

**Evaluation form PhD thesis**

**Please return by e-mail to [koen.milisen@kuleuven.be](mailto:koen.milisen@kuleuven.be) before 25/11/2021**

Name PhD student: Katerina Mackova

Title thesis: Novel treatment modalities for pelvic floor dysfunctions

Name referee: Olga Dzupova

**Evaluation score: please indicate in the table below your final score**

	Decision		Implication
<input type="checkbox"/>	Accepted without revision		Permission for public defense is granted immediately.
x	Accepted with minor revision	<b>I do not want to review</b> the revised version	Permission for public defense will be granted via e-mail procedure.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Accepted with minor revision	<b>I want to review</b> the revised version	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Major revision required		Decisions 4 and 5 need to be confirmed by a formal meeting of the examining committee (external members are exempted from attending, but will be consulted via e-mail)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Not accepted	New version of manuscript has to be submitted	

## Evaluation

### General Remarks:

Kateřina Mackov submitted a thesis manuscript „Novel treatment modalities for pelvic floor dysfunction“. The manuscript meets the quantitative requirements as well as qualitative requirements. It contains the essential parts: an informative introduction, aims of the study, discussion and summary. Five papers (four reviews and one original article) published in highly impacted journals and one original article under preparation are included in the text.

In my opinion, Kateřina Mackov met the requirements for a PhD student. She made an extensive literature search within the theoretical preparation of the experiment, summarized the current knowledge on the given topic, conducted a demanding experiment, the results of which she critically evaluated and clearly presented. In doing so, she has proven that she is capable of doing scientific research.

According to the Charles University regulations for formal arrangement, if the dissertation is prepared as a monothematic set of scientific publications, it should consist of a main text (“commentary”) having classic dissertation structure (but smaller extent than a classical dissertation) with embedded references to individual published scientific papers, and a set of appendices, i.e., full-texts of published papers in pdf. In the submitted thesis manuscript, the published papers are included in the thesis main text as individual chapters. Each thesis must be subject to an originality check. I am afraid that there may be a problem in checking originality in terms of a high percentage of similarity.

This problem can be solved by adjusting the thesis to the required format by simply moving the individual parts. I leave it to the discretion of the responsible authorities of the Leuven University to decide whether to recommend a student to make such a formal change in her thesis. That is why I recommend minor revision.

### Major comments:

Kateřina Mackov does her doctoral research in the Czech subject area Preventive Medicine. It means that the research should have a strong preventive aspect. In her thesis it is

somewhat hidden. In the field of pelvic floor dysfunction, it will certainly be a matter of tertiary prevention, i.e., an effort to minimize the progression of the disease and thus prevent a negative impact on the quality of life. Another preventive aspect of the research can be seen in the effort to support the therapeutic approaches with good quality evidence and thus prevent the adverse effects of various therapies and materials used. Otherwise, this research would fall very well within the scope of subject area Experimental surgery.

Minor comments:

None.