

## STATEMENT

By Prof. Rosen Stoyanov Dimov, MD, PhD  
Department of Special Surgery  
at the Faculty of Medicine of  
Medical University – Plovdiv  
Clinic of Surgery - University Hospital "Kaspela" - Plovdiv

On PhD thesis "**Spleen stiffness measured by pSW elastography as a predictor of high-risk esophageal varices in patients with hepatic cirrhosis**"

for obtaining the educational and scientific degree "**PhD**" in

Gastroenterology, professional field 7.1. Medicine

field of higher education 7. Healthcare and Sports

**Author:** Dr. Deyan Georgiev Radev, Medical University - Plovdiv, Second Department of Internal Medicine, Department of Gastroenterology; Clinic of Gastroenterology, University Hospital "Kaspela" - Plovdiv,

### **Scientific Supervisors:**

1. Prof. Vladimir Andonov, MD, PhD
2. Assoc. Prof. Katya Doykova, MD, PhD

**Relevance of the topic:** The presented topic corresponds to the scientific interests and the need for research in the field of gastroenterology. For the first time in Bulgaria, a study is carried out on the relationship between the stiffness of the spleen, measured by a non-invasive method such as ultrasound elastography, and the presence of varices of the esophagus in patients with liver cirrhosis of various etiologies.

There is relevance of the problem developed in the thesis in scientific and scientific-applied terms.

**Knowledge of the matter:** The PhD student has made a detailed literature review, which shows the in-depth awareness of the topic. The PhD student successfully synthesizes scientific data, draws accurate conclusions and conclusions.

**Characteristics and evaluation of the thesis:** The thesis is written on 154 standard typewritten pages and is structured in the usual way in the relevant sections. It contains 44 figures and 22 tables of high quality. The literature reference includes 135 sources - 4 of them by Bulgarian authors and 131 in Latin.



The presented thesis is consistent with the requirements of MU-Plovdiv for structuring and voluminous content. Its structure includes 7 chapters: introduction - 3 pages, literature review - 50 pages; goal and objectives - 1 page; research methods - 11 pages; Results – 62 pages; summary of the results with discussion - 10 pages; conclusions – 2 pages; Contributions – 2 pages.

The introduction is clearly structured. The literature review is comprehensive, up-to-date and points to the goals and objectives. The volume is sufficient and shows that the PhD candidate has a very good knowledge of the dissertation problem. The purpose of the thesis is clearly formulated and corresponds to the tasks set.

The section "Materials and methods" is detailed and consistently developed. 184 patients were examined, who were divided into four groups - 46 patients without liver pathology, 46 patients with hepatitis B etiology of liver cirrhosis, 46 patients with hepatitis C etiology and 46 patients with etitic liver cirrhosis.

The results are objective, visual and well interpreted. Modern statistical methods have been applied. The conclusions are clearly formulated and reflect the analysis of the results, as well as the goals and objectives set. I accept the contributions of the thesis – of an original and confirmatory nature.

**Assessment of the publications and the personal contribution of the PhD student:** Dr. Radev presents 3 original articles related to the dissertation. One of them in a journal indexed in Scopus, as well as a poster on the topic of the dissertation, which was presented at an international congress. They are sufficient according to the requirements.

**Conclusion:** The thesis contains scientific, scientifically applied and applied results that represent an original contribution to science and meets all the requirements and regulations of Medical University - Plovdiv. The presented materials and thesis results fully comply with the specific requirements adopted in connection with the Regulations of the Medical University – Plovdiv for the application of the Law of academic staff development and the internal regulations.

The thesis shows that the PhD student Dr. Deyan Georgiev Radev has in-depth theoretical knowledge and professional skills in the scientific specialty of Gastroenterology. He demonstrates the ability to independently conduct a scientific research.

Due to the aforementioned, I confidently give my positive assessment and vote of the conducted research, the tesis presented by the reviewers above, the abstract, the results and contributions achieved, and I propose to the honorable scientific jury to award the educational and scientific degree of "PhD" to Dr. Deyan Georgiev Radev.

09.12.2024

Plovdiv

Reviewer:

prof. Rosen Stoyanov Dimov, MD, PhD

Заличено на основание  
Чл.5 §1, 6."В" Регламент (ЕС)2016/679

