

Opinion
by
Prof. Dr. Ivan Poromanski Ph.D.

Regarding the dissertation for the awarding of the educational and scientific degree "Doctor"

Field of study: **7.1. Medicine**

Doctoral Program: **Pediatric Surgery**

Author: **Dr. Petar Stamov**

Form of Doctorate: **Independent**

Academic Unit: **Pediatric Surgery Clinic at UMHATSM "N.I. Pirogov"**

Topic: **"Method of temporary decompression of the gastrointestinal tract by forming an enterostomy with T-tube in newborns with low and extremely low birth weight"**

Scientific Supervisor: **Prof. Dr. Hristo Shivachev, Ph.D.**

Biographical Information:

Dr. Petar Stamov was born in 1983 in Tetovo, Macedonia. He completed his secondary education with honors at the State Secondary Medical School in Stip, specializing in dental technology. From 2001 to 2007, he pursued his medical degree at the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" in Varna. In 2015, he obtained a specialization in Pediatric Surgery. Since 2021, he has been working as a pediatric surgeon at the First Surgical Clinic, Department of Pediatric Surgery at University Hospital "St. Marina" in Varna. He was appointed as an assistant at the Department of General and Operative Surgery, Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" in Varna in 2022.

Dissertation Work:

The dissertation's topic is **"Method of temporary decompression of the gastrointestinal tract by forming an enterostomy with T-tube in newborns with low and extremely low birth weight"**

The dissertation comprises 106 pages and includes 29 tables and 54 figures. It adheres to the accepted structure requirements for dissertations and consists of the following chapters: Introduction (2 pages), Literature Review (24 pages), Aim and Objectives (1 page), Materials and Methods (14 pages), Results of Own Research (45 pages), Analysis and Discussion of

Results (3 pages), Conclusion and Findings (3 pages), Bibliography (6 pages). The bibliography lists 112 references in Latin script.

The literature review is well-structured with the following sections: Historical Data; Types of stomas and their applications; Indications for enterostomies in children; Technical aspects; Time to closure of the enterostomy; Complications of enterostomies and their treatment; Trends in enterostomies; Historical development of enterostomy using T-tube.

The doctoral candidate presents and analyzes the use of a minimally invasive method for forming an enterostomy with a T-tube. The dissertation demonstrates how improvements in the technical characteristics of minimally invasive tools, mastered by surgeons, lead to significant progress in the treatment of newborns and infants up to one year of age.

The doctoral candidate clearly states the aim of the dissertation, namely: To introduce into clinical practice a method for temporary decompression of the gastrointestinal tract using T-tube in neonates, infants, and children up to one year of age, and to conduct a comparative study with classical enterostomy.

The four specified objectives are clearly formulated:

1. To introduce the method for temporary decompression as a routine surgical procedure.
2. To determine the indications for the application of enterostomy using T-tube in newborns and infants.
3. To evaluate the effectiveness and safety of the method.
4. To assess the advantages of the method compared to conventional stoma.

Dr. Stamov's study was conducted at the facilities of MBAL "St. Anna" in Varna and covered the period from 2008 to 2021. The clinical material included 62 patients up to one year of age who underwent enterostomy. The patients were divided into two groups – Group A, who underwent enterostomy with T-tube, and Group B, who underwent conventional enterostomy. This distribution allowed for a statistically significant analysis to be conducted.

The author details various diagnostic and therapeutic methods, as well as indications for their implementation. Dr. Stamov presents his results across 45 pages, comparing the patient groups through illustrative tables, figures, and clinical cases. In the discussion of the results, Dr. Stamov identifies statistically significant differences in terms of operative time, time to closure of the enterostomy, complications, and number of surgical procedures.

Based on the achieved results, four conclusions are drawn, which correspond to the stated objectives and tasks.

The doctoral candidate has made 5 contributions. Alongside the dissertation, the candidate has included 3 published articles. The results obtained have been presented at 4 scientific forums, 3 of which were national and 1 international.

In conclusion, I believe that:

Dr. Petar Stamov's dissertation on "Method of Temporary Decompression of the Gastrointestinal Tract by Forming an Enterostoma with T-Tube in Newborns with Low and Extremely Low Birth Weight" demonstrates a serious approach to studying this surgical issue

and successfully introduces the method of temporary decompression as a routine surgical procedure. This is based on significant information and is beneficial for the professional environment in this field.

The doctoral candidate shows a strong scientific background, which adds high value to this current study. Due to these reasons and because the dissertation fully meets the requirements of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB), the Regulation for its Implementation, and the corresponding Regulations of UMHAT "N.I. Pirogov" - Sofia, I confidently recommend to the esteemed members of the Scientific Committee to award the educational and scientific degree of "Doctor" to Dr. Petar Stamov in the scientific specialty of Pediatric Surgery, within the professional field of 7.1. Medicine, under Higher Education Area 7. Healthcare and Sports.

Member of the scientific jury:

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Prof. d-r Ivan Poromanski Ph. D.