

## **ACADEMIC POSITION REVIEW**

Author: Prof. Dr. Dimitar Konstantinov Gospodinov, MD, PhD, DSc  
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Re: The announced competition for academic position "Professor" in scientific specialty "Dermatology and venereology", higher education category 7.0 "Healthcare and sport", professional area 7.1 "Medicine" for the purpose of Educational sector of Medical Cosmetologists, Medical College, Medical University of Varna, promulgated in State Gazzete 59/26.07.2022

Based on the decision of the AC of MU - Varna dated 19.09.2022 (Protocol No. 53) and order No. P-109-369/21.09.2022 of the Rector of the University, I have been selected as a member of the Scientific jury for evaluating the applications to occupy an academic position "professor" in dermatology and venereology. I have been appointed as a reviewer of the first meeting of the Scientific Jury, which took place on 05.10.2022.

The only candidate who submitted documents is Dr. Ilko Georgiev Bakardzhiev, MD, PhD, Associate Professor at the Medical College at the Medical University - Varna. The documents provided by the candidate meet the requirements of the Law for Development of Academic Staff in Republic of Bulgaria (DASRB), the regulations for its application and the rules for the development of the Academic Staff of the University of Varna.

I declare that I have no scientific works with the candidate.

### **I. Brief biographical data of the applicant:**

Dr. Ilko Georgiev Bakardzhiev, MD, PhD was born on 28.05.1968 in the city of Varna. He graduated from the Mathematical High School "Dr. P. Beron" in 1986, and higher education - Master of Medicine, at the Medical University - Varna in 1994. He specialized in dermatology and venereology at the Medical School of the Medical University - Varna, under the supervision of Prof. Zlatko Penev, and acquired a specialty in 2001. After a successfully defended dissertation work (in 2007), he was awarded the educational and scientific degree "doctor" (in medicine) in dermatology and venereology, and in 2013 after a competition he acquires the academic position "associate professor" for the needs of teaching at the Medical College of MU-Varna, Department of "Medical Cosmetologist"

As of the date of the competition, Assoc. Dr. I. Bakardzhiev has 22 years of experience in the specialty, has been working at the Chaika Medical Center as a specialist-dermatologist since 2000, and has been a teacher at the Medical College since 2007.

In connection with his post-graduate qualification after 2013, when he was elected as an associate professor, the candidate has conducted the following courses: Pedagogical foundations of academic teaching. CME, MU-Varna, 2013; Course: Diolaze, Fractora, Lumecca, Forma/Plus & BodyFX Applications of the InMode System, 2016; Training Borderline conditions in psychiatry. Skin diseases. Obstetrics and Gynecology at the Bulgarian Medical Homeopathic Organization (BMHO), Nessebar, 2019; Diplôme de GERnéticienne produits et methods. Acquis les connaissances nécessaires aux applications de produits GERnétic International et bénéficie ainsi d' une maîtrise parfaite des traitements visage, main, buste et corp. Genetic Synthesis Laboratories. Bérault, France, 2019; Introduction to Aromatherapy. Medical University - Varna, 2021.

He is fluent in written and spoken Russian and English languages.

## **II. Scientific activity of the candidate**

The evaluation of the research activity of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ilko Bakardzhiev after the acquisition of assoc. professor was made on the basis of the recommended evaluation criteria and indicators at the Medical University - Varna. It includes 123 scientific papers:

- 🚩 49 publications (21 of which in the S/WOS databases). To the mentioned articles, I have added the abstract of the dissertation, which is included in the academic reference for compliance with the minimum national requirements for habilitation.
- 🚩 Co-author in 1 monograph.
- 🚩 73 participations in 23 national and international scientific forums (2 abroad)

### **1. Scientific metric criteria:**

- 🚩 1 abstract of a dissertation work defended in 2007 – Indicator A1
- 🚩 11 scientific publications, equivalent to habilitation work, published in international refereed scientific journals in the WOS and Scopus databases - Indicator B4;
- 🚩 10 scientific articles published in international refereed scientific journals in the WOS and Scopus databases, other than those mentioned above - Indicator D7;
- 🚩 11 publications in non-refereed international scientific journals (outside the WOS and Scopus databases) and Bulgarian scientific journals (from the NACID list) – Indicator D8

- ✚ 16 publications (4 abroad) in non-refereed publications, beyond the necessary minimum for compliance with the minimum national requirements for academic position "professor" - List of DOP (additional)
- ✚ One participation in a monograph, non-habilitation work - Indicator D9.

Independent or first author in 12 works (1 abstract from a dissertation work, 5 publications in Bulgaria, 6 abroad, of which 5 in Scopus. Co-author in the monograph "Dermatopathology of the male genitalia", 2017, B&B Consult Publishing, Sofia, ISBN 978-954-91952-2-4

The presented publication activity makes it possible to determine the following directions in the scientific and professional interests of Dr. I. Bakardzhiev:

**I. Diagnosis and therapy of skin and venereal diseases**

(A1, B4-1, B4-9, B4-10, D7-4, D7-8, D8-1, D8-4, D8-5, D8-6, D8-7, D8-9, D8-11 , DOP-3, DOP-4, DOP-5, DOP-8, DOP-9, DOP-10, DOP-12, DOP-13)

**II. Oncodermatology**

(B4-2, B4-3, B4-4, B4-6, B4-7, B4-8, D7-1, D7-3)

**III. Dermatomycology**

(B4-5, D7-5, D7-7, D7-9, D7-10)

**IV. Rare clinical cases**

(B4-6, B4-7, B4-11, B9, D7-6, D8-10, D8-8)

**V. Applied cosmetology and dermocosmetics**

(G8-2, G8-3, DOP-2, DOP-6, DOP-7, DOP-8, DOP-14, DOP-15, DOP-16)

The attached academic reference for the candidate's publications, citations and scientific profiles, issued by the MU-Varna library (Issue No. 641/16.08.2022) certifies that the total impact factor of the presented scientific production is 18.693 (only articles published after 2013 are included). The reference indicates 9 citations abroad (8 in Scopus), which fully cover the point expression of the requirements of Indicator D10 of the minimum national requirements for occupying acad. position "professor".

To date, the article B4-11(Bakardzhiev I, Chokoeva A, Krasnaliev I et al. Unilateral unique Lupus Tumidus – pathogenetic mystery and diagnostic problem. Wiener medizinische Wochenschrift, 2016;166(7-8):250-253.) has already 7 citations, all in S/WOS (4 citations are indicated in the attached academic reference issued by MU-Varna on 16.08.2022).

**2. Scientific activity:**

Attached is a list of 73 participations in 23 national and international scientific forums (of which 2 abroad), the majority of which reports described above.

Dr. I. Bakardzhiev is the head of scientific project No. 21013 "Investigation of expression levels of immunohistochemical markers for apoptosis and necroptosis in basocellular and spinocellular carcinoma", financed by the Science Fund of MU-Varna. (2021)

Certificate (Ex. No. 109-673/02.08.2022) was issued in confirmation of the fact that the candidate was the scientific supervisor of three successfully defended PhD students, as well as of one PhD student in development to date.

In 2017, Assoc. Prof. I. Bakardzhiev was presented with an Honorary Diploma for Contribution to Scientific Activity as an award by the Management of the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna and Medical College - Varna.

The candidate is a member of national and international scientific organizations - BLS, BDD, Balkan Association for the History of Medicine; International Dermoscopy Society.

### **3. Reference for contributions:**

I accept the attached reference for original, scientific-theoretical and applied contributions of Prof. I. Bakardzhiev, considering the following to be the most significant:

- For the first time in our country, a prospective systematic clinical-laboratory study of patients with non-gonococcal urethritis (NGU) is being conducted with the aim of searching for prognostic and diagnostic criteria and optimizing therapeutic schemes. The correlation with demographic, social and professional activity was analyzed. The importance of specific risk factors has been identified.
- An indisputable contribution of scientific-theoretical and scientific-practical importance is the created monograph "Dermatopathology of the male genitalia". The subject of this scientific work are infectious diseases with localization on the penis, balanitis and balanoposthitis, precancers and tumors of the penis, diseases of the scrotum, testicles, various urethritis.
- Modern concepts in the immunopathogenesis and oncogenesis of various skin neoplasms, their histological verification, clinical picture, various therapeutic schemes, incl. dermosurgical methods, prophylaxis and prevention.
- Study of infections caused by various pathogenic microorganisms and complications in transplant patients.

- Investigation of zinc deficiency in dermatological practice, which occurs with non-specific clinical manifestations and its diagnosis is a challenge for the clinician.
- Case reports of diseases published in Bulgarian and foreign publications, some of which are very rare or not described until now - Darier disease following Blaschko lines (D8-10), Unilateral unique Lupus Tumidus (B4-11), Fibroepithelioma of Pinkus (B4-2), Giant extragenital Bowen disease (B4-7), Osteoma cutis - Neoplasia or Paleogenetics (D8-8).
- The published contemporary reviews, as part of his direct teaching activity, on: Peptides in dermatocosmetics (DOP-16), Dynamic hyaluronic acid – an innovative formula for rejuvenation (G8-2), Microneedle mesotherapy (G8-3), Pearl powder - medical and dermatocosmetic innovations (DOP-14), Coconut oil (DOP-15), Dry skin - problems and solutions (DOP-8).

### **III. Educational and teaching activities of Assoc. Prof. Ilko Bakardzhiev, Ph.D**

According to the attached certificate of teaching experience (No. 099-2428 / 02.08. 2022) for the period from 04/08/2013 to 08/01/2022 Assoc. Prof. I. Bakardzhiev has academic activity for 9 years 3 months, 23 days. The study load reference (No. 112-339/01.08.2022) for the last 4 academic years is 1578 hours with a set annual load of 131 hours. Participates in lectures and in practical training in medical cosmetics at Medical College - Varna. Since 2015, he has been the Head of the "Medical Cosmetologist" educational sector.

### **IV. Diagnostic and therapeutic activity**

Associate Professor Dr. I. Bakardzhiev is an actively practicing dermatologist with over 20 years of experience in the specialty, he acquired a specialty in skin and venereal diseases in 2001. He has proven diagnostic and therapeutic skills in his practice. Organizer of the annual scientific meetings "Spring Varna Dermatology Days". Introduces into clinical practice a method for determining secretory immunoglobulin A in urine and a method for assessing cellular immunity in patients with non-gonococcal urethritis, as well as non-invasively affecting facial wrinkles with botulinum-like peptides. He is a member of a working group for the development of a municipal strategic document for the prevention of HIV/AIDS, according to order No. 2393/03.07.2020 of the Mayor of Varna Municipality. He is the author of the report "Sexually transmitted diseases among young people", whose data and conclusions are implemented in the rationale and are a major part of the priority and objectives of the strategy.

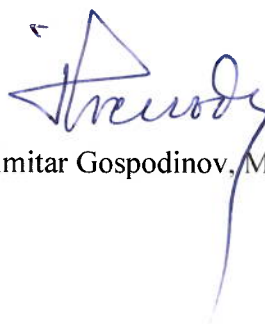
These facts support the opinion that the candidate is sufficiently theoretically prepared, proactive and has extensive clinical and organizational experience.

**Conclusion:**

Dr. I. Bakardzhiev is an established clinician and research associate. The scientific works presented by the candidate fully cover the criteria and indicators for occupying the academic position of "professor", in accordance with the requirements of the Development of Academic Staff in Republic of Bulgaria, the rules for its application and the Rules for the Development of the Academic Staff of the Medical University-Varna. I am convinced to vote positively and recommend to the Honorable Scientific Jury to award the academic position of "Professor" to Dr. Ilko Georgiev Bakardzhiev, MD, PhD.

13 October 2022  
City of Pleven

Author:



Prof. Dr. Dimitar Gospodinov, Md, PhD, DSc.