

To
the President of the Scientific Jury
Appointed by warrant
of the Executive Director
of the National Heart Hospital,
order No. 54/01.02.2023

S T A T E M E N T

From: Professor Dr. Veselin Petrov Petrov, MD Ph.D., Head of the Vascular Surgery Clinic at the Bulgarian Cardiology Institute based at Pleven and Burgas's "Heart and Brain" hospitals.

Subject: Competition for the acquisition of an academic position "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education 7. "Health and sport," professional direction 7.1. "Medicine" and scientific specialty "Cardiac surgery." It was announced in SJ № 96, 02.12.2022, for the Department of Cardiac Surgery needs at the National Hospital of Cardiology.

Information about the procedure: By order № 54/01.02.2023 of the executive director of the National Hospital of Cardiology, Sofia, I am appointed as an external member of the Scientific Jury of the abovementioned competition. At the first non-attendance meeting of the jury, I was assigned to write a statement. My statement follows the Academic Staff Development Law of the Republic of Bulgaria, the Application Regulations, and the Regulations for acquiring an Academic position at the National Hospital of Cardiology.

Dr. Dimitar Ivanov Kyuchukov, MD, Ph.D., Head of the Department of Cardiac Surgery at the National Hospital of Cardiology, was admitted to participate in the competition as the only candidate.

Biographical data: Dr. Dimitar Ivanov Kyuchukov graduated from the Medical University of Sofia in 2000. He started working as a resident in the Department of Cardiac Surgery of the University Hospital "St. Ekaterina," now "Prof. Dr. Tschirkov," Sofia. In 2016, a competition

appointed him Head of the Department of Surgical Treatment of Acquired Heart Diseases in this hospital. In 2023 he became the Head of the Department of Cardiac Surgery at the National Heart Hospital, Sofia. He had two specialties – Cardiac Surgery (since 2014) and Vascular Surgery (since 2019). In 2008 he was appointed as an Assistant in the Department of Cardiovascular Surgery at Medical University-Sofia, and since 2019 he has been awarded as Chief Assistant in the same department.

Assessment of scientific indicators

Dr. Kyuchukov presented 33 scientific works for this concurs:

A defended dissertation work for acquiring the educational and scientific degree "Ph.D."

An independent monograph;

3 Chapters of a collective monograph;

28 Articles and abstracts;

- 11 published in refereed and indexed journals in the world database, 9 of them with Impact Factor;

- 17 published in Bulgarian journals from the National Reference List or collections of reports from conferences with scientific review;

Quantitative evaluation by indicators according to the ASD Law of the Republic of Bulgaria

A group of indicators	Indicator	Minimum required number of points	Number of points
A	1. Dissertation work to acquire the educational and scientific degree "Ph.D."	50	50
B	3. Habilitation work – monograph	100	100
G	7. Publications and reports published in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information	200	298
	8. Publications and reports published in non-refereed journals or published in edited collective volumes		
	9. Published chapter of a collective monograph		
D	10. Citations or reviews in scientific publications referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information or monographs and collective volumes	50	110
	12. Citations or reviews in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals		
TOTAL		400	558

Scientific research activity and main contributions

According to the previous documentation, Dr. Kyuchukov's scientific interests are entirely in the field of Cardiac Surgery and can be grouped into four areas:

1. Surgical treatment of supraventricular arrhythmias and atrial fibrillation - 6 publications.

Dissertation, monograph, four publications as first author, one of them in a journal with an impact factor;

2. Surgical myocardial revascularization and surgical treatment of complications of ischemic heart disease - 14 publications. In 5, the candidate is the first author—two in impact factor journals.

3. Surgical treatment of mitral valve and aortic valve diseases – 5 publications. Two of them - first author.

4. Surgical treatment of diseases of the great vessels of the heart - 8 publications. The first author of four.

Scientific-theoretical and scientific-applied contributions

After the "Chief Assistant Professor" awarding at Medical University, Sofia, 14 documents were published. These are the monograph and 13 scientific publications.

The Monograph "Surgical treatment of atrial fibrillation" is the first on that subject in Bulgaria. Scientific and applied contributions - a thorough, modern description of the place and role of antiarrhythmic Surgery. Scientific-theoretical contributions – shared own experience gained over a 12-year annual period of scientific interest in the problem.

Scientific contributions to the field of surgical myocardial revascularization and operative treatment of complications of ischemic heart disease.

After the Chief Assistant Professor, 4 of the presented publications are in this direction. One was published in a journal with an impact factor, and two in Bulgarian journals referenced and indexed in Scopus. The publication in the impact factor journal was a summary reflecting the experience of surgical treatment of post-infarction left ventricular aneurysms performed by a team member of the candidate. All the demographic data and pre-and postoperative outcomes of such a large study group in Bulgaria were analyzed. Comparing two postoperative strategies for antithrombotic therapy after coronary endarterectomy is a publication with an essential

scientific applied contribution. The remaining two publications are studies on two current ways of preparing grafts for performing aortocoronary bypass, and both publications are with an original character for Bulgaria.

Scientific contributions on the topic: Surgical treatment of mitral valve and aortic valve diseases. There were three publications on the subject in Bulgarian journals from the national reference list. Scientific contributions - formed mainly from the study's results on the applicability of simulation training for mastering the annuloplasty of the mitral valve through a right mini-thoracotomy. Another two publications had a scientific and applicable contribution, determined by the study of the benefits of introducing two new Bulgaria methods for correcting aortic valve disease (using sutureless aortic valve prostheses and valve-sparing operations of the aortic valve).

Scientific contributions on the subject: Surgical treatment of diseases of the great vessels. Three publications are after the appointment as a Chief Assistant at MU-Sofia. Their main contributions can be classified as scientific theoretical, and practical importance. In all three publications, the candidate examined the introduction of new methods in Bulgaria and analyzed the outcomes after cannulation of the axillary artery for retrograde pulmonary perfusion and the treatment of esophageal rupture after endovascular implantation a prosthesis for the treatment of thoracic aorta dissection.

Teaching Activity

Dr. Kyuchukov's primary teaching workload resulted from his professional duties as a Chief Assistant Professor in the Department of Cardiovascular Surgery and Invasive Cardiology of Medical University-Sofia. In addition, Dr. Kyuchukov is the supervisor of two Cardiac Surgery residents. According to the official note issued by MU-Sofia, his total study load in the last three years was 780 hours.

Membership in scientific organizations

Dr. Kyuchukov is a member of the Bulgarian Society of Cardiac Surgery (BSCS), the Bulgarian Association of Cardiac, Vascular, and Thoracic Surgery(BACTVS), and the European Society of Cardiothoracic Surgery (EACTS).

Conclusion

The total number of points according to the scientometric indicators determined by the ASD Law of the Republic of Bulgaria concerning Dr. Dimitar Ivanov Kyuchukov DM, Ph.D., is 558 and exceeds the required minimum of 400 for awarding the degree "Associate professor." Therefore, based on the evidence presented and this analysis, I propose to the respected scientific jury to vote positively for awarding the academic position "Associate professor" in the field of higher education 7. 1 Medicine and scientific specialty "Cardiac surgery" to Dr. Dimitar Ivanov Kyuchukov MD, Ph.D., for the needs of the Department of Cardiac Surgery of National Hospital of Cardiology.

14.03 2023

София


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