



TO
THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SCIENTIFIC JURY
DETERMINED BY ORDER No.RK-2240/28.06.2024

STATEMENT

From Prof. Tihomir Eftimov, MD, PhD
Deputy Head of Neurosurgery Department
University Hospital "St. Anna" - Sofia, Bulgaria

Regarding: Conducting a contest for the occupation of the academic position "Professor" in a scientific specialty 03.01.41. Neurosurgery, professional area 7.1. Medicine, in the field of higher education 7. Health care and sport, for the needs of the "Neurosurgery" Department of the Medical University of Plovdiv, announced in the SG № 35/19.04.2024.

One candidate participated in the competition - Assoc. Prof. Ivo Inkov Kehayov, MD, PhD.

The documents for the competition were sent on time and in the necessary full volume for the preparation of an opinion, according to the protocol of the first meeting of the scientific jury held on 07/05/2024.

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA OF THE CANDIDATE:

Assoc. Prof. I. Kehayov was born on 09/08/1980. He completed secondary education in 1999, at the "St. Patriarch Evtimiy" - Plovdiv, with excellence. In 2005, he graduated as a master's doctor in Medicine at the MU - Plovdiv with excellent evaluation. From 2006 to 2011, he was a resident in the Clinic of Neurosurgery in the University Hospital "St. George" - Plovdiv. In 2013, he acquired the title "Doctor" after successfully completing a dissertation on the topic: "*Monitoring of neurocognitive disorders and their impact on the quality of life in patients with supratentorial brain tumors.*"

In 2011, he acquired a specialty in Neurosurgery. Since 2012, following a competition, he has been chosen to occupy the position of academic position "Assistant professor", in 2014 - "Chief Assistant Professor". Since 2018, he has held the position of Associate Professor at the Department of Neurosurgery at the Medical University of Plovdiv. Since 2020 he has been the Head of the Department of Neurosurgery, and from 2024 he was elected a member of the Academic Council of MU-Plovdiv. Assoc. Prof. Kehayov has carried out numerous specializations in Bulgaria and abroad in the field of image-guided spinal surgery, surgical treatment of brain aneurysms, non-neuro-oncology, etc. He has an excellent command of the English language.

He is a member of: Bulgarian Medical Association; The Board of Directors of the Bulgarian Neurosurgery Society; individual member of the European Association of Neurosurgical Societies /EANS/ and AO-Spine. Since 2021, he has been a member of the state examination committee for the acquisition of a specialty in neurosurgery. He is also a member of the Expert Council on Neurosurgery at the Ministry of Health. In 2017, he was awarded the Medal of Honor of the regional Bulgarian Medical Association - Plovdiv.

SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITY OF THE CANDIDATE:

In the current competition, Assoc. Prof. Kehayov participates with **1** dissertation work, habilitation work in the form of **10** publications in Scopus and Web of Science, dealing with the clinical presentation, diagnosis, differential diagnosis, treatment and outcome of disease in various primary and secondary spinal cord tumors (extradural, intradural extramedullary and intramedullary), **31** publications in journals, indexed in Scopus and Web of Science, of which **22** with Impact Factor, **13** publications in non-refereed journals and scientific collections with scientific review, **1** neurosurgery textbook (under his editorship) and **5** chapters in collective books.

The scientific output of Assoc. Prof. Kehayov covers almost all areas of neurosurgery with a marked interest in spinal pathology (spinal neoplasms, infectious diseases of the spine), neurotraumatology, vascular neurosurgery and neuro-oncology.

Of great importance are his studies on the follow-up of cognitive disorders after surgical treatment of supratentorial brain tumors, the risk factors for the formation of spontaneous chronic subdural hematomas, the use of image-guided instrumentation on the spine with an O-arm spinal navigation system, as well as studies on spontaneous (primary and secondary) spinal epidural abscesses and the possibilities of applying telemedicine in the field of neurosurgery in Bulgaria.

I agree with the self-assessment of Assoc. Prof. Kehayov regarding his scientific contributions, which I definitely think are enriching Bulgarian neurosurgical science.

Assoc. Prof. Kehayov's scientific works have been cited in scientific literature: **66** times in journals indexed in Scopus and Web of Science, **35** times in non-refereed journals and **24** times in monographs, dissertations and collective books.

Assoc. Prof. Kehayov is involved in two research projects, being the head of Project No. NO-1/2023, entitled "*Long-term follow-up of the morphological changes in cerebral white matter in patients following traumatic brain injury by means of Diffusion Tensor Imaging and their correlation with neurological functioning and quality of life.*"

The candidate's total IF from publications is **47,827**.

EDUCATIONAL AND TEACHING ACTIVITY OF THE CANDIDATE:

Assoc. Prof. Kehayov has over 10 years of teaching experience. He conducts a lecture course, tutorials and semester exams in neurosurgery for medical students in MU-Plovdiv in Bulgarian and English. As an associate professor of neurosurgery, he also participates in the training of trainee doctors, specialists and doctoral students.

According to the presented academic reference, Assoc. Professor Kehayov has a teaching workload for the last two years of 1024 hours and fully covers the requirements for the academic position held.

Assoc. Prof. Kehayov is the scientific supervisor of two successfully defended PhD neurosurgical dissertations.

The latest attestation grade of Assoc. Prof. Kehayov, presented by the committee for attestation of the academic staff at MU - Plovdiv, is "Good".

TREATMENT AND DIAGNOSTIC ACTIVITY OF THE CANDIDATE:

Assoc. Prof. Kehayov is a neurosurgeon in the country with over 18 years of work experience. He is an extremely responsive colleague who provides methodical

assistance to all his younger colleagues. He has been the head of the Department of Neurosurgery at the Medical University of Plovdiv for 4 years.

CONCLUSION:

The analysis of the scientific, educational and teaching, as well as treatment and diagnostic activity of Assoc. Prof. Kehayov shows that the candidate meets the conditions stated in the Law on the development of the academic staff and the criteria for acquisition of academic position "Professor" of MU - Plovdiv. The scientific indicators of Assoc. Prof. Kehayov are estimated with 4014 points (Table 1), with a required minimum of 1240 points.

Table. 1. The scientific indicators of Assoc. Prof. Kehayov, MD, PhD

Metrics	Content	Professor	Indicators of Assoc. Prof. Kehayov, MD, PhD
A	Indicator 1	50	50
B	Indicators 3 and 4	100	140
C	Sum of indicators 5 to 9 (15 scientific publications, 10 in Scopus and Web of Science, 5 of which have IF)	250	616.7
D	Sum of indicators 10 to 12 (15 citations in Scopus and WoS)	300	1385
E	Sum of indicators 13 to the end (1 scientific project + acquired speciality)	140	198.3
F	Study load	200 p. Last 2 years. x 1 p. - 200 p.	1024
	Academic position	100 p. for each year	600
Total		1240 p.	4014 p.

Due to the above mentioned reasons, I find it fully justified to give my **positive** opinion and propose to the honorable members of the Scientific Jury to vote positively for the preparation of a Report-proposal to the Faculty Council at the Faculty of Medicine of MU - Plovdiv for the election of Assoc. Prof. Ivo Inkov Kehayov, MD, PhD, for the academic position "Professor" in the scientific specialty "Neurosurgery" for the needs of the Department of Neurosurgery of the MU - Plovdiv.

Date: 15.07.2024.

Sofia

Prof. Tihc



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

