REVIEW

By Prof. Iliya Dimitrov Popov, MD - Head of First internal clinic and Nephrology and hemodialysis clinic UMHAT "Prof. Dr. Stoyan Kirkovich" AD - Stara Zagora

regarding the procedure to fill the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in the field of higher education 7. Health and sports, professional field 7.1. Medicine, scientific specialty Nephrology.

The review is prepared in connection with proposal from the Rector of the Medical University "Prof. Dr Paraskev Stoyanov" – Varna, No R-109-596/31.12.2021.

The documentation has been submitted for the procedure to fill the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" by Dr. Petar Plamenov Petrov in full compliance with the regulatory framework and scientometric requirements. After a thorough examination of the materials submitted to me in the competition, I have determined the following:

I. <u>Academic and professional development.</u>

Dr. Petar Plamenov Petrov completed graduate medical education in 2015 at Medical University "Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna. In 2020, Dr. Petrov acquired a specialty in Nephrology at the Medical University – Varna.

Dr. Petrov received highly specialized certificates: in 2016 and 2021 Ultrasound of Abdominal Organs, Medical University – Varna; in 2019 Providing temporary vascular access and percutaneous needle biopsy of the kidney in patients with renal disease under imaging control, Medical University - Varna.

The professional career of Dr. P. Petrov, begins in 2015 as a Physician at UMHAT "St. Marina" – Varna. From 2017 until now, he is an assistant at MU – Varna. Dr. Petrov leads classes in the following disciplines: Nephrology for medical students - 5th year, BEO and AEO.

II. Research Activity.

Prepared a dissertation on "Monitoring and evaluation of nutritional status and markers of the inflammatory process in patients with chronic kidney disease."

The dissertation of Dr. P. Petrov consists of 150 pages and gives a clear idea of the in-depth knowledge of the problem. With his dissertation Dr. Petrov shows very good awareness of the topic, mastery of modern methods of patient treatment and the ability to analyze and summarize scientific results. The dissertation is well and logically structured. The dissertation has 42 figures, 6 tables and 3 appendices, which are clear and well formed. The scientific contributions are correctly formulated and logically derived in two groups - Contributions of theoretical

nature: 1) This study proves for the first time in Bulgaria the diagnostic and prognostic value of Visfatin as a new non-invasive biomarker in patients with various stages of CKD. 2) A detailed review of the data of Visfatin and its importance as a non-invasive marker of the inflammatory process. 3) For the first time, such a follow-up was conducted in the country to determine the level of Visfatin, as well as to determine its relationship with other biomarkers, and Contributions of practical and applied nature: 1) A non-invasive biomarker was studied, which is not routinely studied among patients followed in the Clinic of Nephrology of the University Hospital "St. Marina "- Visfatin and its role in the diagnosis of the inflammatory process. 2) An algorithm for disease progression and quality of life assessment in patients with CKD undergoing dialysis treatment has been developed and proposed, based on the use of modern non-invasive biomarkers.

Dr. Petar Petrov encloses a list of 3 articles in national publications, one of which is in English.

The presented abstract is written on 55 pages and contains a brief overview of most of the main points in the dissertation, presenting the results of the author's research.

Conclusion:

Based on everything above, I believe that the presented research activity of Dr. Petar Plamenov Petrov meets fully the quantitative and qualitative criteria and requirements, which gives me the reason to vote "positive" to fill the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in the field of higher education 7. Health and sports, professional field 7.1. Medicine, scientific specialty Nephrology.

Prof. Iliya Dimitrov Popov, MD