

STANDPOINT

from professor Dimitar Raev MD, PhD, DSc

Head of the Clinic for Internal diseases in the University Multispeciality
Hospital for Active Treatment “St Anna”. Sofia.

With regard to the competition for the academic position “Associate professor” in the field of higher education 7 “Healthcare and sport”, professional direction “Medicine”, scientific speciality “Cardiology” for the needs of the Department of Cardiology, announced in state newspaper № 52/09.06.2020, appointed by order №272/17.07.2020 of the executive director of the National Heart Hospital, Sofia, Mr. Rosen Petkov

The present standpoint is prepared according to the Law for development of the academic staff of Republic of Bulgaria, the application rules of the Law for development of the academic staff and the regulation rules of the National Heart Hospital for acquisition of scientific positions and the acquisition of the academic position “Associate professor”.The procedure for the announcement of the competition is compliant with the requirements of the Law for the scientific degrees and the scientific titles; no procedural violations were established.

Dr Lyubomir Emilov Baurenski, MD., PhD is the only candidate for the position.

Dr Lyubomir Baurenski was born on the third of March 1956. He graduated in the English language school in 1975 and in medicine in the Medical Academy, Sofia in 1983. Then he was appointed as a resident doctor in the ward for internal diseases in the regional hospital of the town of Isperrh. Thereafter successively Dr Baurenski became assistant, senior assistant and chief assistant professor in cardiology in the National Centre for Cardiovascular diseases. In the period 2003-2014 he was Head of the Department of Cardiology in the Cardiologic Clinic. His overall working experience is 42 years and 11 months.

Dr Baurenski has two medical specialties - Internal diseases in 1990 and Cardiology in 1993. In 2017 he defended successfully his dissertation work “Management of hypertensive crises with acute neurological symptoms ((transient or acute stroke) hospitalized in neurological clinic” and obtained the scientific degree “Philosophy doctor”. Dr Baurenski speaks fluent English , German and Russian.

Scientific research activities: These activities are displayed in publications and different forms of research works. The scientometric data are represented on tabl. 1. The final score exceeds the minimal requirements for the position “Associate professor”.

Tabl. 1. Scientometric data (Dr Baurenski)

Group of indices	Index	Minimal number of points	Number of points fulfilled
A	1. Dissertation work for obtaining the educational and scientific degree “Philosophy doctor”.	50	50
B	3. Habilitation work - monograph	100	100
Г	8. Publications and reports published in non-referred journals with scientific reviews or publications in edited collective volumes	200	240
Д	11. Citations in monographs and collective volumes	10	10
	12. Citations and reviews in non-referred journals with scientific edition.	5	55
Total		400	455

In the competition for the position “Associate professor” in cardiology Dr Baurenski participates with 84 scientific works:

- 61 scientific publications in scientific periodicals, collections, monographs – 4 of them after acquisition of the scientific degree “Philosophy doctor” , 2 in foreign scientific literature.

- 1 monograph – after the scientific degree “Philosophy doctor”
- 22 abstracts from participations in scientific forums – one of them after the scientific degree “Philosophy doctor”; 12 abroad.

The candidate presents a list with 855 established citations in foreign journals and 51 citations in Bulgarian sources.

The scientific works of Dr Baurenski could be divided into several directions and their qualitative characteristics are at a very high scientific and practical level:

- 1. In the field of epidemiology and prevention of cardiovascular diseases**
- 2. Assessment of the aorta by transesophageal echocardiography**
- 3. 24-hour ambulatory monitoring of blood pressure**– personal clinical experience and review on out of office measurement of BP
- 4. Renovascular hypertension:** review and personal clinical experience in the diagnosis of renovascular hypertension and place of the renal scintigraphy and captopril test.
- 5. Antihypertensive therapy:** personal clinical experience with studies of different antihypertensive drugs and comparative analysis of some of them
- 6. Antihypertensive therapy:** review of the treatment with different antihypertensive classes (RAAS inhibitors, calcium channel blockers, centrally acting antihypertensive drugs, diuretics, beta-blockers) and individual antihypertensive agents
- 7. Urgent and emergent hypertensive conditions (Hypertensive crises) and hypertensive crises with neurological symptoms:** review and analysis of the results of the dissertation
- 8. Hypertension and stroke:** review and analysis of the results of the dissertation – antihypertensive therapy, dynamics and variability of BP in acute stroke (ischemic and hemorrhagic) and outcome of the stroke, recommendations for treatment of the hypertension, which are different for the two types of stroke..
- 9. Analysis of the data from the large European study EuroAspire III – hospital arm for Bulgarian population** – risk profile of patients with CHD and control of hypertension and choice of hypertensive therapy in patients with CHD.
- 10. Multifocal atherosclerosis** – ultrasound screening and markers for CHD – joint study with the clinic for vascular surgery and angiology
- 11. Hypertension and heart failure** – monograph ; detailed analysis of the pathophysiological mechanisms for the occurrence of heart failure in hypertension, epidemiology, clinic, diagnosis, treatment and prognosis of

the different types of heart failure (with preserved, mid-range and reduced ejection fraction)

12.Choice of drug therapy for treatment of hypertension – study among Bulgarian physicians

13.Risk profile of patients with myocardial infarction– retrospective analysis of 200 patients

Other scientific activities:

- Participation in research projects - EuroAspire III – hospital arm for Bulgaria
- Member of Bulgarian Society of Cardiology
- Member of Bulgarian Hypertension League
- Member of European Society of Cardiology
- Member of European Society of echocardiography
- Participation in the editorial board of Science Cardiology Digest

Assessment of the educational and teaching activities:

According to the provided reference the teaching activity amounts to the total of 250 hours/year . Dr Baurenski participates in a number of teaching forms for education by delivering lectures at education modules and schools. The teaching activity is directly associated also with participation in author's teams in some textbooks-monographs and collections of scientific materials. The pedagogical qualities and skills of the candidate are excellent.

Assessment of the diagnostic and therapeutic activities:

The candidate has 2 specialties – internal diseases and cardiology. He maintains excellent permanent medical education in the form of courses and participation in medical forums at home and abroad and as a result of that is precise in the diagnosis and treatment of cardiovascular diseases

Implication:

The candidate covers the quantitative requirements concerning scientific research, teaching and diagnostic and treatment activities for the academic position "Associate professor". I have no comments on the participation of the candidate in the competition.

In conclusion: According to rules for the conditions and order for acquisition of scientific degrees and taking academic positions in the University Multispeciality Hospital for Active Treatment, National Cardiology Hospital dr Baurenski , MD, PhD, meets the requirements for the position of "Associate professor".

On the basis of analysis of the scientific production and teaching qualities of dr Baurenski I recommend him to be elected for the position of "Associate professor" for the needs of the Cardiology clinic in the University Multispeciality Hospital for Active Treatment, National Cardiology Hospital

28.09.2020

Sofia

Prof. D. Raev, MD, PhD, DSc

