

UNIVERSITY OF MEDICINE AND
PHARMACY
“IULIU HAȚIEGANU” CLUJ-NAPOCA



UMF
UNIVERSITATEA DE
MEDICINĂ ȘI FARMACIE
IULIU HAȚIEGANU
CLUJ-NAPOCA

HABILITATION THESIS
CLINICAL AND EXPERIMENTAL
RESEARCH IN HEPATO-BILIO-
PANCREATIC SURGERY

SUMMARY

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My name is **Nadim Al Hajjar** and I am a senior surgeon since 2002, Doctor of Medicine (2003), chief of IInd Surgery section of Regional Institute of Gastroenterology and Hepatology “Prof. Dr. Octavian Fodor” Cluj Napoca (2011) and an Associate Professor at the University of Medicine and Pharmacy “Iuliu Hațieganu” Cluj Napoca since March 2014.

Following the recommendations of the National Council for Titles, Diplomas and Certificates (CNATDCU) and respecting national legislation, I have structured the habilitation thesis in three sections.

The first section presents a constructive collection of scientific achievements, professional and academic, based on complex thematic directions as: surgical pathology of the pancreas, biliary tract and liver tumors, realized by implementing personalized treatment for each patient, achieving scientific papers published in various journals or presented in scientific meetings, coordinated grant project IDEI 2008 and cooperation on other grants, editing of specialized books, under-graduate and post-graduate courses, prepared and held for students and doctors in the specialty of general surgery.

- My **professional** activity begins after passing the license exam in 1988, with the return to Syria, my native country as a General Practitioner, then continued in Yemen and in Romania, starting the general surgery residency program in 1993. I passed successively through the stages of a resident, specialist and senior surgeon in general surgery gaining skills in laparoscopic surgery, liver surgery and liver transplant.

Since I obtained my doctoral title, I approached digestive oncological surgical pathology, performing complex surgeries (by classic and/or laparoscopic/ thoracoscopic approach) both within the digestive tract (interventions for esophageal, gastric or colorectal neoplasm) and hepato-biliary-pancreatic (major hepatic resections, oncological and reconstructive interventions of the biliary tree, duodenopancreatectomies-different technical options, segmental pancreatectomy, corporeocaudale splenopancreatectomies and multiorgan resections).

- I have always considered **scientific research** an integral part of my professional development as a doctor. In this framework, I selected several topics of interest, for which data was collected from actual cases of my own experience, to which scientific

research methodology was applied in order to have valid significant results available to patients, students and young doctors.

Thus, since sustaining my doctoral thesis (November 2002), I have published 15 articles as a main author in the ISI Thomson Reuters journals (with impact factor) and 39 articles as main author and co-author published in ISI and other BDI journals. Also, I have realized as main author or co-author over 40 scientific works presented in the country and abroad during various scientific meetings. Added to my research activity, I coordinated a grant project and participated as a member in four others.

- The **academic** activity is subject to the criticism of Medical University`s students and young doctors, residents and specialists in general surgery, through lectures and practical seminars, addressed to colleagues from the fourth year from the General Medicine study program (both Romanian and English series), of the ones from second year of the Radiology & Medical Imaging study program (since 2009) as well as coordinating the optional course “Introduction to laparoscopic surgery” for IVth-VIth year

students. I have coordinated fourteen undergraduate works (other two are in progress) since 2008 to the present.

I have published two books dedicated to young surgeons: “Iatrogenic lesions of the extrahepatic biliary tract” (2007) and “Pancreas surgery” published in 2014, both providing the reader with theoretical and practical concepts, tactics, techniques and issues arising partially from my personal experience. I have also responded to the invitation to write two chapters in the book: “Laparoscopic re-intervention in post-operative complications of laparoscopic cholecystectomy” in “News in biliary pathology” under the editorship Mircea Beuran, Mircea Grigorescu (2009) and “Surgical treatment of periampullary cancer” (2014) in “Textbook of digestive oncology” Volume II, Part II, under the editorship Mircea Grigorescu, Alexandru Irimie, Mircea Beuran.

Awards, medals and honors: Excellence Diploma and silver medal at the International Exhibition of Inventions Proinvent (2012), “Ion Chiricuță” Prize (2012) offered by UMF „Iuliu Hațieganu” Cluj Napoca, Excellence Diploma and gold medal at the International Exhibition of Inventions Proinvent (2013).

Membership in professional scientific societies: *National* - Member of the Romanian Society of Surgery (since 1998), Member of the Romanian Society of Laparoscopic Surgery (since 1995). *International* - Member of the European Society of Digestive Surgery (since 1996), Member of the European Association for Endoscopic Surgery (since 2000).

The second section presents the evolution and development plan of the professional, scientific and academic career.

- The main concern regarding the professional and academic development is forming teams in both general surgery branch and mixed teams, onco-medico-surgical. I will get involved in the formation of teams within the surgery clinic, consisting of students and young doctors in order to proceed with an organized teaching and professional activity. I will focus my experience and skills to implement a system of teaching, student assessment and information according to European professional standards in healthcare. I intend to support clinical reasoning process applied to every patient, especially the exercise and practice in the operating room for surgical doctors included in the residency program.

- The purpose of my research work is to integrate surgical teams in multidisciplinary teams through collaboration with other national and international institutions, considering that teamwork leads to significant scientific results. We will continue the research in the hepato-biliary-pancreatic field through ongoing studies on the topics of „Intra-abdominal infections - ozonotherapy” and „Periampullary tumor formations: clinical correlation – imaging – intraoperative aspect - pathological results”. Finally, we will initiate research work on „Secondary malignant liver tumors in colon and rectal cancer: clinical – biological – genetic correlation”, using constructive collaborations, already started, with other research institutions.

In the last section, references are given regarding the content of the first two sections.

