## Statement

From Prof. Dr. Venelin Miloslavov Gerganov, dm

Member of the scientific council (Protocol № 26/13.07.2020)

and Order № RD - 109 - 299 / 07.08.2020 of the Rector of MU Varna

Concerning the procedure of acquiring the academic title "Professor in neurosurgery" of the candidate Doc. Dr. Vasil Hristov Karakostov in MU Varna

Doc. Dr. Vasil Karakostov graduated medicine in 1982 and received the board certification in neurosurgery in 1986. He received the degree "Doctor" in 2004 and the academic title "docent" – in 2007. He has a diploma for Health management since 2013. In 1983 he completed his clinical ordinature in the Department of Neurosurgery of the Medical Academy – Sofia and returned to Smolyan, where he was district neurosurgeon. Since 1998 he is assistant and later on- senior assistant in the Departments of neurosurgery of Alexandrovska Hopsital and Ivan Rilski Hospital. He became head tot he spinal department in March 2008 and head of the clinic in April 2017.

His clinical interests are in the area of the "diagnosis and surgical treatment of patients with diseases of the brain, spine and the peripheral nerves".

In the current procedure Doc. Karakostov participates with the following scientific works:

- he presents a monograph on the "Osteoporotic and pathological vertebral fractures and the percutaneous techniques of their augmentation", published by Multiprint.
- In the category "Publications and published presentations in indexed and referred world scientific databases" he presents 5 publications. Four are published in the journals: J. Korean Neurosurg Society, J. Neurointerv Surg, Neurosurgery and in Biotechnology & Biotechnology Equipment, while the 5th is a presentation published in the Abstract book of a congress. The topics of the publications are neuroendovascular surgery (2) and spine (2). The 5th is a case report. In 3 of them Dr. Karakostov is last author, in 1 he is 5<sup>th</sup> from 8 authors and in 1-5<sup>th</sup> from 6 authors.

- In the category "Publication and presentations, published in non-referred but peer-reviewed journals" he presents 22 publications.

- Chapter in a multi-authored monograph from 1988 ("Intraoperative monitoring of evoked potentials in neurosurgery").

- Citations in scientific referred and indexed in world scientific databases or in monographs: 79

## Educational and academic activity:

Doc. Karakostov was scientific father of 2 PhD students, who successfully finished their doctor thesis. In the period 2015/2020 he educated residents and PhD students, organized seminars and practical exercises. In his CV he points that he gives lectures to students of medicine and pharmacy, to residents in general surgery and general medicine, as well as to those specializing spine surgery.

The evaluation of the aforementioned scientific metric parameters and the clinical activity of Doc. Dr. Vasil Karakostov shows, that they fulfill the minimal requirements for the academic position "Professor" as formulated by Varna MU.

Therefore, I give my positive vote for his election as "Professor" of Varna MU.

Prof. Dr. Venelin Gerganov, DM

17.10.2020