Report of the supervisor on the dissertation of

RIABKOVA Varvara Aleksandrovna:

"Comparison of clinical and pathophysiological characteristics of myalgic

encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome and chronic fatigue associated with

post-COVID-19 syndrome"

Scientific specialties: 3.3.3 — Pathological physiology;

3.1.18 — Internal diseases

Riabkova Varvara Aleksandrovna, born in 1998, after graduating from the Saint

Petersburg State University with a degree in general medicine in 2021 did her

residency in internal medicine at the Pavlov First Saint Petersburg State Medical

University from 2021 to 2023, and then in 2024 she did additional professional

retraining in neurology (at the First Moscow State Medical University) and in

cardiology (at the Institute of Medical Education at the Almazov National

Medical Research Centre). Since 2019, she has been working as a laboratory

assistant, then as a junior research fellow at the Laboratory of the Mosaic of

Autoimmunity in Saint Petersburg State University, and prepared her dissertation for

the degree of Candidate of Medical Sciences.

The purpose of the dissertation was to clarify the relationship between myalgic

encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome and chronic fatigue associated with

post-COVID-19 syndrome, namely the degree of similarity and possible differences

in the pathogenesis and clinical manifestations of these conditions.

During the preparation of the dissertation Varvara Aleksandrovna together with her

scientific supervisors developed the research objectives, design and program. She

conducted by herself the review of the relevant scientific literature, collected the

research material and performed the statistical analysis of the data.

The results of the dissertation research project were published in peer-reviewed journals indexed in the citation databases Web of Science and Scopus, and presented at the international conferences, including 14th International Congress on Autoimmunity 2024. Riabkova Varvara Aleksandrovna has a good theoretical and practical training, and constantly works on improving her professional competence, both as clinician and researcher. When performing research Riabkova Varvara Aleksandrovna showed herself as an initiative, conscientious, thoughtful and qualified scientist, which allowed her to successfully cope with the tasks and challenges. Thus, the dissertation of Riabkova Varvara Aleksandrovna on the theme: "Comparison of clinical and pathophysiological characteristics of myalgic encephalomyelitis/chronic fatigue syndrome and chronic fatigue associated with post-COVID-19 syndrome" meets the basic requirements established by Order No.11181/1 dd. 19.11.2021 "On the procedure for awarding academic degrees at St. Petersburg State University". The applicant Riabkova Varvara Aleksandrovna deserves to be awarded the degree of Candidate of Medical Sciences in scientific specialties 3.3.3 Pathological physiology and 3.1.18 Internal diseases. No violations of paragraphs 9 and 11 of the specified Order have been detected.

Scientific supervisor:

Doctor of Medicine, FRCP, MaACR,

member of The Israeli Academy of Sciences and Humanities,

Professor of Medicine

Reichman University, Herzelia, Israel,

Zabludowicz Center for Autoimmune Diseases (Founder),

Sheba Medical Center

Y Leghber

Shoenfeld Yehuda

Date: 27.11.24