REVIEW

of Prof. Angelina Pecheva Vlahova-Petrova, DMD, PhD

Head of the Department of Prosthetic Dentistry,

Faculty of Dental Medicine, Medical University-Plovdiv, Bulgaria

Of Dissertation for PhD Degree **'Doctor'**

Professional direction: Dental Medicine

Doctor's program: Prosthetic Dentistry

Author: Dr. Tsvetelina Nikolova Kanlieva

Form of dissertation: regular PhD preparation

Department: Department of Dental Materials and Prosthetic Dentistry, FDM, MU - Varna

Topic: „Prosthetic treatment of patients with severe gag and vomiting reflex"

Scientific Supervisor: Prof. Metodi Zahariev Abadzhiev, DMD, PhD, DMS

1. General presentation of the procedure and the PhD student

The presented set with the materials on paper and electronic variant is in accordance with the Procedure for PhD Defense of MU-Varna and the Regulations of MU-Varna.

Dr. Tsvetelina Nikolova Kanlieva had presented 3 publications connected with the PhD thesis, one of them in referred journal - Journal of IMAB.

Notes and comments for the documentation:

The documents are properly prepared and submitted.

2. Short CV data of the PhD student Dr. Tsvetelina Nikolova Kanlieva:

- born on 04. 08. 1988 г. in Velingrad;

- 2007 г. – high school – СОУ „St. St. Kiril and Metodij ";

- 2013 г. – Magister of Dental Medicine, FDM, MU - Plovdiv;

- 2018 – Assistant Professor in the Department of Prosthetic Dentistry, FDM, MU – Varna;

- 2022 г. – specialty of Prosthetic Dental Medicine;

Member of the Bulgarian Dental Association.

3. Relevance of the topic and expediency of the aim and the tasks of the dissertation

The patients with long history of gag reflex in most of the cases have pour dental health. They have faster teeth loss, the need for partial dentures and a tendency of complete edentulism. This fact will only complicate the problem if after that the patient cannot stand the dental prosthesis. The final result after complete edentulism may influence the social status of the patient and may decrease his or her self-respect and the quality of life.

The most difficult to control situation in Prosthetic Dentistry is taking impression from the prosthetic field of a patient with gag reflex. Despite of that the patients with a need of prosthetic treatment with removable partial and complete dentures are normally in older age, with additional diseases or regular taking medications that will reduce the methods of choice for gag reflex control.

There is still not known method which will improve the adaptation period of a patient with severe gag reflex in Bulgaria. Because of that the aim of the present dissertation thesis is to investigate the risks in working with patients with vomitus reflex, to optimize the working process during

the prosthetic treatment and to create working protocols for such patients for different prosthetic manipulations.

4. Knowledge of the problem

The PhD student Dr. Tsvetelina Nikolova Kanlieva perfectly knows the state of the problem. A testimony for that is the detailed literature review made on 42 pages.

The literature review shows that there is no clear and precise dental protocol for such cases. The study in this field is the object of clinical investigation in the present dissertation thesis.

The literature review shows that the candidate had made variegated knowledge in the field that helps him to formulate the aim and the tasks of the thesis logically.

5. Methods of the investigation

The chosen methods of the investigation allow achievement of the aim and tasks of the dissertation.

6. Characteristics and evaluation of the dissertation

The dissertation thesis of Dr. Tsvetelina Nikolova Kanlieva is written on 162 standard pages which include 21 tables, 95 figures and 6 annexes. The bibliography contains 7 pages and 175 literature sources, 45 in Cyrillic and 130 in Latin.

The dissertation thesis of Dr. Kanlieva is orientated to an actual topic in modern Prosthetic Dental medicine – solving the problems connected with taking impressions, fabrication of prosthetic restorations and approval of the adaptation of the patients with severe gag reflex to removable dentures.

The literature review is detailed and has a good structure.

The aim and the tasks are according to the chosen topic.

The aim of the dissertation thesis is to investigate the gag and vomit reflexes of risk patients and to create working algorithms for different prosthetic manipulations.

For solving the aim 4 tasks were formulated, 3 of them with two sub-tasks.

The presentation of the materials and the methods is on the needed level. Materials and methods that are used correspond to the formulated tasks. They are described clear and in details. The used methods are presented with enough number of figures.

The results are arranged according to the tasks and are optimally illustrated with photos, final tables and schemes. The discussion was made according to the modern requirements. The author described detailed statistical analysis of the received results and in the part Discussion compared them with other investigations in this field.

Tables and diagrams after the statistical analysis of the data were added. The conclusions are in straight connection with the received results. The contributions show the practical direction of the scientific work.

7. Contribution and significance of the dissertation for the science and practice

The contributions of the dissertation of Dr. Tsvetelina Nikolova Kanlieva are systemized and divided to:

1.   Scientific-applied contributions

1.1.   With original character

1.2.   With approved character

2.   Practical contributions

8. Assessment of the dissertation publications

The full text publications associated with the dissertation of Dr. Kanlieva are 3 and can be classified of: 3 full text publications, one of them in referred journal - J of IMAB, that cover the minimal needed criteria according to NACID for PhD degree.

9. Personal engagement of the PhD student

According to my opinion the personal engagement of Dr. Kanlieva in a collaboration with his scientific leader Prof. Abadzhiev in the dissertation study is dominant and the approved contributions and the final results are their own personal merit.

10. Abstract book

The Abstract book of Dr. Kanlieva is designed according to the requirements and presents the main results of the dissertation.

The contents and the quality of the Abstract book meet the requirements.

11. Critical notes and recommendations

I have no critical notes connected to the final variant of the dissertation.

12. Personal impressions

I know Dr. Kanlieva as a student in FDM – Plovdiv. She is young, ambitious and hardworking. With famous scientific mentor as Prof. Abadzhiev I have no doubt for the final success of the PhD thesis.

13. Recommendations for future application of the dissertation contributions and results

I recommend Dr. Kanlieva to continue his work in this field and to publish in foreign referred journals including such with impact factor.

CONCLUSION

The dissertation has scientific, scientific-practical and practical results that are an original contribution in the science and respond to all the requirements of the Law for academic development in Bulgaria (ЗРАСРБ), the Regulations of ЗРАСРБ and the Regulations of MU-Varna. The materials and results of the dissertation respond to all the specific requirements of MU-Varna.

The dissertation present that the PhD student Dr. Tsvetelina Nikolova Kanlieva has exhaustive theoretical knowledge and professional skills of the scientific specialty "Prosthetic Dentistry" and demonstrates qualities and abilities for self-conduct scientific study.

Due to the above, I confidently give my **positive assessment** for the investigation presented in the Dissertation, Abstract book, Results and Contributions, and propose to the honorable scientific jury to award an educational and scientific degree „Philosophy Doctor (PhD)" to Dr. Tsvetelina Nikolova Kanlieva in PhD program of "Prosthetic Dentistry".

27. 10. 2023   Reviewer: ....

Plovdiv   (Prof. Angelina Vlahova, DMD, PhD)

(ак. дл., име и фамилия, н. ст.)