

OPINION

by

Prof. Dr. Krasimir Yanev, MD,

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In my capacity as a member of the scientific jury, determined by Order of the Rector of MU-Varna No P-109-479/ 14.12.2022 and Protocol of Faculty Council No 77/ 05.12.2022 by field of higher education 7. "Healthcare and Sport", professional field 7.1. " Medicine, doctoral program "Urology", the dissertation for the award of educational and scientific degree "Doctor".

Thesis topic: *Robot-assisted partial nephrectomies – functional and oncological results.*

Brief presentation of the candidate:

Dr. Inna Gocheva Ivanova graduated in 2007 from First Language School - Varna. In 2013 she graduated from Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna, specialty "Medicine". Since 2014 she has specialized and worked at the University Hospital "St. Marina" – Varna. She acquired a specialty degree in Urology in 2020, and since 2017 she has been elected Assistant at the Department of Surgical Diseases, Managing Board of Urology, Faculty of Medicine at the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" – Varna.

In 2022, she was certified to work with the robotic system "Da Vinci", as a "first assistant", at IRCAD, Strasbourg, France.

Dr. Gocheva's dissertation work "Robot-assisted partial nephrectomies – functional and oncological results" is dedicated to cancer diseases of the kidney and modern options for their minimally invasive treatment.

Dr. Gocheva's dissertation is consistent with the requirements for structure and volume laid down in the regulations of MU-Varna. The proportions between the

main parts were respected: abbreviations used, literature review, purpose and tasks, materials and research methods, results, discussion, conclusions, contributions and bookwriting. The dissertation work contains a total of 122 pages, illustrated with 25 figures, 33 tables and 16 photos. The bibliographic reference includes 151 titles, of which 13 in Cyrillic and 138 in Latin. The experience of the Bulgarian teams that worked and worked on the problems discussed in the dissertation is important.

The aim is clearly formulated, namely by using prospective and retrospective analysis, to prove the significance of robot-assisted partial nephrectomy in achieving negative surgical limits, preserved renal function and minimal perioperative complications.

The tasks assigned to the dissertant are related to making a connection between the time of warm ischemia and postoperative renal function, to determine the influence of pure resection lines on the recurrence rate, to study possible intra- and postoperative complications (surgical problems) when performing robot-assisted partial nephrectomy, and to study early oncological results after robot-assisted partial nephrectomy.

The material used for the development of the dissertation paper are the results of the clinical study of 145 patients with tumor formation of a kidney suitable for partial nephrectomy. The criteria for inclusion in the study have been specified. All patients are hospitalized in the Urology Clinic of the University Hospital "Sv. Marina", Varna, for the period 2018-2022, anamnestic, clinical, laboratory, imaging, data were used for diagnostics. The total number of patients tested for robot-assisted partial nephrectomy is 72. To determine and prove the functional results in the studied patients, a comparison was made with 73 patients undergoing laparoscopic surgery over a period of two years.

The results and conclusions are obtained on the basis of frequency distribution, descriptive analysis, retrospective and prospective analysis of: etiology, clinical symptoms, laboratory results, imaging tests, side and extent of the pathological process, anesthesia risk of ASA, complications.

In the summary and conclusions, the dissertation scientifically discusses the results obtained, striving objectively to draw reliable conclusions on the tasks set. The conclusions are 8 in number, and are based on the overall analysis of the results of the literature review, on the own results and on the discussion.

The contributions brought out by Dr. Gocheva are a total of 5, of which 1 are of

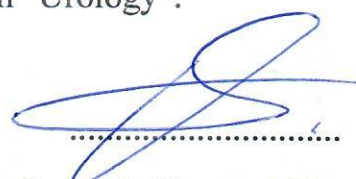
an original nature and 4 are of a scientifically applied nature.

The publications provided by the doctoral student related to the topic of the dissertation are three in number and cover the required publication activity. The presented abstract is accurate, made qualitatively, according to the requirements and faithfully reflects the dissertation.

In conclusion: The dissertation of Dr. Inna Gocheva Ivanova "Robot-assisted partial nephrectomies – functional and oncological results" is presented in a complete and well-structured form, meeting the requirements of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for its Application and the Rules of the Medical University – Varna. Taking into account the topicality and importance of the topic, the volume and manner of conducting the study, the processing of the material, the results achieved, the conclusions and recommendations, the contributions of a theoretical and applied nature, I firmly declare to the members of the Scientific Jury that I vote "for" (positively) the award of Dr. Inna Gochva Ivanova, to the PhD program in "Urology".

03.02.2023r.

Sofia



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