

STANDPOINT

From prof. d-r Krasimir Dimitrov Ivanov, DMS,

**Head of department "General and operative surgery", Faculty "Medicine", Medical
University "Prof. d-r Paraskev Stoianov", Varna**

Regarding the procedure for the occupation of the academic position of "associate professor" in the field of higher education 7. "Healthcare and sport" in the professional field 7.1 "Medicine" and scientific specialty "Surgery", SG, issue 86/06.10.2020 r.

Brief biographical data:

Dr. Mihail Stefanov Tabakov graduated from the Medical University - Sofia in 2003, majoring in Medicine. In the following year he started working as a medical doctor in the clinic of emergency surgery at the Military Medical Academy - Sofia. In 2011 he moved to UMHAT "N. I. Pirogov", where he remained until 2017, and since 2012 he has been an assistant in general surgery. Since March 2017, he has been a surgeon at the Clinic of General and Endoscopic Surgery at the University Hospital "St. Ivan Rilski", Sofia. In 2013 he acquired a specialty in "Surgery", and in 2017 he obtained an educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in "General Surgery" after defending a dissertation on "Study of the possibilities for treatment of ventral hernias with endoscopic techniques."

Dr. Tabakov is constantly working to improve his professional skills, completing various specializations abroad (Turkey, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Great Britain) and participating in a number of international scientific forums. He is a member of the Bulgarian Surgical Society, EDS and EHS. He has obtained a qualification degree in "Health Management" from UNWE - Sofia.

Scientific productions:

In the current competition Dr. Tabakov presents 40 publications and full-text reports from scientific forums. Twelve of them have been published in Bulgarian and foreign journals, referenced in the international databases Scopus and Web of Science. The other articles are in editions from the National Reference List. The dissertation work for acquiring educational and scientific degree „PhD“ is also presented. The total impact factor of the candidate is 10,979. According to the scientific platform Google Scholar, he is cited 30 times. In the competition, Dr. Tabakov participates with 4 citations in international peer-reviewed journals, which cover the scientific and metric requirements for this indicator and are reflected in the official report prepared by the library of MU - Varna, in connection with this procedure.

Scientific- applied contributions:

**DISSERTATION FOR ACQUIRING EDUCATIONAL AND SCIENTIFIC DEGREE
“DOCTOR”**

Study of the possibilities for treatment of ventral hernias with endoscopic techniques

The presented dissertation presents fundamental work on the endoscopic surgical treatment of the ventral hernias, which is published for the first time in the country and can be a guide for a wide range of professionals - students and postgraduate students, abdominal and plastic surgeons. An extensive chapter detaches the approaches for coping with various surgical complications, which are one of the biggest trials in the development of every surgeon. Another part presents the effectiveness of the endoscopic ventral herioplasty in highly risked patients, such as the ones who are overweight. Significant attention has also been paid to the quality of life after these types of mini-invasive interventions. A huge number of data for accomplished operations through a systematic approach have been proposed, which data determines the education curve in mastering endoscopic techniques for the treatment of anterior abdominal wall defects.

Publications

The analysis of the presented publications shows the presence of significant clinical researches, scientific reviews, and reports of specific cases of treatment in patients, accumulated in over 15 years of professional experience. They include topics from almost every area of the contemporary minimally-invasive surgery.

1. Colorectal surgery (1, 5, 9, 11, 12, 25, 26, 29, 31, 32)

Much of the work in this field has been published in prestigious international surgical journals. A significant place is devoted to the increasing incidence of colorectal cancer. An overview of the knowledge available so far in the world literature on laparoscopic total mesorectal excision in rectal cancer is presented, and the personal experience is presented. A comparative analysis of two techniques for surgical treatment of hemorrhoids was performed: Ligasure™ hemorrhoidectomy and stapler hemorrhoidopexy. The results of a pilot application in the country of recto-anal mucopexy for the treatment of high-grade hemorrhoidal disease have been reported.

2. Surgery of the anterior abdominal wall (8, 14, 23, 24, 27, 40)

The publications address various issues of anterior abdominal wall surgery, with an emphasis on endoscopic hernia repair techniques. The training curve at the introduction of total extraperitoneal hernioplasty was analyzed. All stages of intraperitoneal on-line plastics (IPOM and IPOM +) were studied and a comparative analysis of laparoscopic and conventional plastics of ventral hernias was performed. The peculiarities of laparoscopic ventral hernioplasty in overweight patients, as well as the quality of life after laparoscopic ventral hernioplasty have been studied. Special attention is paid to the cases with multiple defects in different areas of the abdominal wall and the possibilities for their endoscopic treatment are discussed. Some severe complications after inguinal hernioplasty have been analyzed.

3. Emergency surgery (1, 3, 8, 10, 12, 20, 21, 30, 33)

The works in this field are a direct reflection of the long-term work of Dr. Tabakov in the clinic of emergency surgery of the Military Medical Academy - Sofia and the IVth surgical clinic of the University Hospital "N. I. Pirogov" and regard almost all emergencies in surgery. In addition to the presented works in the field of military and trauma surgery and acute cholecystitis and appendicitis, other works study the application of laparoscopic surgical techniques for the treatment of perforated ulcer and small intestinal ileus.

4. Surgery of the diaphragm (15, 28)

Method for laparoscopic treatment of hiatal hernias has been developed and introduced in the practice of the surgery clinic of the University Hospital "St. Ivan Rilski",

Sofia. The quality of life after laparoscopic crurorhaphy of the diaphragm and Nissen fundoplication was analyzed. A method for laparoscopic treatment of recurrent hiatal hernias has been developed and introduced in the surgical. A method for minimally invasive surgical treatment of Morgani's hernia is described and a video of the case is part of the prestigious virtual university of the IRCAD Institute, Strasbourg, France.

5. Trauma surgery (7, 13, 35)

A large number of publications are devoted to the injuries of explosive and gunshot wounds, the behavior during mass casualties events and the differences in such incidents in military and civilian conditions. An original contribution on a national scale is the detailed research on the location of "damage control" surgery and "damage control" resuscitation in severe wartime and civilian injuries. Innovative for Bulgaria are the works dedicated to "damage control" resuscitation, which is an important, non-surgical approach to improving survival.

6. Open abdomen (37, 38)

An overview of the techniques for temporary abdominal closure is presented, emphasizing the challenges facing the surgeon despite the accumulated significant experience, as well as critically reviewing the results of modern studies. A systematic review and meta-analysis of studies comparing techniques with and without negative pressure is presented. An original contribution is the presentation of the classification, risk factors, general measures and available surgical methods for the treatment of entero-atmospheric fistulas, which are the most severe complication of the open abdomen.

7. Negative therapy in the surgical practice (5, 9, 30, 35)

For the first time in the country the technique for treatment of extensive wound defects was applied, the results of which were presented in 2010. The effectiveness of negative pressure in deep surgical infection and fascial dehiscence, Fournier's gangrene, as well as in wartime injuries and complex wounds has been studied. An in-depth analysis of the use of intraluminal negative pressure in the treatment of low colorectal anastomotic leaks was performed. The indications for application of the methodology are determined.

8. Rare cases (2, 8, 12, 34, 40)

Although, according to the evidence-based medicine, case reports have low probative value, the applicant presents a number of unique and well-documented cases published in prestigious journals. Some of them were published for the first time in the world literature,

which emphasizes the importance of the work of the team in which the candidate works. All cases are accompanied by a detailed analysis of the literature and are entirely didactic.

9. Crohn disease (18)

A modern, evidence-based review of the effectiveness of various interventions in Crohn's disease has been made. The place of laparoscopic surgery, the risk factors for postoperative complications and recurrences, as well as the postoperative follow-up are also analyzed.

10. New techniques in laparoscopic surgery (16, 17, 19, 39)

Methods for single incision laparoscopic cholecystectomy and appendectomy have been developed and introduced in the surgical practice of the surgery clinic of the University Hospital "St. Ivan Rilski". An overview of the current knowledge in the world literature on single incision laparoscopic techniques is made and the available commercial sets and non-commercial methods are considered.

Educational- teaching activity:

Auditorium employment: for the period 2017- 2020 he has a total working time of 138 hours as a lecturer at the Department of "Emergency medicine", Medical faculty, Medical University of Sofia.

Extracurricular activities: reference for 520 hours of extracurricular activities is presented, including exercises for students and practical modules for graduates

Methodological activity: development of lectures and editing of materials for the journal "Emergency Medicine". Development of the doctoral program in "Surgery" at the Clinic of General and Endoscopic Surgery of the University Hospital "St. Iv. Rilski", Sofia.

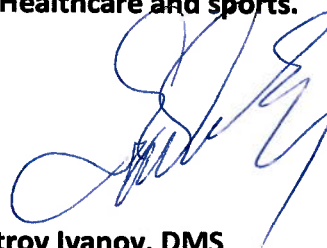
Criteria and scientific-metric indicators for holding the academic position of "Associate professor":

The candidate exceeds the required points for each individual indicator of the accepted scientific and metric criteria of the Medical University- Varna and the Law on the development of academic staff in The Republic of Bulgaria, as it can be seen in the table:

Group of indicators	Content	Associate Professor	Associate Professor
		Required	Available
A	Index 1	50	50
B	Index 2	-	
C	Sum of indexes 2,3 and 4	100	121,6
D	Sum of indexes from 5 to 9	200	202,2
E	Sum of indexes from 10 to 12	50	60

Conclusion:

D-r Mihail Stefanov Tabakov, MD is a time- tested and respected specialist in the field of medical and scientific specialty "Surgery". His experience in the treatment of surgical diseases via modern minimally invasive techniques is undisputable. He is an author with serious scientific achievements, with interests in innovative researches and activities. What has been stated so far and the documentation presented by him in the competition gives me ground to give my **positive vote and to recommend to the scientific jury to vote positively for his election to the academic position of "Associate professor" in Surgery, in professional field 7.1. Medicine and field of higher education 7. Healthcare and sports.**



28.01.2021 r.

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