

## OPINION

by Dr. Kiril Stefanov Slaveikov, MD

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Member of a scientific jury, appointed by order N P109-449/18.11.2022 of the Rector of the  
MU – Varna

For dissertation work: "**CLINICAL PRESENTATION AND PREVENTION OF THE  
RISK OF DEVELOPMENT OF URINARY TRACT INFECTIONS IN  
CHILDHOOD"**

In a competition for the acquisition of the educational and scientific degree "**doctor**"

Professional direction **7.1. MEDICINE**

Scientific specialty: **GENERAL MEDICINE**

**Dr. Raditsa Alexovska**

**1. General presentation of the procedure and the doctoral student.** The presented set of materials on an electronic medium is in accordance with the ZRASRB for the acquisition of the Education and scientific degree "doctor" and contains the required documents that prove the authenticity of the dissertation work, scientific publications, participation in scientific forums and confirm the legality of the procedure. Dr. Raditsa Alexovska graduated Medical University of Varna. In 2018, she acquired a specialty in general medicine. Since 2017, she has been working in her own Ambulatory for Individual Practice and Primary Medical Care, and since 2018 she has started developing her scientific work. During her studies, she actively participated in doctoral schools, clinical studies and training in the rules of good medicine practice. She has participated in a number of national and international scientific forums on the topic of dissertation work with reports.

**2. Relevance of the topic.** The dissertation work is relevant and of practical importance. The topic of dissertation submitted for opinion is: "Clinical presentation and prevention of the risk of developing urinary tract infections in childhood". In recent decades, scientific interest in this disease has increased. The continuously increasing frequency and complications associated with it suggest appropriate prevention. Accurate and timely diagnosis in childhood and subsequent timely and appropriate treatment is important to prevent chronic diseases and their consequences in adulthood. The author chose a "cross-sectional" study as a methodology, followed by two surveys. The dissertation is spread over 178 pages and includes the chapters: Introduction, Literature review, Aim and tasks, Materials and methods, Design, Analyzes, Discussion of results, Contributions, Conclusions, Recommendations, Published articles, participation in conferences and congresses in connection with the dissertation work and bibliography, having complied with the requirements for the relevant sections. The paper contains a total of: 26 figures and 48 tables.

**3. Knowing the problem.** The literary overview includes 314 titles, with a good balance between Bulgarian and foreign authors. It is evident that the doctorate student knows the problem and creatively evaluates the literary material.

**4. Research methodology.** 126 parents and 27 general practitioners from Varna, Bourgas and Dobrich regions participated in the presented dissertation work, for the period July 2020

- December 2021. The main method of the study is a direct individual survey with 25 questions. A statistical package was used for statistical data processing: SPSS, version 19. Basic methods for mathematical-statistical analysis of the results were applied. The chosen research methodology allows achieving the set goal and obtaining an adequate answer to the tasks solved in the dissertation work.

**5. Characterization and evaluation of the dissertation work and contributions.** The paper is well structured, including all the necessary parts for a dissertation. The dissertation consists of 178 pages and is illustrated with 26 figures and 48 tables. The literature review is detailed, citing a large number of sources. The set 7 tasks meet the goal. The results are well presented graphically and tabularly. They fully cover the tasks set in the dissertation work. In the discussion of the obtained results, Dr. Raditsa Alexovska was able to present and interpret in great detail the comparison between the data obtained by her and those known from the literary sources. The conclusions are 17 in number, described in detail according to the 5 tasks. I accept contributions of an original and confirmatory nature. The development has a very important practical value. The abstract is made according to the requirements and reflects the main results achieved in the dissertation work.

**6. Evaluation of the publications and personal contribution of the doctoral student.** The doctoral student has submitted 5 publications in Bulgarian publications - in 4 of which Dr. Alexovska is the first author. Critical notes and recommendations to the conducted research and presented materials: The number of GPs is too small, which does not allow for statistically significant results and conclusions. Recommendations: To continue and expand research on the tasks of the dissertation work.

**CONCLUSION.** Regardless of the notes and recommendations made by me, the dissertation contains scientific, scientifically-applied and applied results, which represent an original contribution to science and meet the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ZRASRB), the Regulations for the Implementation of ZRASRB and the Regulations of the Medical University of Varna. The presented materials and dissertation results fully correspond to the specific requirements adopted in connection with PRASTRO. The dissertation shows that the doctoral student Dr. Raditsa Alexovska possesses in-depth theoretical knowledge and professional skills in the scientific specialty of General Medicine, demonstrating qualities and skills for independent conduct of scientific research. I confidently give my positive assessment of the conducted research, represented by the dissertation work, abstract, achieved results and contributions, and I propose to the honorable scientific jury to award the educational and scientific degree of doctor to Dr. Raditsa Alexovska in the doctoral program in General Medicine.

23.01.2023

Prepared the opinion:  
/ Assoc. Dr. Kiril Slaveikov, MD/