

OPINION

By Assoc. Prof. Dr. Grisha Stefanov Mateev, MD

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Subject: Competition for the occupation of the academic position "**professor**" in the specialty "**Skin and Venereal Diseases**", professional direction 7.1. Medicine, area of higher education 7. Health care and sports - one, 0.75 full-time position for the needs of the "Medical Cosmetologist" Educational Sector at the Medical College - Varna, announced in the State Gazette, No. 59/26.07.2022

On the basis of Order No. No. P-109-369 dated 21.09.2022 of the Rector of the Medical University of Varna and with a decision of the Scientific Jury under Protocol No. 1 of its absentee meeting, I am determined to prepare an opinion for occupying the academic position "Professor" according to the above competition, with a single candidate being Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ilko Georgiev Bakardzhiev, MD. I declare that I have no scientific works in common with the candidate.

I. Brief information about the competition

All requirements and deadlines of the competition procedure have been met. The documents have been prepared in accordance with the requirements for the Law on the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its application and the Rules for development of the academic staff of the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna.

II. Brief biographical data

Dr. Ilko Georgiev Bakardjiev was born on 28.05.1968 in the city of Varna. Completed higher education - Master of Medicine, at Higher Medical Institute - Varna in 1994. He specialized in dermatology and venereology at the Department of dermatology and venereology at the Medical University - Varna, under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Zlatko Penev, where he acquired the same specialty in 2001. In 2007, after successfully defended dissertation, he was awarded the educational and scientific degree "doctor" (in medicine) in the scientific specialty of dermatology and venereology. Since 2013, after a competition, he has held the academic position of "Associate Professor" for the needs of teaching at the Medical College of MU-Varna, Department of "Medical Cosmetologist"

By the date of the competition, Assoc. Prof. Dr. I. Bakardjiev has had 21 years and 5 months of experience in the specialty. He has excellent command in written and spoken English and Russian languages and is computer literate. He is a member of the Bulgarian Dermatological Society, Bulgarian Medical Union, Union of Scientists in Bulgaria, Balkan Association for the History of Medicine, International Dermoscopy Society.

III. Teaching and lecturing activity

According to the attached certificate from the Medical University of Varna, the teaching experience of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ilko Bakardzhiev for the period of 2013 – 2022 is a total of 9 years and 3 months and includes the positions of head of the educational sector and associate professor at the Medical College - MU Varna. There he also leads practical exercises and a lecture course on skin diseases for students in the "Rehabilitator „and „Medical Cosmetologist" specialty. His study load for the last 4 academic years is 295, 409, 434 and 440 hours, respectively. This exceeds the norm of 131 hours by many times.

According to certificate No. 109-673/02.08.2022 from the Medical University of Varna, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bakardzhiev is the scientific supervisor of 4 **doctoral students in the "Dermatology and Venereology"** doctoral program, three of whom have successfully defended their dissertations and obtained the "Doctor" educational and scientific degree.

IV. Scientific and research activity

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ilko Bakardzhiev participated in the competition with a total of 102 scientific publications:

Related to the dissertation work: 5 pcs.

Presented in a competition for the academic position "Associate professor" 47 pcs. with a total IF = 10.312

- publications in refereed publications – 20 nos.
- publications in non-refereed editions – 26 nos.
- chapter of a collective monograph – 1 pc.

Presented in a competition for AP "Professor": 50 pcs. with a total IF = 18.693

- abstract of a dissertation - 1 pc. (Indicator A1 from the attached academic reference)
- publications in refereed publications – 21 nos. (Indicator G7 and G8);
- publications in non-refereed editions – 27 nos. (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 AP "professor" " - List of DOP (additional).

- monograph, non-habilitation thesis – 1 pc. (Indicator G9).

After a careful analysis of the scientometric indicators, it is established that Assoc. prof. Dr. Bakardzhiev meets the scientific criteria for occupying the academic position of "professor": Indicator A1 (50 points according to the norm, candidate 50 points); indicator B4 \geq 10 points, candidate 11 points (120.93 points); indicator G7 \geq 80 points, candidate 10 items (130.17 points); indicator G8 10 items, 11 items 92.79 points, G9 candidate 1 item. 10 points, Total G5-G9 200 points, candidate 232, 96. The scientific works are cited 9 times in indexed and referenced scientific publications (Scopus), which covers the requirements of Indicator D10 of the minimum national requirements for holding the AP "professor" (total 135 points with a requirement of 100 points).

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bakardzhiev is an independent or 1st author in 12 scientific works (1 abstract from a dissertation work, 5 publications in Bulgaria and 6 abroad, of which 5 in Scopus. He is one of the authors of the monograph "Dermatopathology of the male genitalia", 2017, Publishing house B & B Consult, Sofia, ISBN 978-954-91952-2-4.

From the attached academic reference, from the library of MU-Varna (Ref. No. 641/16.08.2022), the total impact factor of the presented scientific production of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ilko Bakardzhiev is 18.693 (articles published after 2013).

The scientific activity of Assoc. Prof. Dr. I. Bakardzhiev includes 73 participations in 23 national and international scientific forums (of which 2 abroad), at which he presented reports and posters.

The candidate is the head of a scientific project No. 21013 "Investigation of expression levels of immunohistochemical markers for apoptosis and necroptosis in basal cell and carcinoma", financed by the Science Fund of MU-Varna. (2021)

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V. Scientific contributions of Associate Professor Dr. Ilko Bakardzhiev

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bakardzhiev is a scientist who works in many areas of dermatological science and practice. His reflective style and original thinking are at the forefront of all his scientific work. His contributions are mainly in the field of diagnostics and new therapeutic methods in dermatology, as well as in the field of dermatological case studies. The main scientific contributions of his works are in the following areas:

Diagnosis and therapy of skin and venereal diseases:

Here, developments dedicated to non-gonococcal urethritis and topographic dermatology, namely diseases in the ano-genital area, stand out. In his dissertation work, for the first time in our country, a systematic clinical-laboratory study of patients with non-gonococcal urethritis (NGU) was carried out with the aim of searching for diagnostic criteria and optimizing therapeutic schemes. The significance of the specific risk factors has been identified;

- For the first time in Bulgaria, a computer program has been developed and implemented for registering and monitoring patients with NGU, in accordance with world standards.
- Extensive studies were conducted of patients with urethritis and all their complications in the region of the urogenital system and correlations were established between the diagnostic methods EIA, ELFA and PCR in the diagnosis of *Chlamydia trachomatis*, *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, *Mycoplasma genitalium* and *Ureaplasma urealyticum*.
- The monograph "Dermatopathology of the male genitalia", dedicated to infectious diseases, precancers and tumors in the male genital area, has a remarkable contribution of a scientific-theoretical and scientific-practical nature.

Oncodermatology:

Modern concepts in the immunopathogenesis and oncogenesis of various skin neoplasms, their histological features, clinical picture, various therapeutic schemes are analyzed. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bakardzhiev is the inventor of a useful model "cryotron applicator" with application in dermatology, obstetrics and gynecology for the removal of various exophytic tumor neoplasms.

Dermatomyology:

- For the first time in Bulgaria, high-class randomized - prospective cohort studies were conducted regarding the susceptibility of different blood groups to dermatophyte onychomycoses and their comorbidity to common diseases, in order to assess the cause-

effect relationship of endodemographic polymorphism in patients with epidermophytoses and onychomycoses.

- The "fingerprint method" was applied and implemented for the microbiological examination of pathogenic yeasts from skin lesions and evaluation of the effect of antimycotic treatment; the results of these studies prove the primary etiological role of the yeast of the *Malassezia* genus (*Pityrosporum ovale*) in the occurrence of seborrheic dermatitis, respect. seborrheic dermatitis of the capillitium.
- Various types of trichoscopic criteria and algorithms for clinical behavior are presented in patients with seborrheic dermatitis of the capillitium.
- This field also includes studies on infections caused by various pathogenic microorganisms and complications in transplanted patients.

- **Case studies**

- Studies have been conducted on non-specific clinical manifestations of zinc deficiency in dermatological practice.
- The descriptions of some diseases published in Bulgarian and foreign publications, some of which are extremely rare or have not been described so far, also contribute - Darier disease following Blaschko lines, Unilateral unique Lupus Tumidus, Fibroepithelioma of Pinkus, Giant extragenital Bowen disease, Osteoma cutis - Neoplasia or Paleogenetics.

- **Applied cosmetology and dermatocosmetics**

- Contemporary reviews have been published, as part of his direct teaching activity, on: Peptides in dermatocosmetics, Dynamic hyaluronic acid - an innovative formula for rejuvenation, Microneedle mesotherapy, Pearl powder - medical and dermatocosmetic innovations, Coconut oil, Dry skin - problems and solutions.

VI. Therapeutic and diagnostic activity

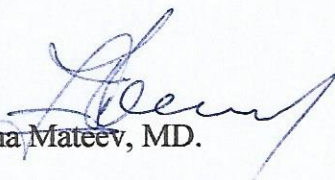
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bakardzhiev is well known and respected by the dermatological community in Bulgaria. He is excellently prepared both theoretically as a scientist and practically as a dermatologist. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bakardzhiev is the deputy chairman and main organizer of the

repeatedly held annual scientific and practical conferences "Spring Varna Dermatology Days".

Conclusion

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bakardzhiev, MD is an established dermato-venereology specialist and a respected teacher from the Medical University - city of Varna. 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 Law on the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the rules for its application and the Rules for the Development of the Academic Staff of the MU-Varna. I am convinced to vote **positively** and recommend to the Honorable Scientific Jury to award the academic position of "Professor" to Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ilko Georgiev Bakardzhiev, MD.

21 October 2022
City of Sofia

Opinion prepared by: 
Assoc. Prof. Dr. Grisha Mateev, MD.