



## Second Russian Gastroenterology Olympiad

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The Second Russian Olympiad in Gastroenterology was held on November 3, 2023, as a part of the 125th autumn session of the National College of Gastroenterology and Hepatology of the Russian Gastroenterological Association (RGA).

The Olympic Committee traditionally included the chief regional gastroenterologists and was headed by Academician of the Russian Academy of Sciences Doctor of Medical Sciences Vladimir T. Ivashkin — Chief Freelance Gastroenterologist of the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation, Scientific Director of the National College of Gastroenterology, Hepatology of the RGA.

The qualifying round of the Olympiad took place during the 123rd spring session of the College in April 2023. All the interested physicians had the opportunity to participate in this round, regardless of the age and professional experience. The participants had to answer the questions of variable complexity in the field of gastroenterology. Some clinical tasks, for example, were related to endoscopic characteristics of Menetrier's disease, Crohn's disease, or to the problems of the management in Barrett's esophagus, chronic pancreatitis, inflammatory bowel diseases, or to the characteristics of hepatopulmonary syndrome, Abernethy's malformation, gastric cancer, hypervitaminosis A.

According to the best results of electronic processing of results (the maximum of correct answers in the shortest time) 12 winners of the qualifying round were selected.

In November, nine of them had taken part in the Olympics final:

1. Liliya G. Girfanova — Gastroenterologist, Nutritionist, Specialist in sonography, "Dr. Girfanova's office" (Perm);

2. Svetlana G. Meleshko — Gastroenterologist, Clinical Hospital "Russian Railways-Medicine" (Khabarovsk);

3. Elena V. Garanina — Cand. Sci. (Med.), Senior Specialist in gastroenterology and infectious diseases, Medical Center "UGMK-Zdorovye" (Ekaterinburg);

4. Fatima I. Turaeva — Gastroenterologist, International Medical Center "Medical On Group" (Moscow);

5. Svetlana A. Sakova — Cand. Sci. (Med.), Gastroenterologist, Ivanovo Regional Clinical Hospital — clinical base of the Ivanovo State Medical Academy of the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation (Ivanovo);

6. Elena Yu. Miroshnikova — Gastroenterologist, St. Alexius Central Clinical Hospital (Moscow);

7. Yulia V. Kondrashova — Cand. Sci. (Med.), Gastroenterologist, Higher school teacher, Faculty of Postgraduate Education, Astrakhan State Medical University, Rehabilitation Center of the SFR "Tinaki" (Astrakhan);

8. Irina V. Yakob — Gastroenterologist, Clinical and Diagnostic center "Dobryy doktor" (Barnaul);

9. Konstantin R. Paramonov — Endoscopist, Gastroenterologist, Branch No. 5, Shchelkovo Hospital (Monino settlement).

The Olympiad left no one indifferent, and in addition to the team of participants in the qualifying round, a team of audience members was formed, among whom the winner was subsequently determined.

Those who took part in the Olympiad had to solve 37 tasks within 40 minutes. The questions concerned not only the specialty "gastroenterology", but were also devoted to interesting facts from the history of medicine.

Here are examples of questions:

1. *Sister Mary Joseph had notified the attention of the famous surgeon Mayo to a sign which may be observed in pancreatic, gastric and colon cancer. Mayo had published its description in 1928. What is this sign? Answer options: 1) nodule in the navel area; 2) venous collaterals of the lateral parts of the abdomen; 3) enophthalmos; 4) chylous ascites. (Correct answer: 1.)*

2. *Which scientist had isolated a non-pathogenic strain of Escherichia coli and proposed to use it in clinical practice for the prevention of intestinal infections? Answer options: 1) Ilya I. Mechnikov; 2) Alfred Nissle; 3) Louis Pasteur; 4) Alfred Koch. (Correct answer: 3).*

3. *The term "liver cirrhosis" was first introduced by ... ? Answer options: 1) Canadian physician W. Osler; 2) British physician T. Addison;*



**Figure 1.** The award ceremony for the winner of the Olympiad, Svetlana G. Meleshko, is carried out by members of the Olympic Committee, Professors A.V. Tkachev and I.B. Khlynov. A cup, medal and honorary diploma “Best gastroenterologist 2023. Winner of the second Russian Olympiad in Gastroenterology” are awarded

**Рисунок 1.** Награждение победителя олимпиады Мелешко Светланы Григорьевны проводят члены олимпийского комитета профессора А.В. Ткачев и И.Б. Хлынов. Вручается кубок, медаль и почетный диплом «Лучший гастроэнтеролог 2023 г. Победитель второй Российской олимпиады по гастроэнтерологии»

3) German physician G. von Helmholtz; 4) French physician R. Laennec. (Correct answer: 4.)

4. For autoimmune pancreatitis type 1, one of the following statements is true: 1) Involvement of other organs is not a characteristic feature; 2) Combination with ulcerative colitis is seen frequently; 3) An increase in the level of IgG4 > 2 upper normal limits is determined; 4) The histological features include neutrophil infiltration, microabscesses. (Correct answer: 3.)

5. Which of the following is true for the pancreatic mucinous cystic neoplasia? 1) It is a benign cystic tumor; 2) It is a precursor of intraductal papillary mucinous neoplasia; 3) Predominantly occurs in middle-aged men; 4) The typical histological sign — ovarian stroma in the cyst wall. (Correct answer: 4.)



**Figure 2.** Medal of the winner of the second Russian Olympiad in Gastroenterology 2023

**Рисунок 2.** Медаль победителя второй Российской олимпиады по гастроэнтерологии 2023 г.



**Figure 3.** The award ceremony for Elena V. Garanina, who took second place in the Olympiad, is carried out by members of the Olympic Committee, Professors A.V. Tkachev and I.B. Khlynov

**Рисунок 3.** Награждение Гарианиной Елены Владиславовны, занявшей в олимпиаде второе место, проводят члены олимпийского комитета профессора А.В. Ткачев и И.Б. Хлынов





**Figure 4.** The awarding of Yulia V. Kondrashova, who took third place in the Olympiad, is carried out by members of the Olympic Committee, Professors A.V. Tkachev and I.B. Khlynov

**Рисунок 4.** Награждение Кондрашовой Юлии Викторовны, занявшей в олимпиаде третье место, проводят члены олимпийского комитета профессора А.В. Ткачев и И.Б. Хлынов



**Figure 5.** The award ceremony for the Olympiad winner from the team of students, Alexey V. Boyarko, is carried out by members of the Olympic Committee, Professors A.V. Tkachev and I.B. Khlynov

**Рисунок 5.** Награждение призера олимпиады от команды слушателей Боярко Алексея Владимировича проводят члены олимпийского комитета профессора А.В. Ткачев и И.Б. Хлынов



**Figure 6.** The winners and participants of the Olympiad were heartily congratulated by the head of the National College of Gastroenterology and Hepatology of the Russian Gastroenterological Association, Academician of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Professor V.T. Ivashkin and the Executive Director of the College, Professor O.Yu. Zolnikova

**Рисунок 6.** Призеров и участников олимпиады от всей души поздравили руководитель Национальной школы гастроэнтерологии, гепатологии РГА академик РАН, профессор В.Т. Ивашкин и исполнительный директор Школы, профессор О.Ю. Зольникова

It should be noted that all the Olympiad medalists showed a high degree of preparedness and coped with difficult tasks perfectly.

The champion of the second Russian Olympiad in Gastroenterology 2023 was **Svetlana G. Meleshko**, who, with the general support of the listeners, was solemnly awarded the award medal and cup "Best Gastroenterologist 2023." (Figs. 1, 2).

**Elena V. Garanina** took second place (Fig. 3), third place went to **Yuliya V. Kondrashova** (Fig. 4).

The winner of the Audience team was **Alexey V. Boyarko**, Cand. Sci. (Med.), Gastroenterologist from the Federal Scientific and Clinical Center of the Federal Medical and Biological Agency of Russia (Moscow). All winners were awarded

honorary diplomas of participation in the Russian Gastroenterological Olympiad (Figs. 5, 6).

The experience of the Olympiads testifies to the undoubted interest of doctors of all ages and experience in this form of training and control. Elements of competition, the opportunity to broaden your horizons, a friendly and festive atmosphere help to unite the audience, promote further communication

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between listeners, awaken additional interest and contribute to a deeper understanding of the specialty. According to the experience of the National College of Gastroenterology, Hepatology of the Russian Gastroenterological Association, this form of live scientific communication would be very useful to consider as an element of postgraduate improvement of doctors.

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Published: 29.12.2023  
Опубликована: 29.12.2023

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