

To  
**The Head of the Scientific Jury,**  
**Assigned in accordance with Order № 419/28.02.2020**  
**Of the Rector of Medical University - Plovdiv**  
**15 A Vassil Aprilov**  
**Boulevard**  
4002 Plovdiv

**Your Protocol №1/ 11.03.2020 r**



***Attached I Submit: Review***

In relation to the Procedure of awarding the Academic Degree “Associate Professor”

In the Scientific Specialty ORTHOPAEDICS AND TRAUMATOLOGY

Published in State Gazette №99/17.12.2019

For the needs of Medical University – Plovdiv, Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology

**Standpoint:** Assoc. Prof. Venelin Alexandrov Alexiev, MD, PhD

Scientific specialty Orthopaedics and Traumatology

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# STANDPOINT

By Assoc. Prof. Venelin Alexandrov Alexiev, MD, PhD

Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology, Medical Faculty, Medical University Sofia

**Subject:** Procedure for the academic position “Associate Professor” in the scientific specialty “Orthopedics and Traumatology” for the needs of the Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology, Medical Faculty, Medical University Plovdiv.

The procedure was announced with an approved proposal of the Faculty Assembly of MU-Plovdiv ( protocol №2 from 2/26/2020) and published in St. G. (99 / 17.12.2019) in the field of higher education 7. "Health and sports", professional field 7.1. " medicine ”and a scientific specialty“ Orthopedics and traumatology ”for the needs of the Department of Orthopedics and Traumatology of the Medical Faculty, MU Plovdiv. The Scientific Jury was appointed by Order No. P-410 / 2/28/2020 of the Rector of the MU-Plovdiv and in accordance with Minutes No. 1 of its 1st session of 11/03/2020. I am assigned to present an opinion.

Only one candidate has presented documents for the procedure –

**Keti Petkova Tokmakova, assistant professor, “doctor of medicine”.**

## **Professional Development**

Keti Tokmakova was born in 1964. She obtained a master's degree in medicine in 1989 at MU-Plovdiv. She joined the Department of Orthopaedics and traumatology at the University Hospital “St. George” as a resident and assistant professor in 1990, and she is still working there as an assistant professor and orthopaedic surgeon.

She was Board certified in "Orthopedics and Traumatology" in 1996. In 2017, she successfully defended her thesis for acquiring the educational and scientific title "Doctor" in the field of pediatric hip surgery.

She has completed a number of specializations abroad related to diagnosis and treatment of upper limb diseases, pediatric orthopedics, microsurgery of the hand, ultrasound diagnostics of the musculoskeletal system, basic orthopedics research (Japan, Hong Kong, Austria, USA). Dr. Tokmakova's most significant specializations are over half a year at Nihon

University Surugadai Hospital, Tokyo, Japan and half a year at The University of Hong Kong, and a full year at Alfred I duPont Hospital for Children at Thomas Jefferson University in the United States .

She is fluent in English (graduated with a gold medal from the English Language School in Plovdiv) and Russian.

She is a member of the Bulgarian Orthopedic and Traumatology Association (BOTA), the European Federation of Orthopedics and Traumatology (EFORT), the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons (AAOS), the Bulgarian Society of Pediatric Orthopedics, the Bulgarian Association of Surgery of the Upper Extremity and Hand, European Federation of the Societies of Surgery of the Hand (FESSH), International Federation of of Hand Surgery Societies (IFSSH).

### **Research Activity**

Dr. Keti Tokmakova's research interests are primarily centered on the problems of diagnosis and treatment of diseases in pediatric orthopedics and upper limb surgery in adults.

In this procedure, she has presented a total of 100 titles, including her dissertation and a peer-reviewed monograph with an ISBN. The actual publications are 32, published in Bulgarian and international specialized scientific journals, 7 of which are in international refereed journals and 5 in IF journals. Of the total number of scientific papers, 33% are on orthopedic and traumatological problems of the upper limb, 20% - pediatric orthopedics and traumatology, 14% - orthopedic and traumatology training, 13% - orthopedic and traumatological problems on the lower limb, 11% - basic research in Orthopedics and traumatology and 7% are dedicated to the joint replacement of large joints.

Dr. Tokmakova has participated in 19 international forums abroad, delivering scientific papers that are highly rated and abstracts published. In addition, she has participated in our national conferences and congresses, some with international participation, and has presented a total of 45 reports.

In 2019 Dr. Tokmakova has published habilitation work – a peer-reviewed monograph with an ISBN, which fully meets the criteria of this competition for the selection of associate professor in fulfillment of the Rules of the law for the application. She is a contributor to a peer-reviewed university textbook and has published a chapter in a collective monograph with American authors.

Dr. Tokmakova has participated in national and international research projects as a coordinator in 1 and as an expert in 3 projects.

The data presented in the documents, as well as the reference of the Central Medical Library, show that Dr. Tokmakova was quoted a total of 158 times, 97 of which in refereed journals with IF (World databases of Thomson Reuters, Web of Science and Scopus) .

Dr. Tokmakova's total personal impact factor is 6.339, which is well above the average for a young surgical researcher and is a confirmation of the high score (IF from citation: 158.036, h-index: 4) she receives for her research work .

The national and international research awards received by the candidate are: Lester Lowe Scholarship - Nairobi, 1998; 50th Anniversary Fund Scholarship, Nihon University School of Medicine; World Orthopedic Concern Fellowship, SICOT Triennial World Congress, San Diego, CA, USA, 2002.

Dr. Tokmakova is the Deputy Editor-in-Chief of the Journal Orthopedics and Traumatology, as well as a longtime reviewer of articles in Folia Medica.

### **Educational Activity**

Despite her significant medical activity, Dr. Tokmakova has a high academic load. For the period 2016-2019 it has an average teaching (lectures and exercises with medical students) workload of about 623 hours per year (2016/2017 - 485 hours, 2017/2018 - 628 hours, 2018/2019 - 756 hours). She is actively involved in the English language teaching of foreign students due to her excellent command of English.

CONCLUSION: It is clear from the above stated that the applicant for the academic position of Associate Professor has been established as a highly qualified specialist in the field of orthopedics, and in particular of upper limb surgery, pediatric orthopedics and traumatology with high esteem in Bulgaria and abroad of the results of her research and clinical work. Over the past 30 years of Dr. Tokmakova's professional career at the University Hospital "St. Georgi "EAD-Plovdiv develops in the field of different subspecialties - surgery and microsurgery of the upper limb, pediatric orthopedics, large joints arthroplasty. Her two-year specializations at universities in the USA, Japan and Hong Kong, during which she has had the opportunity to pursue truly valuable scientific work that has led to numerous publications in international orthopedic journals are very important. Her rich linguistic culture allows her to follow specialized literature in different languages and to participate adequately in international forums.

All stated above allows me to recommend to the Honorable Jury to award Assistant KETI PETKOVA TOKMAKOVA, DM the Academic Position "Assistant Professor".



**Assoc. Prof. Venelin Alexiev, MD, PhD**