Fakulta vojenského zdravotnictví Katedra epidemiologie

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OPPONENT'S REVIEW OF A DISSERTATION THESIS

Author: MUDr. John Michael Quinn V, MPH

Title: Disaster, war, conflict, complex emergencies and international public Health risks

Opponent: Roman Chlibek, MD, PhD., Dept. of Epidemiology, Faculty of Military Health Sciences

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The main topics of the dissertation thesis are the mental health and war trauma, the migration and the need for medical service in war, the health, infectious diseases, human and food security during war, disaster or conflict. The topics of thesis are up to date and frequently discussed today. The text of the thesis is stated on 195 pages, including 6 chapters, 5 figures and 12 tables. The parts of the thesis are three first authors works published or accepted for publication in journals with impact factors attached as appendix. The thesis includes large number, more than 360 citations (including self-citations) on 30 pages. Citations are relevant and majority of them are recent.

In general, the text is written in a very good English, contains only a few mistakes, typos, or missing articles. The main point of each paragraph is always very clear, the concepts, ideas, and results presented in the text are nicely documented by the figures and tables. It could be more readers friendly to add the text, not only tables, in results of chapter 5. Some tables repeated the same information (see table number 6 and 7). I am missing the link in the text for table 7, 8 and 9. Not all abbreviations are explain and placed in the list of abbreviation at the end of thesis. Only few terms could be use more precisely, like poliomyelitis instead "polio". These minor mistakes do not in any way reduce the quality and importance of work.

Each chapter contents introduction, background, material, results, main outcomes and conclusions. The work integrates more perspectives and disciplines, like epidemiology, hygiene, medicine public health and global affairs. As the result the PhD thesis integrates many subprojects (descriptive studies, case reviews) with mentioned topics giving the opportunity for interdisciplinary global health

view. Reduction of state failure consequences is determined by the quality and scale of development and public health programs during the crises or war conflicts. The improvement of health security, environment, economic and job security in fragile states, including diseases prevention, can significantly mitigate the loss of each failed state. The results of this thesis could be used in practice and can become good tool for theoretical and field work.

To summarize, the author proved his ability to work systematically on a given problem using the scientific method, and showed a good potential for further work in research. The results presented in this thesis are interesting and practically usable for researchers and practitioners world-wide, which is documented by the numerous publications of the author on international journals including journal with impact factor.

Given all other requirements has been fulfilled, in my opinion, the author shall be awarded with the title Ph.D.

My questions:

- Could you compare prevalence of the PTSD diagnosis in your study group of non-combatant civilian people with prevalence in military personal?
- 2. Which the main risk factors of communicable diseases are playing role in health security during the wars?

In Hradec Kralove, August 22, 2017

prof. Roman Chlibek, opponent