

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

On your Protocol No. 1 / of 22.07.2024
(date of the 1st meeting)

Attached I present : **Statement of opinion**
by competition for the academic position "Associate Professor"
in scientific specialty: Urology
announced for the needs of MU-Plovdiv, Department of Urology and General
Medicine in SG, no. 35 / 19.04.2024

From : Assoc. Prof. Plamen Dimitrov Dimitrov, PhD
Scientific specialty : Urology
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STATEMENT OF OPINION

from

Assoc. Prof. Plamen Dimitrov Dimitrov, PhD
Medical University of Sofia, Department of Urology

Regarding : Announced competition for academic position "Associate Professor" in the scientific specialty "Urology" for the needs of the Department of Urology and General Medicine at the Medical University of Plovdiv, announced in the State Gazette. 35 / 19.04.2024.

I present this opinion in my capacity as a member of the Scientific Jury, confirmed by order No. R - 2391/ 12.07.2024 of the Vice-Rector of the Medical University of Plovdiv.

The only candidate in the announced competition is Dr. Atanas Slavchev Ivanov, PhD - Chief assistant professor from the Medical University of Plovdiv, Department of Urology and General Medicine.

1. Brief biographical data.

Dr. Atanas Ivanov, PhD was born in 1986 in Pazardzhik.

In 2011, he graduated with honors from the Medical University of Plovdiv.

He worked from 2011 to 2012 at Center of Emergency Medicine - Plovdiv.

He began specializing in Urology at the Medical University of Plovdiv, based on at UMBAL "Sveti Georgi", Plovdiv in 2012, which ended in 2017, and from 26.02.2018 he acquired the rights of a specialist - urologist.

Since 2012 and currently works at the Urology Clinic of UMBAL "Sveti Georgi", Plovdiv.

In 2019, he began studying for a second master's degree - "Health Management" at VUARR - Plovdiv, which he finished in 2021.

After winning a competition in 2016, he began independent doctoral studies at the Medical University of Plovdiv with the topic "Renal-cell carcinoma- clinical - genetic aspects", defended in front of a Scientific Jury in 2020.

In 2015, he began his academic development with the position of "Assistant Professor", and from 2021 he held the position of "Chief Assistant Professor" in the Department of Urology and General Medicine.

In outpatient settings, he has been working since 2018 successively in DKC-2, DKC-4 and Dr. Atanas Ivanov AIPSMPU EOOD (until now).

Dr. Atanas Ivanov, PhD, speaks excellent English and basic German and Spanish. He 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.

Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Atanas Ivanov has submitted all the necessary documents for participation in the academic position "Associate Professor", in accordance with the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its application and the Regulations for Academic Development at MU-Plovdiv.

3. Evaluation of the scientific works of the candidate for the overall academic development.

Dr. Atanas Ivanov, PhD, is the author of a dissertation and an abstract to it for the acquisition of the degree of "Doctor", he is also the author of the monograph "Transurethral surgery of benign prostatic hyperplasia", as well as a total of 55 scientific works.

The dissertation labor on topic "Renal cell carcinoma- clinical -genetic aspects" in the scientific specialty "Urology" for awarding on educational and scientific degree "Doctor" is protected in front of Scientific jury. A highlight of this development in the field of oncurology is the identification of different genetic aberrations by fluorescence in situ hybridization, characteristic of the different subtypes of renal cell cancer.

The monograph "Transurethral Surgery of Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia" contains 274 pages and is peer-reviewed. Presented as the main habilitation thesis, it makes a thorough analysis of the individual methods in transurethral surgery of BPH, and for some of them own results are also included. In each chapter, the physical principles, the necessary surgical tools and the anatomical areas of surgical action are described in detail. The most representative studies for each methodology are presented, with data available both on the results obtained and on the possible complications. The information is presented as a compendium - easy, understandable and summarizing, however, on the other hand, the monograph is a source of

comprehensive and encyclopedic information about the problem to which it is dedicated.

Publications referenced and indexed in world-renowned journals bases data with scientific information (only Scopus and Web of science) – 14 scientific papers that were not used in participation in previous procedures are presented. Nine of them are in journals with an Impact factor (Clarivate Analytics). The publications are on the following topics: *oncurology* - carcinoma of the bladder, application of elastography in the diagnosis of prostate carcinoma, carcinoma of the urethra; *kidney stone disease and endourology* ; Also of interest is the current topic of COVID-19 and its relationship to lower urinary tract symptoms in men with benign prostatic hyperplasia.

Publications and papers published in non-refereed journals with scientific review after previous procedures of the candidate – degree of "Doctor" and academic position "Chief Assistant Professor" are 10. They include the most diverse questions and problems from urology - from oncurology , urolithiasis , benign prostatic hyperplasia, erectile dysfunction, emergency conditions in urology to urogynecology.

4. Citation of the candidate's scientific works in national and international journals.

Data on 9 open citations from journals referenced in Scopus and/or Web of Science and 2 citations in national journals have been provided, which meets the requirements in the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for Academic Development at Medical University - Plovdiv.

5. Complex, qualitative evaluation of the teaching-methodical and teaching activity, incl. scientific guidance of students, specialists.

Chief Assistant Professor Dr. Atanas Ivanov, PhD, has presented teaching employment for the last 3 years, which exceeds the requirements for the relevant category of teachers at Medical University - Plovdiv.

The candidate conducts practical exercises and lectures in Bulgarian and English on the subject "Urology" at the Medical University - Plovdiv. He is an erudite and extremely responsible teacher. With a vast knowledge base, he teaches students in an engaging manner, including interactive methods.

Dr. Ivanov is responsible for the training of the intern-doctors from the 6th year during their internship in urology, as well as for the web page of the department. He is a member of the Commission for the State Examination in Surgical Diseases. Participates in semester exams in urology, exams for assistants. He is engaged in the training of Erasmus students

The last presented attestation of Dr. Ivanov has a very good rating, a fact that proves that he is doing consistently and extremely well with scientific, administrative and teaching activities.

He has participated in numerous courses in the country and abroad: abdominal ultrasound, good clinical practice, extracorporeal lithotripsy , endourology , laparoscopic urology, surgical treatment of benign prostate biopsy, application of lasers in urology, application of Onabotulinumtoxin A for the treatment of overactive bladder. In 2019, he participated in the Master class in urology in Salzburg (Austria). He conducted an international scientific exchange at Tokai University, Japan after selection by the Ministry of Education and Science.

Dr. Atanas Ivanov, PhD, has participated in 4 national and 4 international scientific and educational projects.

6. Critical notes and recommendations.

I have no critical notes. I recommend Dr. Atanas Ivanov to continue his research activity and pass on his experience and knowledge to his students and interns.

7. General assessment of the candidate's compliance with the minimum national requirements and the requirements specific to MU - Plovdiv.

The evidence provided shows full compliance, meeting and exceeding the minimum required indicators in terms of:

- Occupancy of the academic positions of assistant professor and chief assistant professor - more than 5 years;
- Defense thesis in the scientific specialty "Urology"
- Acquired medical specialty in urology;
- A published monographic work that does not repeat data from his dissertation work;
- Publications in refereed journals – 14 full-text articles, incl. 9 with IF;
- Publications in non-refereed journals – 10
- Citations – a total of 11, of which 9 in refereed journals;
- Participation in scientific and educational projects - 4 national and 4 international.

8. Conclusion

Chief assistant professor Atanas Ivanov, PhD, is a qualified urologist, with rich theoretical training, acquired practical skills and available potential for future development in the Academic community. He enjoys authority among his colleagues and has earned the trust of patients.

Bearing in mind the relevance of the presented scientific works (dissertation, publications, monograph) , meeting the required scientific -metric indicators, the active teaching and learning activity, the previous performance in the professional and academic aspect, I consider that the candidate, based on the presented information from the attached documents, meets the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic and Bulgaria and the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff at the Medical University - Plovdiv for the occupation of the academic position "Associate Professor".

As a member of the Scientific Jury, I give a positive opinion for the candidate and recommend the esteemed jury to support Dr. Atanas Slavchev Ivanov, PhD . for the academic position "ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR" in urology at the Medical University of Plovdiv.

31. 07. 2024
Sofia

Prepared the opinion:
(Assoc. prof. Dr. Plamen Dimitrov, PhD)



Закрито на основание
чл.5 §1, 6, 8) Регламент (ЕС)2016/679