

REVIEW

by

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On a dissertation on the topic “Forensic characteristics of injuries caused by falls from different heights”, presented by Dr. Plamena Milenova Dineva for public defense before a scientific jury for the award of the scientific and educational degree “DOCTOR” in the field of higher education 7. “Healthcare and Sports”, scientific direction 7.1. “Medicine”, scientific specialty “Forensic Medicine and Deontology”

Dr. Plamena Milenova Dineva was born on 12.02.1990 in the city of Stara Zagora. She graduated from secondary education in 2009, with honors, from the High School with a humanitarian profile - PMG "Geo Milev" in Stara Zagora. She graduated from the Medical Faculty of Thracian University - Stara Zagora in 2016. Since 2018, she has been enrolled by order of the rector of the Medical University - Plovdiv as an assistant in the Department of Forensic Medicine and Deontology of the Medical University of Plovdiv after a competition she won, and she is still an assistant in the department of the same name, with an English-language teaching profile. In 2020, she successfully passed the state exam for acquiring a specialty in the healthcare system in the December session and acquired the specialty "Forensic Medicine and Deontology". She is very fluent in English and also French.

Her main and scientific topic is related to traumatism as a result of high-energy interactions when falling from different heights. Modern research shows that this type of trauma, which in its essence represents a comprehensive complex social and medical problem, is seriously widespread throughout the world as a specific and peculiar in its nature, which affects all age groups, with the significant problem being the type of death and the establishment of the height of the fall. A wide range of medical specialties are faced with this problem, and it does not escape the field of forensic specialists. It is noticeable that the relevance of the problem is significantly more prevalent in foreign scientific literature, more widely discussed in specialized international forums outside the Republic of

Bulgaria, while in the Bulgarian forensic specialized literature there are few published scientific data and reports related to the issue. The data in the various scientific reports and works unanimously show that the problem is relevant, but not sufficiently and has not been studied in depth. In this regard, the development of a systematic analysis of the morphological manifestations and universal algorithms for working in this context of the problem is of great importance for the correct diagnosis of this type of trauma.

In the context of what has been said so far, the topic of the dissertation work has been successfully selected, with a view to the correct understanding of the nature of traumatism, the main socio-domestic aspects of this type of trauma, as well as a detailed description of the morphological manifestations that affect all age groups.

The dissertation is written on 130 standard pages. It is structured by chapters and content as follows:

Introduction - 1 page, literature review - 33 pages, goal and objectives - 1 page, material and methods - 2 pages, own results - 62 pages, discussion 16 pages, application in forensic practice - 2 pages, conclusion - 2 pages, contributions - 1 page. The bibliography includes 67 sources, of which 1 title in Cyrillic and 66 - in Latin. Relatively new literature has been used in the bibliography.

The "Results" section is illustrated with 91 tables and 91 diagrams showing data on injuries from falls from different heights, including one's own height. The "Application in forensic practice" section is presented as a case from forensic practice related to the topic. The "Material and methods" section is illustrated with 2 figures showing the prepared samples of statistical maps for persons injured in falls from different heights. With few exceptions, the dissertation is written in literary Bulgarian. The use of abbreviations is not large, so they do not irritate the reader with their frequency.

The introduction is well written. The literature review covers the main morphological manifestations of falls from different heights according to the review, and the mechanisms of occurrence of the various types of injuries suspected of this type of trauma are explained in detail. A significant number of statistical studies by foreign authors on the issue are also presented. Thus, even a reader who is not a specialist in the field will have an idea of what he is about to learn at the end of the review. The literature review shows the great awareness of the dissertationist on this problem. It is well written, structured correctly and is sufficiently informative. The analysis of the literature data is done competently and purposefully.

I have no comments on the chapter "Aim and tasks". The aim is clearly and precisely formulated, with the main target groups set out. of the retrospective study for a 5-year period of time, passed through the forensic unit, in which the dissertation candidate works in his professional field. Later it becomes clear that the tasks are adequately feasible.

The chapter "Material and Methods" is 2 pages long. 104 cases of traumatism from falls from a height, including one's own height, were analyzed. The applied methods are adequate, respectively, for each task set. The complex application of these methods has allowed Dr. Plamena Dineva to make a comparative assessment of the morphological characteristics of the injuries and the socio-economic factors, compared with the data presented by foreign authors.

The own results of the conducted studies are presented in detail in separate sections, corresponding to the tasks set and are excellently illustrated with tables and diagrams, showing the data in a visual form. The graphical presentation of the data is more demonstrative and makes it easier for the reader to track statistically significant differences or the lack thereof.

The analysis of the presented own results shows that Dr. Plamena Dineva uses a number of scientific methods, which give grounds for making a number of substantiated scientific conclusions and conclusions. They expand the volume of existing knowledge about the manifestation of the problem in forensic medical expert activity in the Republic of Bulgaria.

When discussing the results, the excellent awareness of the dissertationist and his ability to objectively analyze his own results are evident.

The conclusions in the conclusion regarding this type of traumatism are precisely and clearly formulated. They are written concisely, with no essential facts omitted. The contributions actually reflect the results of Dr. Dineva, compared with the literature data.

The bibliography is presented in accordance with the requirements of the law. No significant gaps in the arrangement of the publications, errors in the names of the authors, titles, journals and monographs are found.

The abstract is detailed, well illustrated and does not neglect any of the topics developed in the dissertation.

The scientific achievements of Dr. Plamena Milenova Dineva on the topic of the dissertation submitted for consideration are reflected in 3 publications in reputable journals.

CONCLUSION

The work of Dr. Plamena Milenova Dineva, entitled "Forensic characteristics of falls from different heights", proposed to me for review for the educational and scientific degree "doctor", represents a complex retrospective study of the socio-domestic and morphological manifestations of trauma in falls from different heights, including her own growth in forensic practice, with a detailed and extensive systematic analysis and comparison of the data with other foreign authors who have worked on the problem, with methodologically developed algorithms for working with patients who are suspected of such a type of trauma.

This work is factually sound and makes an original contribution to clarifying the problem of traumatism when falling from different heights, including from one's own height, and offers contributions of a significant scientific and applied nature. It is well conceived, precisely methodically executed and successfully implemented. The results obtained are demonstratively presented, clearly and conscientiously discussed and summarized in this work with the qualities of a dissertation. This gives me reason to give my POSITIVE assessment of the dissertation work of Dr. Plamena Milenova Dineva and to recommend to the esteemed members of the scientific community to award Dr. Plamena Milenova Dineva the educational and scientific degree "Doctor".

15.04.2026

Varna



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

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