

STATEMENT

From Assoc. Prof. Dr. Krassimir Ivanov

for the award of educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in scientific field 3.2

"Psychology"

of Violeta Kamenova Azis

for dissertation with topic:

"Personal profiles of patients with cardiac and cardiac surgery"

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PEDAGOGICAL
PSYCHOLOGY "

The dissertation proposed for the opinion is placed in the modern and contemporary field of psychosomatics. Fields intersecting medical knowledge, psychological counseling and psychotherapy. The relevance of the dissertation is indisputable due to the fact that cardiovascular diseases are the main cause of high mortality in the country and according to the WHO, are again one of the most significant diseases. High-tech invasive medicine is great for dealing with the complexity of interventions. Cardiac surgery marks the peak of DeBakey's time, but as we read, we are still helping to help the patient's psycho-emotional suffering. This is what makes Violeta Kamenova's dissertation relevant and necessary. In cardiac practice there are so-called "No one's patients". These are patients who have excellent physiological parameters as a result of an

intervention, but their functioning is difficult due to lack of psychological support, counseling and therapy.

The structure of the dissertation meets the necessary academic standards and requirements. It consists of an introduction, three chapters, a conclusion, a bibliography and applications. The data are illustrated by 29 tables and 15 graphs. The used literature includes 220 titles, of which 26 in Bulgarian and 185 - in foreign languages (in English - 175, in French - 8 and in German - 2). There are 9 electronic publications.

The theoretical part examines the basic psychosomatic postulates through the eyes of the Paris School, with an emphasis on theoretical approaches to understanding the relationship between personality and disease. The theories of psychosomatics, the views of psychoanalytic psychosomatics, in particular the Paris Psychosomatic School, as well as the theories of the personality of psycho - cardiology are considered. The mechanisms linking personality to the onset and progression of coronary heart disease are described.

The purpose of the dissertation is clearly presented. To study and define personal characteristics of patients with heart disease. It is these characteristics that could be a prerequisite for the development of heart disease that requires surgery. The identification and, if possible, reduction of psychological risk factors plays an important role in the prevention and rehabilitation of patients

The psychological tools are skillfully selected, including: Toronto Alexithymia Scale (TAS-20; Toronto Alexithymia Scale-20), (Bagby et al., 1994a, b), in Bulgaria the scale was standardized by Popov and colleagues (2016), Anxiety Sensitivity Index (ASI) (Reiss et al., 1986), the questionnaire is currently being adapted for use in Bulgaria by the Bulgarian Institute of Addiction and the DSM-5 Personality Questionnaire: abridged version. Short 100 items Version of Personality Inventory for DSM-5, PID-5-SF, (Maples et al., 2015), translated and adapted for Bulgaria by Kalchev and Koleva (2019).

The used psychological tools show good mastery of the methodology of psychological research and ability to interpret the results obtained.

The obtained data are clearly presented in tables and graphical form.

The conclusions are relevant to the hypotheses and have significant practical application.

The proposed recommendations for work are derived from practice and are invaluable assistance in the counseling and therapeutic practice of specialists working in the field of psychosomatic field.

All this gives me reason to propose to the Honorable Committee to award educational scientific degree "Doctor" to Violeta Kamenova Azis in direction 3.2 "Psychology" for a dissertation on “Personal profiles in patients with cardiac and cardiac surgery”.

March 28, 2022

Statement:

Varna

/ Assoc. Prof. Dr. Krassimir Ivanov /