

## STATEMENT

by

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**CONCERNING:** *Competition for the academic position "associate professor" in the scientific specialty "Pneumology and Phthisiatry", professional field 7.1 "Medicine", in the higher educational area 7. "Healthcare and sport", announced in State Gazette, issue 17/26.02.2021 г.*

**Dr. Dinko Genchev Valev, M.D.**, has submitted his documents to take participation in the competition under the established terms and by the time fixed.

The submitted documents have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its implementation, as well as the Regulations on the Development of the Academic Staff in Medical University – Varna.

### **Brief information about the Biography & Carrier of the candidate**

Dr. Dinko Valev was born in 17.02.1965 in the city of Stara Zagora. In 1992 he graduated from the Medical University of Sofia, faculty of Medicine. In 1998 he acquired a specialty of "Internal Diseases" and in 2002 he successfully defends a degree in "Pneumology and Phthisiatry". He successfully acquires a

formal qualification in Bronchology in the Medical University of Sofia. In 2010 he receives his PhD in “Pneumology and Phthisiatry” for a dissertation paper titled “Fibrobronchoscopic transbronchial needle aspiration biopsy and diagnostics of lung cancer.”

With 29 years standing Dr. Valev has been working in several institutions: The Physiology Institute of BAS- Sofia, The Clinic of Internal Diseases, The National Multiprofile Transport Hospital – the Pneumology Department; the Bronchology department of SBALBB “St. Sofia”, PLLC. Since 2019 he has been working in UMBAL “St. John the Baptist”, PLLC, - Sofia, as a specialist of Pneumology and Bronchology. For more than 20 years he has been certified to conduct highly specialized manipulations in the field of bronchology. Since 2014 dr. Valev has been working as an assistant, having a civil contract with the department of “Occupational therapy”, and since 2020 he has been an assistant in the Department of Clinical and Biomedical sciences, MU- Sofia, Affiliate “Prof. dr. Ivan Mitev” in Vratsa. He carried out a specialization in Heidelberg, Germany, where he acquired an international certificate to perform an Endobronchial ultrasound (EBUS) and Transbronchial needle aspiration biopsy (TBNA). In addition, he successfully completed a course on “Sleep apnea” in the Imperial College, Edinburg, Scotlar, for which he received a certificate. Dr. Valev is fluent in English, and he is highly skilled in computer studies. He is a member of the Bulgarian Medical Association, Bulgarian Society of Pulmonary Diseases, and European Respiratory Society.

### **Scientific activities of the applicant**

In the current competition dr. Dinko Valev has submitted 38 scientific publications. In addition, he participates with the thesis presented to acquire his PhD, therefore he completely meets all the obligatory parameters stated in the regulations of this competition. He has 15 scientific articles published in refereed journals which are a part of a world-renowned databases of scientific

information. Additionally, 23 of his studies are published in Bulgarian and International journals that are included in the National Reference List (NACID). The total impact factor of the participant is 42.484. According to the scientific platform Google Scholar dr. Valev has been quoted 18 times. Below there is a verification for five of his quotations in international peer-reviewed journals which are a part of the scientific databases WEB OF SCIENCE and SCOPUS. From among the 38 articles dr. Dinko Valev is the first author of 11 studies (29%) and the second author in 6 (16%).

The thesis of the applicant's PhD is on topic "Fibrobronchoscopic transbronchial needle aspiration biopsy and diagnostics of lung cancer" and he proves the efficiency and the safety of this method in the modern diagnosis of lung tumors, especially since the endobronchial ultrasound has been introduced to the medical community during the last decade. In the clinical practice the author develops and endorses an algorithm to implement the transbronchial needle aspiration biopsy in the verification of the peripheral and the central lung cancer.

The results of dr. Valev's studies and activities are mainly concentrated and contribute to the following scientific fields:

1. The efficiency and the quality of the bronchological investigations in the diagnostic process.
2. The implementation of modern innovational endoscopic methods and therapeutical procedures in the contemporary Bronchology.
3. Diagnosing and treatment of rare lung conditions.
4. Diagnosing, treatment and prevention of the lung neoplasm and socially significant pulmonary diseases.

5. Investigation of the etiology and the pathogenesis of the chronic obstructive lung diseases and their connection to the heart conditions.

The analysis of the presented publications shows mainly original scientific investigations. Dr. Dinko Valev participates in the development of a method for early diagnostics of small-cell carcinoma by using bronchoalveolar lavage and analyzing, for the first time in Bulgaria, the gene-expression of EGFR mutation in this type of carcinoma.

He has studied the possibilities of the modern bronchological techniques in the diagnostics of rare lung conditions, he also analyses the multidisciplinary approach in their treatment. He has studied in detail the pulmonary alveolar lipoproteinosis and alveolar microlithiasis. He has made a deep retrospective analysis of the 10-year experience in the diagnostics, the clinical presentation and the possibilities for treatment of the alveolar microlithiasis. The author investigates and develops therapeutical methods for treatment of recurrent respiratory papillomatosis by laser-therapy.

He has introduced biological markers for oxidative stress and inflammation in patients with obstructive sleep apnea, as well as the implementation of the markers in the pathogenesis of the cardiovascular, endocrinological and neurological complications in the same patients. The concentration of 8-isoprostane (oxidative stress marker) and resistin (inflammation marker) has been measured and analysed by the method of mass spectrometry and liquid chromatography.

Dr. Valev's individual contribution was the study of the frequency of the night hypertension non-dipping phenomenon and the target-organ impairment of patients with OSA.

Dr. Valev introduces the stress-test protocols, the medium values of the

echography data and subclinical diastolic dysfunction by using stress-echocardiography during cardio-pulmonary testing of 104 patients diagnosed with mild COPD and without any data of heart failure at rest.

In the presented articles he has studied the etiological aspects of the origin, the treatment, the prevention and the special features of the clinical presentation of the tuberculosis as socially significant disease.

Dr. Dinko Valev's work and publications signify for his broad specter of scientific and professional interests. They prove for his professionalism, qualification and deep interest in the modern scientific fields. It should be noticed that the author's work has a great practical and scientific contribution.

#### **The applicant's teaching activity:**

From 2017 to 2021 the applicant's classroom employment has been in total of 507 hours, as a teacher and as an assistant in the Department of "Clinical and Biomedical sciences" in MU – Sofia, affiliate "Prof. dr. Ivan Mitev" – Vratsa. The academic verification for his teaching practice consists of seminars from the syllabus of "Internal Diseases" for the Nursing, Obstetrics and Physician Assistant courses – up to a total of 180 hours for 2019/2020; as well as he gives classes to the "Occupational therapy" course – 95,6 hours for 2016/2017, 116,8 hours for 2017/2018, 56,3 hours for 2018/2019 and 58, 3 hours for 2019/2020. In conclusion, the average annual scholar activity of dr. Dinko Valev is 102 hours, that includes lectures, seminars, and participation in exams, having into consideration that for the last 2 years he has 120 hours.

It may be remarked that the teaching activity of the applicant in 2017, 2018 and 2019 is mainly associated with the subject "Occupational therapy", whereas in 2020/2021 the focus is on the subject of "Internal

Diseases”. However, in the academic verification from MU-Sofia lacked the information what part of his scholar program is on pulmonary diseases topics.

The applicant is an author and has prepared the teaching program for “Occupational therapy of the endocrinological diseases” and “Occupational therapy in arthritis, arthrosis, osteoporosis” for the “Occupational therapy” course. In addition, he has elaborated on the “Internal Diseases” syllabus for the course stated above.

The **table below** summarizes the main parameters of the fulfilled minimal requirements to occupy the position of “Associate professor”, in accordance with the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations on the development of the Academic Staff in Medical University – Varna, and is based on:

- the academic verification prepared by MU–Varna’s library;
- the documentation submitted by the applicant;
- the information accessible in the international scientific database.

**Criteria and scientific-metric indicators to occupy the academic position “Associate professor” concerning dr. Dinko Valev**

Group of indicators	Content	Associate professor Required points	Associate professor Available points
A	Index 1	50	50
B	Index 2	-	-
C	Sum of indexes 2,3 and 4	100	114,5
D	Sum of indexes 5 to 9	200	286
E	Sum of indexes 10 to 12	50	180

As shown the candidate meets each one of the requirements for occupying the academic position of "Associate professor" in full accordance with the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ADASRB) and the specific regulations of the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in MU-Varna.

**Conclusion:**

The studies published by dr. Dinko Valev, M.D., in national and international scientific journals, as well as the other parameters completely fulfill the requirements of the Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations and the procedure for occupying academic positions according to Medical University – Varna. The submitted papers are found to be original without any plagiarism. Having this into consideration, as well as his teaching work and the participation in the development of the scholar programs, I strongly recommend the esteemed jury to vote positively for the election of Dr. Dinko Valev as "Associate Professor", scientific specialty "Pneumology and Phthisiatry", professional field 7.1 "Medicine", area of higher education 7. "Healthcare and sport".

30.06.2021 г.

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