

To the President of
Scientific jury appointed by order of
the Executive Director
of MHAT "National Heart Hospital"
№ 272 / 17.07.2020

### Statement

From Prof. Borislav Georgiev Georgiev, MD,
Head of the Cardiology Clinic at the National Heart Hospital
Member of the scientific jury for the competition for the academic position "Associate
Professor" in the field of higher education 7. "Health and Sports", professional field 7.1.

"Medicine" and scientific specialty "Cardiology",

announced for the needs of the Cardiology Clinic at MHAT "National Heart Hospital" EAD announced in the State Gazette no. 52/9.06.2020 and according to Order № 272 / 17.07.2020.

Documents for the above competition have been submitted by one candidate - Dr. Lyubomir Emilov Baurenski, MD, Assistant professor at the Clinic of Cardiology of MHAT "National Heart Hospital". The Statement has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Law and the Regulations for development of the academic staff, as well as the Regulations for the terms and conditions for acquiring scientific degrees and holding academic positions in Bulgaria and the Regulations for the terms and conditions for acquiring scientific degrees and holding academic degrees positions in MHAT "National Heart Hospital" EAD. The procedure for announcing the competition is in compliance with the requirements of the Law on Scientific Degrees and Scientific Titles. The documents submitted by the candidate are in accordance with the requirements of the regulations for the academic position "Associate Professor" and the rules of MHAT "National Heart Hospital" EAD. I do not find gaps in the submitted documentation and declare that I have no common scientific papers with the applicant.

## Biographical data

Dr. Lyubomir Baurenski graduated in medicine at the Higher Medical Institute - Sofia in 1983. He has recognized specialties in Internal Medicine and Cardiology. In 2017 he received his PhD degree in "Cardiology" after successfully finishing his work on the topic "Behavior and treatment in hospitalized patients with hypertensive crises and neurological symptoms."

He started his career as a doctor in Isperih in 1983, and since 1986 he has been working at the National Heart Hospital, growing up at all stages of his academic development. Dr. Baurenski is an established and recognized specialist in the field of cardiology and hypertensiology.

#### 1. Research activity

Dr. Lyubomir Baurenski presented for the competition:

- 1.1 Dissertation work and abstract to it
- 1.2 Author's monograph in Bulgarian entitled "Arterial hypertension and heart failure", Sofia, 2020; ISSN 978-954-390-164-7
  - 1.3 Publications
  - · 4 chapters in books,
  - 57 articles in scientific journals, 3 of which are in foreign journals with impact factor
  - 22 published abstracts of scientific congresses.

Four of the articles and 3 of the abstracts are related to the dissertation.

In 42 of his scientific works, Dr. Baurenski is the first author.

Scientific articles have been cited 937 times, 51 citations in Bulgarian journals, 26 citations in Scopus and 855 citations in Web of Science.

The scientific production of Dr. Baurenski covers the Minimum National Requirements of the Ministry of Education and Science and the National Heart Hospital according to Annex Nº1 of the Regulations for application of the National Center for Information and Documentation for occupation of the academic position of Associate Professor - a total of 455 points. All data are presented intelligibly and accurately in the submitted review materials.

# 2. Profile of the research, practical and applied activity

In accordance with the profile of scientific work Dr. Baurenski works in 4 areas:

Area Assessment of the aorta by transesophageal echocardiography: 2 publications on early atherosclerotic changes in hypertensives, one of which is in a foreign journal.

Area Arterial hypertension and antihypertensive therapy: 1 monograph, 8 author's articles, 13 reviews, 6 abstracts. 1 of the publications is in a foreign magazine.

Area Emergency and urgent hypertensive conditions: In this direction is the dissertation of Dr. Baurenski, as well as 12 publications and 6 abstracts of congresses and conferences.

Area *Multifocal atherosclerosis* - ultrasound screening and markers for coronary heart disease: 1 publication and 1 summary.

## 3. The most significant scientific contributions

Scientific contributions can be grouped thematically in several areas.

- In the field of epidemiology and prevention of cardiovascular diseases the applicant analyzes data from large epidemiological studies in Bulgaria: mass screening in 4 districts of Bulgaria (711,000 people aged 7 to 80 years) under the CINDY program, data analysis from an epidemiological study on the frequency and structure of arterial hypertension in 1610 randomly selected persons (800 men and 810 women) from one region of Sofia. Dr. Baurenski also participated in a large epidemiological study of 1,600 people from the Dobrich region, conducted by the Group on Epidemiology and Prevention of CVD at NCSS, led by Prof. Svetla Torbova. This study provides a detailed analysis of the epidemiological aspects of hypertension, ischemic heart disease and risk factors in the study population. It is also important to participate in the large European study EuroAspire III (hospital arm for the Bulgarian population), which examines the risk profile of patients with coronary heart disease and control of hypertension and the choice of antihypertensive therapy in patients with coronary heart disease.
- Other contributions are related to the problems of arterial hypertension, blood pressure monitoring and behaviour in emergency hypertensive conditions. Dr. Baurenski presents his own experience and research on the problems of 24-hour outpatient monitoring of blood pressure, diagnosis of renovascular hypertension and the importance of renal scintigraphy and captopril test, antihypertensive therapy. It is valuable to study different antihypertensive drugs and comparative analysis between some of them. Another study among Bulgarian doctors examines the choice of drug therapy for the treatment of hypertension.
- The contributions in connection with the published dissertation on urgent and emergent hypertensive conditions and hypertensive crises with neurological symptoms are original. The dissertation analyzes antihypertensive therapy, dynamics and variability of blood pressure in acute stroke (ischemic and hemorrhagic) and stroke outcomes. Based on this analysis, different recommendations for the treatment of hypertension are developed for both types of stroke. Dr. Baurenski's monograph is dedicated to arterial hypertension and heart failure. It provides a detailed analysis of the pathophysiological mechanisms of heart failure in hypertension,

epidemiology, clinic, diagnosis, treatment and prognosis of heart failure in different types of heart failure (with preserved, borderline and reduced left ventricular ejection fraction).

Other contributions are related to atherosclerotic changes in blood vessels and coronary heart disease. Own original clinical study using transesophageal echocardiography to assess the aorta found early atherosclerotic changes in hypertension even at a relatively young age. Another study on multifocal atherosclerosis in collaboration with the Clinic of Vascular Surgery and Angiology examined ultrasound screening and markers for coronary heart disease. The risk profile of patients with myocardial infarction was also studied in a retrospective analysis of 200 patients.

## 4. Teaching activity

Dr. Baurenski participates in the training of students and trainees in cardiology, and for the last 10 years he has an average of over 250 hours/year.

Dr. Baurenski's study load meets the requirements for study workload for the academic position of "Associate Professor".

In conclusion, I believe that the overall scientific, organizational and teaching activities of Dr. Lyubomir Emilov Baurenski, Ph.D. fully covers the requirements of the Law for Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, as well as the Rules of the National Heart hospital on the terms and conditions for holding the academic position "Associate Professor" in MHAT "National Heart Hospital".

I propose to the esteemed scientific jury to be awarded the academic position "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education 7. "Health and Sports", professional field 7.1. "Medicine" and scientific specialty "Cardiology".

24.09.2020

Prepared by:

Prof. Borislay Georgiev MD, PhD)