

To the Chair of the Scientific Jury

appointed by order No P-2391/12.07.2024
of the Deputy Rector of Medical University - Plovdiv

STATEMENT OF OPINION

From Assoc. Prof. Dr Boris Seryozhev Mladenov, PhD

Clinic of Urology, UMHATEM "N.I. Pirogov", Sofia

Regarding a competition for the academic position of Associate Professor in Urology announced in State Gazette No. 35/19.04.2024 in the field of higher education 7. "Health and Sport" in the professional field 7.1. "Medicine" at the Department of Urology and General Medicine of the Medical University - Plovdiv (MU - Plovdiv) for the teaching in Bulgarian and English in the discipline of Urology.

Only solitary candidate, Dr. Atanas Slavchev Ivanov, PhD, Sen. Assistant Professor at the Department of Urology and General Medicine, Medical University - Plovdiv, was admitted to the competition.

All required administrative documents, evidence of professional and career development have been provided. All submitted materials comply with the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for the Implementation of the same law at the MU - Plovdiv.

Hereby I do submit the following statement:

1. Biographical data

Sen. Assistant Prof. Dr. Atanas Slavchev Ivanov, PhD was born on 25.04.1986. He graduated in medicine in 2011 at the Medical University - Plovdiv and in 2017 acquired a specialty in urology. In 2021 he graduated with a Master's degree in "Health Management" at VUARR, Plovdiv. In 2020 he defended his PhD in Urology. Dr. Ivanov has passed all stages of his career development from resident doctor to Sen. Assistant Prof. fully in the academic environment of Medical University - Plovdiv. From 2015 to 2021 he was Assistant Professor and from 2021 Sen. Assistant Professor at the Department of Urology

and General Medicine. He has been working in the urology department of St. George's University Hospital, Sofia, since 2012. He has been working in the Department of Urology, University of Plovdiv since 2012. Dr. Atanas Ivanov, MD is fluent in English (C2) and uses German and Spanish (A2). He is a member of the Bulgarian Urological Society, the European Association of Urology and the Union of Scientists in Bulgaria.

Academic and teaching career development includes:

Classroom teaching: In the last 5 years has taught undergraduate and postgraduate students with the required classroom teaching. The attached attestation sheet from MU - Plovdiv shows that the candidate covers more than 125% of the norm for teaching load.

Extra-curricular employment: the candidate participates in the management of summer internships of Bulgarian and foreign students, training of students under the Erasmus program, as well as participates in academic tutorials with the team of MU - Plovdiv. The candidate is responsible for the scientific activities and for the Web page of the department. He has held numerous courses in the country and abroad: uro-oncology, abdominal ultrasonography, endourology, laparoscopy, etc.

2. Research activity

The scientific research papers presented in the competition by Dr. Ivanov are 27, including a dissertation with an abstract, a habilitation paper - a monograph submitted in connection with the habilitation procedure and a contribution to a university textbook in Bulgarian and English. The candidate has 14 publications in journals refereed in world databases, in 4 of them he is the first author. The number of articles submitted to the competition in peer-reviewed journals (non-referred) is 10, in 2 of which he is the first author. 9 citations and 6 reviews in journals refereed in world databases of peer-reviewed journals and 2 in non-referred journals were submitted. Of the articles submitted 9 have an impact factor, with a total of 8.256. Dr. Ivanov is a participant in 4 national scientific projects, as well as 4 international ones.

The scientific interests of the candidate, respectively a serious part of his publications are related to:

- benign prostatic hyperplasia (BPH), where he has 8 papers – articles and a monograph - habilitation thesis

- prostate cancer - diagnosis, treatment, and functional outcomes (6 publications)
- kidney and bladder cancer - dissertation on the topic, as well as 10 publications, participation in 2 national projects on the topic, as well as 3 international ones
- a number of publications on the following topics: renal stone disease, inflammatory urological diseases, urogynecology, andrology, as well as on rare, occasionally addressed in the literature urological cases and problems

3. Overall assessment of the candidate's compliance with the minimum requirements of of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for the Implementation of the same law at the MU - Plovdiv for the academic position of "Associate Professor"

The evidence provided demonstrates full compliance, meeting and exceeding the minimum required indicators. Out of the minimum required 15 articles, 10 of which in journals refereed in Scopus and/or Web of Science, the applicant submits 24, of which 14 are refereed and indexed in world-renowned databases. The number of articles with impact factor is 9, with a minimum of 3 required. Out of the required 100pts for citations, the candidate submits 225pts. With the minimum required 810pts. Dr. Ivanov receives a total of 1402.89pts.

4. Contributions

Original:

- A comparative study of the epidemiology in two European countries - Bulgaria and Germany; validation of elastography and its ability to detect malignant from non-malignant prostate lesions
- Analysis of the impact of Covid-19 on lower urinary tract symptoms in patients treated conservatively for BPH
- Evaluation of the local etiological pattern of patients with chronic bacterial prostatitis (NIH TYPE III) in Plovdiv
- for the first time in Bulgaria the application of in situ fluorescence hybridization and immunohistochemistry in unclassifiable renal cell carcinomas is described

Confirmatory:

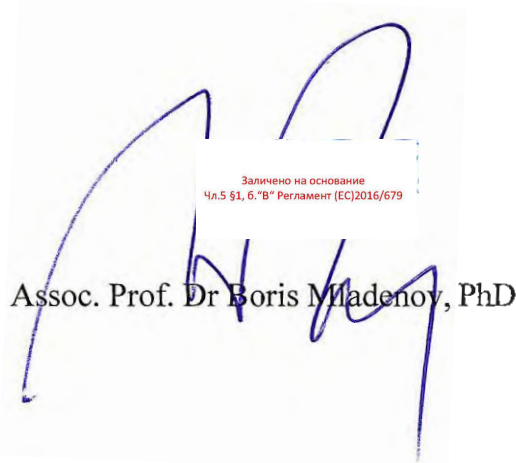
- approach in the treatment of erectile dysfunction after radical prostatectomy and rehabilitation of erection with tadalafil
- the role of palliative care in patients with metastatic prostate cancer
- predictive value of size and localization of concrements for success of extracorporeal lithotripsy
- development of contemporary therapeutic management of chronic pelvic pain syndrome
- clinical and genetic aspects of renal cell cancer – analyzed and presented
- analysis of data on the molecular cytogenetics of renal cell cancer
- classification of the characteristics of male infertility

In Conclusion:

Taking into account the above facts regarding the personal, scientific-research, diagnostic-treatment and educational-teaching contributions of Dr. Atanas Ivanov, PhD, I accept that he fully meets the requirements of the Medical University - Plovdiv for the acquisition of the academic position of Associate Professor, I give my positive vote and propose the scientific jury to support his candidacy.

Sofia

13.08.2024



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Assoc. Prof. Dr Boris Mladenov, PhD