

## OPINION

Prof. Dr. Geno Kirov Kirov, MD, PhD, DMSC

Dr. Vesselin Marinov Marinov PhD, participant in the competition for academic position "Associate Professor" in scientific specialty "Surgery" - 0.5 full-time position for the needs of Faculty of Medicine, Department of General and Operative Surgery Medical University "Prof.

Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov "Varna. 7. Healthcare and Sports, Professional Field 7.1. Medicine, announced in State Gazette no. 12 from 08.02.2019.

Dr. Veselin Marinov Marinov was born on 29.03.1973 in Sofia in the family of doctors. He completed his primary education in Russian language school, and his secondary education in English language school in 1991. In the same year he was admitted in Medical University. He graduated from Medical University Sofia with honors in 1997. In 1998 he was appointed as doctor at the Third Surgical Clinic of the Pirogov Institute, where he specializes in surgery. He took the specialty "Surgery" in 2003. Between 2003 and 2005 he worked at the University Hospital "Lozenets". He then went to a one-year specialization in Germany, Essen and Bochum, where he specialized in hepatobiliary, pancreatic and transplant surgery. After returning, he started working as a physician at the "Tokuda Hospital" Sofia. She defended a dissertation on "Surgical treatment of chronic pancreatitis and its complications" in 2012. In 2014 he was appointed Chief of Department of Miniinvasive and Laparoscopic Surgery at the Hepato-Biliary and Pancreatic Surgery. That same year he graduated in Public Administration - Health Management at UNWE Sofia. In 2016 he held the position of "Chief Assistant", which he holds until now.

Dr. Marinov has provided all the documents required for participation in the competition. Publications and other mandatory documents are ordered by groups of indicators and points in accordance with the requirements of actual legislation.

By group of indicators A – Dissertation – 50p.

By group of indicators B, item 3 - a habilitation work is presented - a monograph with a co-authorship distribution protocol on "Chronic pancreatitis" - 100t.

Group D Indicators item 4 - Scientific publications in journals that are referenced and indexed in world-popular scientific data databases. 7 publications. Of these: First author is in 2, from second to third author is in 2 and in 3 publications is after third author.

Indicators group D, item 8 - Publications and reports published in non-referenced journals with scientific reviews or published in edited collective volumes have been submitted 52 publications. In them Dr. Marinov is the first author in 23 publications, second to third author - 11 and in 18 is after another author. In the indicators under items 4 and 8. The papers concern pancreatic surgery - 17, gall-liver surgery - 15, stomach surgery - 7, fat surgery - 10, other areas of surgery - 10.

Other publications from conferences - 28. Dr. Marinov is the first author in 8, second to third author in 11, a back position - 9. They are in the following areas: Pancreatic surgery - 3; HBP surgery - 5, gastric surgery - 7, colorectal surgery - 4, others - 9.

Group E indicators, item 10, item 11, item 12 - Citations. There are two official reports from the Central Medical Library Sofia and further find citations. Of these, three are in the system of Scopus and 25 Bulgarian citations.

Group E indicators, item 15 - has acquired the specialty "Surgery" and item 22 - guides the specialization of a specialist.

Other documents submitted:

A report on the workload for 528.5 teaching hours.

Certificate folder from the postgraduate courses - 22. It is evident that Dr. Marinov visits courses abroad, focusing mainly on laparoscopic and hepatobiliary and pancreatic surgery. He has a certificate of work with a surgical robot Da Vinci.

There is a list of scientific forums in Bulgaria and abroad in which the candidate participates and they are a total of 27. Participant in all major scientific forums in the field of surgery in recent years in Bulgaria

I accept the scientific contributions presented by the applicant. Most of them are related to the dissertation, namely: construction of a database for patients with chronic pancreatitis, study on own material of 91 patients with this disease, elaboration and classification of the changes in the ductal system in patients with alcoholic chronic pancreatitis, criteria based on imaging data for the determination of surgical tactics in patients with chronic pancreatitis, an original questionnaire was developed for subjective assessment of the patient for the effect of the performed operative treatment and its quality of life, etc.

The main scientific contribution of Dr. Marinov is the presented habilitation work on Chronic Pancreatitis. In it, thoroughly and supported by examples from its own practice, the current world experience in the diagnostics, etiology, pathogenesis and treatment of patients with chronic pancreatitis has been reviewed. The participation of other doctors from various specialties - clinical laboratory, gastroenterology, imaging diagnostics, endocrinology is an indicator of the complex nature of this scientific work.

Of the other publications in which Dr. Marinov is the leading author, he has been studying and analyzing data in patients with locally advanced colorectal cancer, perioperative outcomes analysis, and methods of reduction of complications in patients with duodenal pancreatic resections. Most of the scientific papers presented in recent years are related to laparoscopic surgery.

Of particular interest to me is the report on the operations performed by Dr. Marinov as an operator for the last 5 years. The total number of operations is 1711. The report is categorized in the form of performed surgical interventions in various areas of visceral and general surgery. It is noticeable that the large number of surgical interventions on the liver and extrahepatic bile ducts - 164, pancreatic resections - 41, colorectal operations - 158, thyroid and parathyroid gland operations - 120, stomach operations - 54. The number of operative interventions performed on the laparoscopic route.


By analyzing the overall presentation of the candidate, I can state that Dr. Marinov follows a constant and purposeful development in the field of surgical practice and science. He has specialized in Germany, has attended numerous training courses in Bulgaria and abroad. His

overall scientific work is related to the analysis of data related to the treatment of patients in the areas of pancreatic, hepatobiliary, colorectal, laparoscopic and other areas of surgery. The submitted documents fully meet the requirements of the current legislation for taking an academic position "Associate Professor".

From the point of view of the surgical practice, I can state that Dr. Marinov is a surgeon with extensive experience in visceral and general surgery. The presented report of the operations for the last 5 years indicates a very high surgical activity of a practicing surgeon. I fully accept the practical contributions, namely: participation in the first liver transplantation in Bulgaria, the first reports of performed laparo-endoscopic "randevu" procedures, a totally mini-invasive approach in the treatment of cardiac and esophageal cancer, the first robot-assisted surgery in Bulgaria hiatal hernia.

In conclusion I can state that I am acquainted with the development of Dr. Marinov both as a surgeon and with his scientific activity and I recommend to the honorable scientific jury to vote for taking of him the academic position "Associate Proffesor" at the General and Operative Surgery at the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov "Varna.

Sofia. 14.04.2019

  
Prof. Dr. Geno Kirov Kirov.