

## **Spleen: structure, function and disease**

*Khodabakhshi Behzad Mohammad*

*Белорусский государственный медицинский университет, Minsk*

*Научный(-е) руководитель(-и) – phd, associate professor Melnichenko Yuliya Michailovna,*

*Белорусский государственный медицинский университет, Minsk*

The spleen is the largest organ in the lymphatic system. It has been considered a neglected organ so far. Spleen plays an important role in the clearance of circulating apoptotic cells, the differentiation and activation of T and B cells and production of antibodies in the white pulp.

The aim of this study was to represent the function of spleen in humans.

PubMed search was carried out in English language literature for spleen structure and functions. Twenty two articles were included in this study.

The spleen serves three very important functions, which are: 1. Production of lymphocytes. 2. Filtration. It involves removal of damaged or old blood cells from circulation. The spleen also serves as a store of erythrocytes, which may be released in times of need such as following an injury where excessive blood was lost or in hypovolemic shock. 3. Preservation of iron from destroyed red blood cells.

Recent evidence has shed light on a previously unknown role of the spleen in the development and maintenance of specific B cell populations against infection caused by encapsulated bacteria.

РЕПОЗИТОРИЙ БГМУ