

# STATEMENT

МЕДИЦИНСКИ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ  
ПЛОВДИВ

Вх. № *P-406* / *1-2-06-2020* г.

by **Prof. Dr. Deyan Tonev Zhelev**

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**Regarding:** Competition for holding the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education 7- Healthcare and sport, professional direction 7.1 Medicine, academic major- Gastroenterology for the needs of Second Department of Internal Diseases, Medical University of Plovdiv, announced in State Gazette No. 61 dated 02.08.2020.

By order № P-406/28.02.2020 of the Rector of the Medical University of Plovdiv, I have been appointed as a **member of the Academic jury**. In compliance with a Decision took in the first meeting of the jury, I have been elected to prepare a **statement** on the aforementioned competition.

The only applicant in the competition is **Dr. Daniel Ilianov Doykov**, Assistant in Second Department of Internal Diseases, Clinic of Gastroenterology, Medical University of Plovdiv.

A full set of papers has been presented to prepare the statement in compliance with the requirements of the Law for development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria as well as the Regulations for development of the academic staff in the Medical University of Plovdiv.

## I. Professional development

Dr. Daniel Doykov graduated his higher education in Medicine from the Medical University of Plovdiv. He has more than 9 years of work experience in the major of Gastroenterology at the Clinic of Gastroenterology in University hospital Kaspela, Plovdiv. Since March 2013 he has been Assistant at the Second Department of Internal Diseases, Clinic of Gastroenterology, Medical University of Plovdiv. He acquired a major in **Gastroenterology in 2015** as well as **an academic degree "Doctor" in Gastroenterology in 2018**, after successfully defending a dissertation on the following topic: "Real time elastography as a method for assessing liver stiffness in chronic liver disease." Since September 2015 he has been a Master of Public Health and Health Management and since October 2015 he has been the

Managing director of the Outpatient clinic for specialized outpatient care and Medical Center Kaspela. Dr. Daniel Doykov has been constantly developing his knowledge and skills. Consecutively he acquired qualification to perform abdominal ultrasound I<sup>st</sup> level, Doppler ultrasound II<sup>nd</sup> level and the highest III<sup>rd</sup> level of competency- interventional and endoscopic abdominal ultrasound and respectively the right to perform conventional endoscopy (I<sup>st</sup> level), interventional endoscopy (II<sup>nd</sup> level) as well as ERCP (endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography) and its related intervention procedures (III<sup>rd</sup> level). He took part in a variety of specialized postgraduate courses in well known clinic centres in Austria, Germany, India, Spain, Italy and Japan. He is a member of the Bulgarian Society of Gastroenterology, Gastrointestinal Endoscopy and Abdominal ultrasound, the European Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, the European Group for Endoscopic Ultrasound and the European Association for the Study of the Liver (EASL).

## **II. Research and teaching activity**

Dr. Daniel Doykov has seven years of teaching experience as Assistant at the Second Department of Internal Diseases, Medical University of Plovdiv. As an Assistant in the Department and an Attending doctor at the Clinic of Gastroenterology, University Hospital Kaspela, he actively participates in conducting seminars and practical classes for trainee doctors, postgraduates and doctoral students in the major of Gastroenterology. From the provided academic report on the study involvement, it is evident that in the last 3 academic years, Dr. Doykov's academic occupation is between 355 and 424 hours annually which is far above the normatively defined 240 hours annually for the Medical University of Plovdiv.

## **III. Research activity**

Dr. Daniel Doykov presents in the competition with a total of 18 academic works which include:

- a dissertation for acquiring the academic degree Doctor
- a monograph study- "Ultrasound elastography of the liver" with only one author D. Doykov (ISBN: 978-619-7205-17-6)
- 16 full-text publications of which 14 are in Bulgarian language and 2 are in English language.

The applicant is first author in 15 of the articles (he is the only author in 4 of them) and a second author in 1 of the 16 presented publications.



All this along with the attached Protocols clearly shows the leading contribution of Dr. Doykov in the examined academic field.

The academic work of the applicant has been quoted 11 times: 1 quotation in the Web of Science, 4 quotations in monographs and 6 quotations- in unreferenced journals. Attached one can see copies of the articles and the monographs with the relevant references which prove the quotations.

Dr. Doykov's academic work is related to the current issues of hepatology and gastroenterology. The accent is on a study of capabilities of ultrasound elastography as a non-invasive method for assessment of liver fibrosis in chronic liver disease of various etiologies. The applicant has the highest publication activity in this field, including the developed dissertation topic for acquiring Doctor's degree and the subsequent monograph. His genuine academic contributions are clearly visible:

- He does a comprehensive study and comparison between invasive and non-invasive methods in a significant number of patients with chronic liver disease. As a result it was established the cut-off value in real time elastography to differentiate between initial and advanced fibrosis in a group of patients- those with acute viral hepatitis B and chronic viral hepatitis C as well as to differentiate mild from moderate fibrosis in patients with alcoholic hepatitis.
- The usefulness and reliability of the non-invasive methods in the diagnosis of chronic viral hepatitis and liver cirrhosis as well as their limitations in non-alcoholic steatosis have been confirmed. The liver biopsy remains the gold standard.
- An algorithm is proposed for assessing fibrosis in patients with chronic liver disease.
- The monograph study "Ultrasound elastography of the liver", 2019 thoroughly examines the clinical use of 4 modalities of the ultrasound elastography in liver diseases. Comparative studies are performed to assess liver stiffness in chronic viral hepatitis, non-alcoholic steatohepatitis, alcoholic hepatitis and cirrhosis. A detailed comparison has been made in the setting of focal liver lesions and the differentiation between benign and malignant findings. Comparative studies have been presented between the different types of elastography as well as elastography in combination with non-invasive biomarkers. Cut-off values are observed with the different types of elastography which can be useful in the daily practice.

- His own observations and monitoring of the technique examines the role of the combination of endoscopic ultrasound with elastography in the diagnosis of diffuse diseases of the pancreas. Initial results have been presented concerning the assessment of bile polyps by pSWE elastography.
- Risk factors have been assessed for an inadequate and poor bowel preparation of patients before colonoscopy and the efficacy of glutaraldehyde in disinfection of endoscopes.

#### **IV. Compliance with the requirements of the Medical University of Plovdiv for holding the academic position of "Associate Professor"**

The self-assessment report attached by Dr. Daniel Doykov for the implementation of the minimum national indicators shows that he has a total of 749 points and the required points are 400.

<b>Groups of indicators</b>	<b>Minimum requirements</b>	<b>Actual points of the applicant for Associate Professor</b>
Group A; Indicator 1	50	<b>50</b>
Group B, Indicator 2	–	<b>0</b>
Group C; Indicator 3 or 4	100	<b>100</b>
Group D; Total of the indicators from 5 to 9	200	<b>444</b>
Group E: Total of the indicators from 10 to 12	50	<b>85</b>
Group F: Total of the indicators from 13 till the end	–	<b>70</b>
<b>Total points:</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>749</b>

**Conclusion:** The presented indicators by Dr. Doykov and his teaching activity meet the criteria set in the Law for development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for development of the academic staff in the Medical University of Plovdiv for acquiring the academic degree Associate Professor.

In my capacity as a member of the Academic jury, I give my positive assessment for the applicant and I recommend that the jury awards Dr Daniel Ilianov Doykov the position of "Associate Professor" in Gastroenterology.

28.04.2020

Sofia



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Prof. Dr. Deyan Zhelev