 3 of a scientific-theoretical nature and 3 of a scientific-applied nature. Original contributions are data on epidemiological studies of BMD, ethnic characteristics of BMD and fracture risk, as well as assessment of the fragility index using the REMS method.

8. Evaluation of publications on the dissertation work

The doctoral student has attached a total of 37 titles of scientific works, publications and participation in scientific forums and appearances in the country and abroad. Of these, 27 were published in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases with scientific information (Scopus; Web of Science) in the country and abroad, and 10 publications and reports were published in non-refereed journals with scientific review or in edited collective volumes. Prof. Vladeva is the first author of 16 of the publications, the second author of 4 of them, and the rest is a follow-up. A reference is presented for 20 citations in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases and 7 citations in national scientific journals.

The abstract consists of 67 pages and meets the requirements. It reflects in a synthesized form the most essential parts of the dissertation work.

CONCLUSION

The dissertation work is developed in detail. It contains scientific-theoretical and scientific-applied results, which represent an original contribution to science and meet all the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB), the Regulations for the Implementation of LDASRB and the relevant Regulations of the Medical University - Plovdiv. The presented materials and dissertation results fully correspond to the specific requirements of the MU - Plovdiv.

Therefore, I give a positive assessment of the dissertation work on the topic: "CURRENT ASPECTS OF THE OSTEOPOROSIS FRACTURE RISK" and recommend to the esteemed

members of the jury to vote for awarding the scientific degree "Doctor of Sciences" in the scientific specialty Rheumatology, professional direction 7.1 Medicine to Prof. Dr. Stoyanka Vladeva, Phd.

17.12. 2023

Prepared the statement:

Associate Professor Rositsa Karalilova, Dsc



Залчено на основание
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