



To
The chairman of the scientific jury,
appointed by Order No. R - 2391/ 12.07.2024.
of the Vice-Rector of the Medical University - Plovdiv
15A V. Aprilov Blvd
4002 Plovdiv

According to your Protocol No. 1/ dated 22.07.2024
(date of the 1st meeting)



Attached I present: STATEMENT OF OPINION
Re: competition for the academic position "Associate Professor"
in the scientific specialty: Urology
stated for the needs of MU-Plovdiv, Department of Urology and General Medicine
in SG, no. 35/19/04/2024

From: Associate Professor Mladen Iljanov Doykov, MD, PhD
Scientific specialty: Urology
Institution: Medical University - Plovdiv

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Заличено на основание
Чл.5 §1, б. "В" Регламент (ЕС)2016/679

STATEMENT OF OPINION

from

Associate Professor Mladen Ilianov Doykov, MD, PhD

Department of Urology and General Medicine, Medical University - Plovdiv,

Regarding the competition for the academic position "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education 7. Health care and sports by professional direction 7.1 Medicine and scientific specialty "Urology" for the needs of the Department of Urology and General Medicine of the Medical University of Plovdiv, announced in the State Gazette no. 35/19 April 2024.

The Statement of opinion was prepared in accordance with the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its Application, the Regulations for Academic Development at Plovdiv Medical University, Order No. R - 2391/ 12.07.2024 of the Vice-Rector of MU-Plovdiv for the appointment of a Scientific Jury and after a remote meeting of the latter - Protocol 1/22. 07. 2024

Only one candidate participated in the competition and was admitted by the eligibility committee, Dr. Atanas Slavchev Ivanov, PhD

1. Biographical data and career profile of the candidate

Dr. Atanas Ivanov was born in 1986 in the town of Pazardzhik. He graduated with honors from the Medical University of Plovdiv in 2011 and has 12 years of experience as a doctor. He worked successively at the EMERGENCY MEDICAL AID CENTER in Plovdiv (2011-2012), UMBAL "St. Georgi" city of Plovdiv (2012 and until now), Diagnostic Consultative Center-4, city of Plovdiv (2018-2019), Diagnostic Consultative Center-2, city of Plovdiv (2019-2022) and "Dr. Atanas Ivanov AMBULATORY FOR SPECIALIZED OUT-HOSPITAL MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IN UROLOGY EOOD" (2022 and until now). His work in an operating clinic of a large university hospital gives him the opportunity for extensive practical training in the field of urology, as well as the opportunity for scientific developments in all aspects of our specialty. His academic career began in 2015 as an Assistant in Urology at the Medical University of Plovdiv, and from 2021 he continues as a Chief Assistant at the same university. His specialization in urology began in 2012, and ended in 2017. He has completed a master's degree in health management at the Higher School of Agribusiness and Regional Development (2019-2021). Since 2016 he has been a full-time doctoral student, and in 2020 he defended his dissertation on the topic "Renal cell cancer - clinical-

genetic aspects" for the acquisition of the scientific degree "Doctor" in the scientific specialty "Urology".

Dr. Ivanov is fluent in English, German and Spanish, which gives him the opportunity to conduct numerous courses and additional qualifications in a number of countries around the world – Japan, Germany, Spain, Holland, Denmark, Greece and France. In Bulgaria, he also participated in numerous postgraduate courses in the fields of laparoscopic urology, endourology, abdominal ultrasound, etc.

The candidate is a member of the European Urological Association, the Bulgarian Urological Society and the Union of Scientists in Bulgaria.

2. General description of the submitted materials for the competition

The presented documents are systematically and correctly arranged and presented in accordance with the requirements of Bulgarian laws and by-laws. Submitted: CV, abstract of dissertation work, habilitation work (monograph), administrative documents (copies of diplomas, certificates of work experience and held academic positions, academic workload, attestation sheet of the Commission for attestation of the academic staff in MU - Plovdiv), lists of publications, lists of citations, documents proving participation in scientific and educational projects, documents proving participation in exams, tutoring of specializing physicians.

2. Scientific output.

Dr. Atanas Ivanov, PhD has presented: abstract of a dissertation - 1, independent monograph - 1, a list of 55 full-text publications and a list of 9 citations and 6 reviews.

The tabular presentation of the quantitative indicators is as follows:

Author's place	Dissertation	Publications in refereed journals and with IF	Monography	Publications in non-refereed journals	Total
1. 1. Independent author	1	-	1	6	8
2. First author	-	5	-	22	27
3. Second author	-	2	-	5	18

4. Third and subsequent author	-	8	-	7	15
Total	1	15	1	40	57

The data analysis shows a high share of publications in which he is an independent or first author – 35 publications (69.58%).

Of the works submitted according to the Regulations for Academic Development at the MU Plovdiv, I acknowledge - 26 publications. Of these: 1 abstract of a dissertation work, 1 independent monograph, 14 publications in refereed journals (Scopus/Web of Science), 10 publications in non-refereed journals. The candidate has indicated which of the publications were used in previous procedures (for the scientific degree "Doctor" and for the academic position "Chief Assistant"), which shows correctness and facilitates the review. In addition, the publications, subject to review, do not include data and information from his dissertation work.

Dr. Ivanov is the author of a monograph - "Transurethral surgery of benign prostatic hyperplasia", published in 2024. In it, he presents the information in a style and speech suitable for both novice young doctors - residents and PhD students, but also for experienced urologists who want to familiarize themselves with all methods – the ones that have not received widespread distribution and those, which are already changing the paradigm in transurethral surgery of benign prostatic hyperplasia.

According to the citation evidence, Dr. Ivanov has 9 citations in journals referenced and indexed in Scopus / Web of Science and 2 citations in non-refereed journals. He is a reviewer of 6 articles in journals referenced and indexed in Scopus / Web of Science.

With this scientific production, Dr. Atanas Ivanov, PhD, fully covers the mandatory quantitative scientometric requirements in the Regulations for Academic Development at MU-Plovdiv, art. 107, item 4 described in Appendix 1, section II "Scientometric indicators for MU- Plovdiv for units with clinical-diagnostic activity", table 2.

Academic position - associate professor	Requirements for medical and clinical disciplines at MU Plovdiv	Dr. Atanas Ivanov, PhD
Total number of publications	15	24
- In refereed editions	10	14

- In non-referred editions	5	10
Monography	1	1
Positive citations	7 in referred editions	11 9 in referred editions

Dr. Atanas Ivanov, PhD is a participant in 4 national scientific and educational projects, as well as in 4 international projects.

As an additional value to his participation in the competition are his annual participations in conferences and symposiums in our country and abroad.

According to the National minimum requirements for occupying the academic position "Associate Professor" in the professional direction 7.1 Medicine, in which direction the competition is being held, Dr. Atanas Ivanov, PhD fully meets the set minimum requirements for occupying the AD "Associate Professor" position at MU- Plovdiv:

group of indicators	contents	Minimum Requirements for "Assistant Professor"	Specific requirements for MU-Plovdiv	Evidence presented	points	% of completion
A	Indicator 1	50	50	dissertation	50	<u>100%</u>
B	Indicators 3 and 4	100 monography	100 monography	Monography ISBN 978-619-189-247-1	100	<u>100%</u>
Г	Сума от показатели от 5-9	200	200 15 статии; 10-реферирани От тях 3 с IF	Със IF – 9 Реферирани – 14 Нереферирани – 10	336, 18	<u>163,09%</u>
Д	Sum of indicators 10-12	50	110 citations in refereed	9 in refereed 2 in unreferenced	235	<u>213,63%</u>

				6 reviews		
E	Sum of indicators 13-22	-	60 1 project specialty	4 national projects 4 int. projects Specialty training for a specialist	215 ,71	<u>359,51%</u>
Ж		-	100 teaching load 200 Acad. position	166 teaching load 300 Acad. position	466	<u>155,33%</u>

5. Qualitative analysis of the works of Dr. Atanas Ivanov, PhD

Of the total number of scientific works, 6 consider the problem of carcinoma of the prostate gland, 7 are focused on benign prostatic hyperplasia, urolithiasis is considered in 8 publications, inflammatory diseases in 4, urogynecology in 4 of them, tumors of the kidney and bladder in 10, andrological problems are in 5, and publications from other urological topics are 4 in number.

The contributions of an original nature are many, which, distributed by subject, include:

Prostate carcinoma - Comparative study of the epidemiology in two European countries - Bulgaria and Germany; validation of elastography and its ability to detect malignant and non-malignant prostate lesions; data on the use of androgen deprivation therapy before surgery for prostate carcinoma.

Benign prostatic hyperplasia - the impact of Covid-19 on lower urinary tract symptoms in patients treated conservatively for BPH; the impact of different strains of Covid-19 on lower urinary tract symptoms in patients with BPH; analysis of early postoperative urethral catheter removal.

Urolithiasis - effectiveness and safety of a brand name flexible ureteroscope.

Urological infections - evaluation of the local etiological structure of patients with chronic bacterial prostatitis (NBH TYPE III) in the city of Plovdiv.

Urogynecology - rare case reports of thrombosed urethral hemangioma, female urethral carcinoma and female urethral malignant melanoma have been described.

Kidney and bladder tumors - the influence of tumor-associated symptoms on prognosis in patients with renal cell carcinoma was analyzed; spontaneous rupture of renal carcinoma has been

described; for the first time in Bulgaria, the application of in situ fluorescence hybridization and immunohistochemistry in unclassifiable renal cell carcinomas was described; proprietary data for the treatment of UUT urothelial carcinomas are presented; own data on the surgical technique in nephroureterectomy for urothelial carcinomas of UUT.

5. Educational and teaching activity.

Dr. Atanas Ivanov, PhD, has been teaching the discipline "Urology" to medical students both in Bulgarian and in English at the Medical University of Plovdiv since 2015. He also participates in the training of trainee doctors and urology specialists. The total classroom employment of Dr. Atanas Ivanov, dm from lectures and seminars, and participating in exams for the last 3 years is as follows: 2020/21 – 405 hours; 2021/22 - 495 hours; 2022/23 – 606 hours, which cover and exceed the required hours at the MU-Plovdiv (certified copies of the academic workload are presented). He also participates in the committee for the State Examination in Surgical Diseases and Examinations for Assistants.

The candidate also presents evidence of co-authorship of an article with medical students, as well as scientific mentoring of students in an international student conference. This shows that the performance of his teaching duties is not limited to lectures and seminars, but there is a conscious aspiration and desire to pass on knowledge and skills to younger colleagues.

In the competition documents, an Attestation sheet of the Attestation Commission of the MU-Plovdiv for the last 3-year attestation period of the candidate (from 2020 to 2022 inclusive) is presented, in which he meets the criteria for a Very good grade (which is the highest). This is in support of Dr. Ivanov's long-term responsible engagement in scientific, educational and administrative activities.

5. Critical remarks and recommendations

The documentation provided for the competition is complete, correct and meets the procedural requirements. This once again shows the high awareness and respect of Dr. Ivanov for the Academic Community and the members of the Scientific Jury.

6. Conclusion

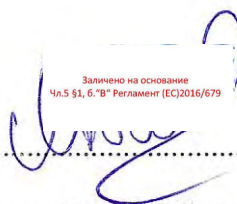
Dr. Atanas Slavchev Ivanov, PhD is a well-built and worthy urologist, scientist and teacher. I believe that his ambition, responsibility and potential as such will continue in the future. This will benefit both urology as a clinical and scientific specialty, but also its patients students, post-doctoral fellows and residents.

The analysis of all the administratively required documentation, based on the submitted works, their quantitative and qualitative analysis as a scientific product and their compliance with the requirements of the mandatory conditions and quantitative criteria in the ZRASRB and the Regulations for its implementation, as well as the specific requirements in the Regulations for academic development in the MU - Plovdiv, gives me reason to vote **positively**. In addition, I would like to propose to the members of the respected Scientific Jury, as well as to the members of the Faculty Council of Medical University - Plovdiv, the only candidate Dr. Atanas Slavchev Ivanov to be appointed as an associate professor in professional direction 7.1 Medicine and scientific speciality "Urology" for the needs of the Department of Urology and General Medicine at the Medical University of Plovdiv.

31/07/2024

Plovdiv

Author:



Заличено на основание
Чл.5 §1, 6."в" Регламент (ЕС)2016/679

/Associate Professor Mladen Iljanov Doykov, MD, PhD/