Report on **Master Thesis**

Institute of Economic Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University in Prague

Student:	**Veranika Makarevich**
Advisor:	**PhDr. Jana Votápková**
Title of the thesis:	**What Socioeconomic Factors Explain Type 2 Diabetes Prevalence?**

***OVERALL ASSESSMENT** (provided in English, Czech, or Slovak):*

The thesis explores prevalence of type 2 diabetes mellitus and its determinants within a dataset of people from Minsk and Minsk province region. The author focuses on the analysis of socioeconomic factors jointly with clinical factors, which is an interesting approach. The dataset looks very good regarding its scope and number of observations (15ths). The author proves good proficiency in English and good orientation in the topic, including very good literature search, summed up in chapter 3. The structure of the whole thesis is logic and its scope and employed methods correspond to the requirements for a master thesis.

The data are explored using logistic regression model with a binary dependent variable and with sequential adjustments for clinical and socioeconomic variables – the model has 3 stages, starting with socioeconomic determinants only, then adding the behavioral socioeconomic factors and finally also the clinical factors.

The results are presented in chapter 6. In line with the literature search summary of chapter 3, the author finds that income and education play significant role in the prevalence of type 2 diabetes, together with clinical factors such as obesity (high BMI) and age, or a behavioral factor of being physically inactive. Living in an urban area or living alone also transforms, according to the author's findings, into higher risk of being diagnosed type 2 diabetes. Besides, family history of diabetes was found to be the second most significant risk factor.

Should the thesis be developed into a research paper, I recommend shortening some of its extracts so that the same information and sentences are not repeated several times throughout the text (i.e. repeated quotations, summaries of assignments/hypothesis/dataset/analysis process, etc.). Also, some variables bring up the suspicion of some cyclicity; in some parts of the text it is not clear where is the causality, what is cause and what is effect (for ex p47: „…educational attainment implies income level that in its turn significantly influences the development of type 2 diabetes" versus thesis conclusion on the very same page of the two variables – income and education - being both significant explanatory factors for type 2 diabetes). I recommend the author can elaborate more on this topic during the thesis defense; the same can be the significance of being married VS. the argument of age significancy (p48).

I suggest that Veranika Makarevich should be awarded **grade A (excellent)**.

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SUMMARY OF POINTS AWARDED (for details, see below):

CATEGORY		POINTS
Literature	*(max. 20 points)*	20
Methods	*(max. 30 points)*	28
Contribution	*(max. 30 points)*	25
Manuscript Form	*(max. 20 points)*	20
TOTAL POINTS	*(max. 100 points)*	**93**
GRADE	**(1 – 2 – 3 – 4)**	**1**

NAME OF THE REFEREE: PhDr. Lucie Bryndová

DATE OF EVALUATION: 1.9.2016

Referee Signature

LITERATURE REVIEW: *The thesis demonstrates author's full understanding and command of recent literature. The author quotes relevant literature in a proper way.*

Strong	*Average*	*Weak*
20	*10*	*0*

METHODS: *The tools used are relevant to the research question being investigated, and adequate to the author's level of studies. The thesis topic is comprehensively analyzed.*

Strong	*Average*	*Weak*
30	*15*	*0*

CONTRIBUTION: *The author presents original ideas on the topic demonstrating critical thinking and ability to draw conclusions based on the knowledge of relevant theory and empirics. There is a distinct value added of the thesis.*

Strong	*Average*	*Weak*
30	*15*	*0*

MANUSCRIPT FORM: *The thesis is well structured. The student uses appropriate language and style, including academic format for graphs and tables. The text effectively refers to graphs and tables and disposes with a complete bibliography.*

Strong	*Average*	*Weak*
20	*10*	*0*

Overall grading:

TOTAL POINTS	GRADE		
81 – 100	1	= excellent	= výborně
61 – 80	2	= good	= velmi dobře
41 – 60	3	= satisfactory	= dobře
0 – 40	4	= fail	= nedoporučuji k obhajobě