

МЕДИЦИНСКИ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ - ВАРНА  
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## STATEMENT OF OPINION

from

**Associate Professor Georgi Petkov Iliev, MD, PhD**

Associate Professor at the Department of Neurosurgery and Otorhinolaryngology, Faculty of Medicine, Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna, habilitated in Professional direction 7.1. Medicine, Medical University - Varna, appointed as a member of the Scientific Jury by order of the Rector of the Medical University - Varna No. P-109-133/22.02.2023.

### **About:**

Procedure for occupying the academic position "Associate Professor" in the specialty "Ear, Nose and Throat Diseases", Professional direction 7.1. Medicine, Field of Higher Education 7. Health Care and Sports - one, 0.25 full-time position for the needs of the Training Sector "Ear, Nose and Throat Diseases", Department of Neurosurgery and ENT Diseases, Faculty of Medicine, Medical University - Varna and 0.75 full-time positions for the Department of ENT at St. Anna-Varna Hospital JSC, according to a competition announced in SG Issue № 102/23.12.2022

**Candidate:** Dr. Galen Dimitrov Shivarov, MD, PhD.

### **Autobiographical data:**

Dr. Galen Dimitrov Shivarov, MD, PhD was born on 22.03.1969 in Dobrich, Republic of Bulgaria. Married, with one child. In 1987 he completed his secondary education in the III Science and Mathematics High School - Varna, in a class with intensive training in German

language. He graduated in 1995. as a physician with Master's degree, graduating from the Faculty of Medicine at the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna.

In 2005, he acquired the educational and qualification degree "Master" in the specialty "Health Management" at the Medical University of Varna. He acquired the specialty "ENT - Diseases" in 2002. In 2017, he defended his dissertation on the topic "Effectiveness of radiofrequency thermotherapy in hypertrophic rhinopathies", Faculty of Medicine, Medical University - Sofia and obtained the educational and scientific degree "PhD in Medicine".

Over the years, Dr. Shivarov attended many courses, lectures, symposia in Bulgaria and abroad as an expression of his desire to constantly improve his knowledge and skills in his specialty.

Dr. Shivarov's professional career took place mainly at the "St. Anna" Hospital in Varna, and from 2000 until the submission of the documents for the competition he held the positions of - ENT Resident, ENT Consultant, Head of ENT Department, Deputy Director of Medical Activities, Executive Director, Deputy Chairman of the Board of Directors. He gained management experience in the period 2009 - 2010, as the medical manager of "Chaika" Diagnostic and Consultative Centre in Varna. He worked in the ENT office in Diagnostic and Consultative Centre IV in Varna from 1998 to 2000 and in the Medical Centre in Dulgopol from 1997-1998, and 1995-1997 - led a rural health department in the village of Asparuhovo.

At the moment, Dr. Shivarov is the head of the ENT department at the "St. Anna" Hospital in Varna.

Dr. Galen Shivarov is fluent in written and spoken German, English and Russian.

He is a member of the Bulgarian National Association of Otorhinolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery.

### **Teaching and learning activity**

Dr. Shivarov's educational and teaching activity is mainly related to the teaching and practical training of physicians specializing in ENT. In the period 2007 - 2022, as can be seen from the provided Certificate, nine doctors were trained and successfully acquired a specialty with his active participation.

### **Research activity**

Dr. Shivarov indicates the areas of professional and scientific interest - otology, otoneurology, laser and radiofrequency surgery in the ear, nose, throat and neck, oncosurgery

of the larynx and the neck, obstructive sleep apnea, rhinology, rhinosurgery, rhino- and pharyngometry, allergology , phoniatriy, voice rehabilitation, auditory rehabilitation and hearing aids, health management, health care.

The materials which Dr. Galen Shivarov has submitted for participation in the competition fully meet and are in accordance with the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, as well as with the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff and the Appointment of Academic Staff Positions at the Medical University of Varna.

To participate in the competition, he submitted a total of 14 scientific works:

- Dissertation work on the topic "Effectiveness of radiofrequency thermotherapy in hypertrophic rhinopathies", defended at MU-Sofia in 2017.
- Habilitation work - monograph entitled "Modern Applications of Acoustic Pharyngometry.", published in 2020, in English by the publishing house of the Medical University of Varna.
- Scientific publications – 12 in total, of which: 3 publications published in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-renowned scientific information databases, and 5 publications published in non-referenced peer-reviewed journals or published in edited collective volumes. 4 publications, in scientific journals and anthologies, beyond the minimum scientometric requirements for occupying the academic position "Associate professor" are also presented. 10 of the works were published in Bulgarian, and 4 in English. Dr. Shivarov is an independent author in 12 of the works, and is a co-author in 2 (first author in 1 publication, fourth author - also in 1 publication). The scientific works are divided into the following fields: otorhinolaryngology, oncology, medical scientometrics. The main areas of scientific production are:
  - Modern diagnosis and treatment of chronic rhinopathies
  - Modern diagnosis of obstructive sleep apnea and snoring in adult patients;
  - Social epidemiology of laryngeal cancer;
  - Diagnosis and treatment of rare benign otorhinolaryngological diseases.

Dr. Shivarov owns and maintains his scientific profiles in: ORCID, Google Scholar, Web of Science ResearcherID.

Citations: Dr. Shivarov's publications have: 1 citation in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-renowned scientific information databases or in monographs and collective volumes; 17 citations in monographs and peer-reviewed collective volumes; 18 citations in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals.

A detailed list (including summaries of the presented abstracts) with descriptions of all the candidate's participation in national and international scientific conferences and symposia for the period 2012-2023 is also presented - a total of 6 in number.

Dr. Shivarov defines another group of work directions - main characteristics of modern voice prostheses used in laryngology, ways of placement, maintenance, advantages, disadvantages, as well as the importance of the diagnostic value of the ETF-test in assessing the ability of the individual to respond to changes in ambient pressure in order to identify individuals at risk of developing middle ear barotrauma.

Dr. Shivarov is one of the few candidates for habilitation with a utility model registration certificate (No. 1845/2014), co-authored by the Patent Office of the Republic of Bulgaria.

Dr. Shivarov introduced the "Acoustic Pharyngometry Method" for the first time in Bulgaria, in Varna as part of the screening studies for sleep disorders with implementation in several Municipal programs "Prevention of Sleep Apnea" in 2015, 2016 and 2017 with great public interest and recognition.

### **Therapeutic and diagnostic activity**

Dr. Shivarov has extensive clinical experience in the field of Otorhinolaryngology with a total work experience of 24 years, 10 months and 24 days, and 21 years, 1 month and 1 day in the specialty (reference Certificate of work experience and experience in the specialty). The candidate continues to work at the present time at "St. Anna" Hospital in Varna as a doctor, head of the ENT Department.

### **CONCLUSION**

From the materials provided for the competition, I am convinced that the candidate, Dr. Galen Dimitrov Shivarov MD, PhD, possesses all the qualities and high achievements in

the educational, scientific research and medical-diagnostic activities to occupy the academic position of "Associate Professor".

I will vote "Yes" and I will confidently recommend to the members of the esteemed scientific jury to also support with a positive vote the occupation of the academic position "Associate professor " of Dr. Galen Dimitrov Shivarov, MD, PhD.

18.04.2023

Signed:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several overlapping, fluid strokes that form a stylized, somewhat abstract shape.

Varna

Assoc. Prof. Georgi Iliev, MD, PhD

