



To the Head of the Scientific Jury
Medical University - Plovdiv,
Appointed by order № P- 2239/28.06.2024

STATEMENT

By Assoc. Prof. Georgi Stanev Yankov, MD, PhD, FEBTS
Head of Thoracic Surgery Department,
UMHAT 'St. Ivan Rilski'
Department of Pulmonary Diseases,
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Regarding:

Participation in a competition for the academic position "professor" in the scientific specialty of Thoracic Surgery, field of higher education 7. Health care and sports, professional direction 7.1. Medicine at the Department of "Special Surgery" for teaching in Bulgarian in the discipline "Thoracic Surgery" announced in SG no. 35/19.04.2024

One candidate participated in the announced competition: Associate Professor Ivan Petkov Novakov, MD, PhD, DSc, Department of "Special Surgery", Medical University, Plovdiv.

Brief biographical reference:

Assoc. Prof. Ivan Petkov Novakov graduated in medicine in 1991 and has a 33-year of experience as a surgeon. He has specialties in general surgery, oncology and thoracic surgery. In 2008, he obtained the educational and scientific degree "DOCTOR" after successfully defending a dissertation on the topic: "Progression of pleural empyema, determining its surgical treatment (experimental and clinical studies)". In 2010 he acquired the scientific title of associate professor. In 2018 became "DOCTOR OF SCIENCES" based on his topic: "Lung injury in closed chest trauma: clinical and experimental studies". Since 2013, he has a master's degree in public health and health management. Since April 2024, he is the head of the Department of Special Surgery at the Medical University of Plovdiv. He is a member of the Scientific Society of Surgery, the

Bulgarian Society of Pulmonary Diseases and the European Respiratory Society. He speaks English and Spanish.

Research activity:

In order to participate in the competition, Associate Professor Ivan Petkov Novakov presented 112 scientific works, a dissertation for the award of the educational and scientific degree DOCTOR, a dissertation work for the award of the educational and scientific degree DOCTOR OF SCIENCES, two monographs and two contributions to a chapter of a collective monograph. What is more, he presented 96 publications, 32 of which are in refereed and indexed global databases (Scopus/ Web of Science), 11 of them are in journals with IF, while 64 are in non-refereed journals with scientific review .

Significance of scientific works:

Assoc. prof Novakov's publications are in renowned international journals, including: Cureus, Diagnostics, European Respiratory Journal, Monaldi Archives for Chest Disease, Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine, Turkish Journal of Emergency Medicine, World Journal of Clinical Cases, World Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery, Medical Journal, Annals of Case Reports, as well as the Bulgarian Folia Medica, Trakia Journal of Sciences and Bulgarian Medical Journal, Khirurgia, Medicinski Pregled. Assoc. prof. Novakov's scientific work is closely related to the medical-diagnostic and clinical activity and is dedicated to various surgical problems and disease states. Assoc. prof Novakov's scientific work examine current and significant issues in the field of thoracic surgery, oncology and emergency abdominal surgery. He also created and published for the first time in our country an experimental model of pleural empyema related to the implementation of his first dissertation work. Assoc. prof Novakov investigated biochemical, cytological and pathohistological changes affecting the course of empyema and fibrosis of the pleura. What is more, he established the role of a profibrotic mediator in the course of pleural inflammation as well as different imaging methods and video-assisted thoracoscopy in the changes in the pleural cavity during the progression of empyema. As part of his second dissertation work, a model of closed chest trauma in experimental animals was created and published for the first time in our country. Based on these studies, he published a number of clinical studies and cases related to the assessment and severity of thoracic trauma in patients with pulmonary contusion and post-contusion pulmonary edema. He published two monographs, participated in a chapter of a

collective monograph, and also in two textbooks and four university manuals related to pleural effusions, closed chest trauma, esophageal carcinoma and acute surgical abdomen. The total number of citations of Associate Professor Novakov's works is 104, and the number of citations in foreign databases (Scopus, Web of Science) is 73, of which 27 are cited in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review and 4 are in non-refereed publications. This is evident from the references presented by the Library and Information Center at the Medical University of Plovdiv and the Central Medical Library at the Medical University of Sofia.

Assessment of educational and teaching activities:

Assoc. prof Novakov has an extensive teaching experience as an assistant, senior assistant, principal assistant and associate professor with students, interns, specialists and doctoral students. He is the scientific supervisor of four PhD students. He participated in two international scientific projects, one national educational project. He took part in the publication of two textbooks, four university teaching aids. Assoc. prof. Novakov's study load for the last three years is 486,484 and 484 hours, respectively.

Therapeutic and diagnostic activity:

Assoc. prof Novakov has a diverse and long-standing clinical practice. The great clinical and surgical experience, both in general and in thoracic surgery, allow him to work in a team and in close collaboration with his colleagues from different units.

Scientific contributions:

The overall research and teaching activity of Associate prof Novakov contains significant contributions of a theoretical and practical nature, mainly in the field of thoracic surgery, oncology and emergency abdominal surgery. His research focuses on pleural empyemas, malignant pleural effusions, thoracic trauma, and specifically the traumatic lung and acute surgical abdomen.

Conclusion:

The conducted analysis of the scientific and teaching activity of the candidate allows me to draw the conclusion that Associate Professor Ivan Petkov Novakov, MD, PhD, DSc, is an established academic teacher, researcher, organizer and clinician with an extensive experience. The scientific production and the teaching activity correspond to the scientometric indicators contained in the Law on Academic Staff Development in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of the Medical University of Plovdiv and exceed the quantitative and qualitative requirements for occupying the academic position of "professor". I

give a positive assessment regarding the candidate's participation in the procedure for occupying an academic position and allow myself to call on the respected members of the Scientific Jury to award Assoc. Prof. Ivan Petkov Novakov Phd, Dsc, scientific title "Professor".

18.07.2024

Prepared the opinion

Associate Professor Georgi Stanev Yankov, MD, FEBTS

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