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To:

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Bratislava, 06th April 2017

ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR DOCTORAL THESIS

Name and surname of the student: Tatiana Belkina, MSc

Evaluator: Assoc. Prof. Tomáš Tesař, Ph.D., MBA, MSc

Title of dissertation: Non-prescribed antibiotic use in some developing countries and its association with drug resistance

Ms. Tatiana Belkina's dissertation deals with the important topic of non-prescribed antibiotic use and its association with drug resistance.

Antibiotic resistance is a major global public health problem, and international efforts are needed to counteract the emergence of resistance. Monitoring antibiotic utilisation should accompany surveillance programmes on antibiotic resistance. Development, implementation and evaluation of guidelines require information about practice of antibiotic usage. Adherence to principles of antibiotic policy lead to fundamental short and long term financial savings within health care systems, as well. Inseparable components of antibiotic policies must be viewed realistically with regard to utilisation of antibiotics. These data provide a tool for assessing public health strategies aiming to optimize antibiotic usage. Self-medication with antibiotics is a reason for concern in the world.

The dissertation contains 99 numbered pages with recommended classical structure, divided in main 5 sections, there are 16 tables, 2 figures and 235 used citations. The terminology is correctly defined and used. The general organisation of the text is satisfactory. The structure is clear and easy to follow. The hypotheses and objectives are specified correctly. I would like to emphasize that the issue of non-prescribed antibiotic use and its association with drug resistance is considered as an important problem to solve in the field of health care systems.

The research addressed 4 scientific projects with the following aims:

- The study aimed to examine knowledge, attitude and practices of antibiotic use in 3 Asian countries and estimated the frequency and reasons for self-medication.

- The study aimed to evaluate the extent of delay in diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis in Uzbekistan and identify associated risk factors.
- The study aimed to evaluate knowledge of antibiotics, race, gender and age as independent risk factors for self-medication.
- The study aimed to assess the attitudes of community pharmacists regarding antibiotic use and self-medication in Saint Petersburg, the Russian Federation.

The methodology is written in the coherent way. The results answer the proposed hypotheses and objectives. There is no doubt, that the dissertation brings new and original outcomes. Conclusions are important for the development of knowledge in the field of non-prescribed antibiotic use and its association with drug resistance.

I fully recommend the dissertation of Ms. Tatiana Belkina, MSc to be recognized with the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D. degree).

I would like to ask Ms. Tatiana Belkina, MSc two questions related to the dissertation:

- Would you agree that younger age, higher education, and presence of a chronic disease is associated with higher rates of self-medication?
- What are the most common reasons for self-medication with antibiotics?

Best regards,

Assoc. Prof. Tomáš Tesař, Ph.D., MBA, MSc (HTA)
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