

STATEMENT OF OPINION

prepared by

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Regarding:

A procedure for holding the academic position "Associate Professor" in the scientific speciality of "Pneumology and Phthysiatry" at the Faculty of Medicine, First Department of Internal Diseases, ES Pulmonary Diseases and Allergology at the Faculty of Medicine at Medical University - Varna, within the higher education field of 7. "Healthcare and sport", professional subfield 7.1. "Medicine", and a competition, which was announced in Issue 17/26 February 2021 of the State Gazette.

As per Order No. P-109-194/26.04.2021 of the Rector of Medical University - Varna and after a meeting of the Academic Jury, Protocol No.1 dated 10.05.2021, I have been appointed to prepare a statement of opinion regarding the procedure for holding the academic position "Associate Professor".

The following single applicant has been allowed to participate in the competition after a review of the submitted documents and an evaluation of the scientific production: Dr. Dinko Genchev Valev, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor at a 0,50 position at the Department of Clinical and Medico-Biological Sciences of Medical University - Sofia at the "Prof. Dr. Ivan Mitev" Affiliate in Vratsa.

Brief biographical data of the applicant:

Dr. Dinko Genchev Valev was born on 17 February 1965 in Stara Zagora. He graduated from Medical University - Sofia, majoring in "Medicine", in 1992. After that, he was appointed as a doctor at the Institute of Physiology of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. He worked as a III grade research assistant at the Medical Institute of Transport - Sofia between 1993 and 2000. Between 2000 and 2019, he worked as a resident doctor at the Department of Bronchology of SHATPD "St. Sofia" EAD - Sofia, and since 2019, he has worked at the First UMHAT – Sofia "St. John the Baptist" EAD, Sofia. Dr. Valev has acquired two specialities: one in "Internal Medicine", which was acquired in 1998, and one in "Pneumology and Phthysiatry", which was acquired in 2002. In 2010, Dr. D. Valev defended successfully his dissertation on the topic: "Fibrobronchoscopic fine-needle aspiration biopsy in the diagnosis of pulmonary carcinoma", and he acquired the academic degree of Doctor of Science in the speciality of "Pulmonary Diseases". In the course of his professional development, he has also acquired an additional qualification to perform the highly specialised procedures of: "Bronchology" - Level Two and "Interventional Bronchology". He has completed an

international certified course in "Endobronchial ultrasound and transbronchial fine-needle aspiration" in Heidelberg, Germany, as well as a course in "Obstructive sleep apnea" at the Imperial College in Edinburgh, Scotland.

He is a member of the Bulgarian Medical Association, the Bulgarian Society of Pulmonary Diseases and the European Respiratory Society. He is fluent in English.

Scientific research activity

In the competition, Dr. Dinko Valev presents with 32 scientific publications, 28 of which have been written after the acquisition of his academic degree of Doctor of Science. His publications include:

- A dissertation for conferment of the academic degree of Doctor of Science in the scientific speciality of "Pulmonary Diseases" - 50 points.
- Scientific publications in editions, which are referenced and indexed in world-famous databases containing scientific information (Scopus/WOS) - ten - 114.5 points.
- Publications and papers published in scientific editions, which are referenced and indexed in world-famous databases containing scientific information (Scopus/WOS) - five publications, of one of which Dr. D. Valev is the first author, of one - the second author, of 2 - the third author, and of one - the fourth author, or in total - 68 points.
- Publications and papers published in unreferenced journals with scientific reviewing or published in edited collective volumes - 17. Dr. Valev is the first author of ten of these publications, the second author - of four of them, the third author - of two of them, and the last author - of one publication - with a collected total of 217.7 points.
- Full-text publications in scientific journals and anthologies besides the ones obligatory for fulfilment of the minimal requirements for acquisition of the academic position "Associate Professor" - five publications.

According to the data from the academic reference, the collected total points by Indicators D5-9 equal 285.7 points with a minimal requirement of 200 points.

- In the competition, Dr. Valev presents with 5 participations in scientific congresses, conferences and symposia in Bulgaria and abroad after the acquisition of his academic degree of Doctor of Science.
- The total impact factor of the journals, in which the applicant has publications, is 42.484.

According to the data from the academic reference, the applicant's citations or reviews in scientific editions, which are referenced and indexed in world-famous databases containing scientific information, or in monographs and collective volumes that are presented in the competition are six, which equals 90 points, his citations in monographs and collective volumes with scientific reviewing are six, which equals 60 points, and his citations or reviews in unreferenced journals with scientific reviewing are six, which equals 30 points.

Therefore, the collected total number of points by Indicators E10-12 equals 180 points with a minimal requirement of 50 points.

Dr. Valev's main scientific interests are aimed at the fields of bronchology and interventional bronchology, as well as the application of invasive diagnostic methods in the investigation of different pulmonary diseases. His dissertation and publications by the C4, D7 and D8 groups of indicators also follow this scientific direction. The diagnosis and treatment of socially significant diseases like pulmonary tuberculosis and pulmonary carcinoma (Indicator D7) are another main field targeted by the applicant's scientific research, with the addition of his interest towards the diagnosis and differential diagnosis of the rare pulmonary diseases (Indicators C4, D8). An important direction in Dr. Valev's scientific production is taken by his studies targeted at the chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases, their co-morbidity with cardiovascular diseases, as well as the clarification of individual units of their pathogenesis with a view to prevention of the risk: articles by the C4 and D8 groups of indicators.

The applicant has active scientific profiles in Google Scholar, ORCID and Research Gate.

Evaluation of the authority of Dr. Valev's scientific publications:

A. Dissertation for conferment of the academic degree of Doctor of Science - 50 points.

C. Scientific publications in editions, which are referenced and indexed in world-famous databases containing scientific information (Scopus/WOS) - ten - 114.5 points.

D. Publications and papers published in scientific editions, which are referenced and indexed in world-famous databases containing scientific information (Scopus/WOS) - 68 points, publications and papers published in unreferenced journals with scientific reviewing or published in edited collective volumes - 217.7 points.

E. Citations in referenced scientific editions and in unreferenced journals with scientific reviewing - 180 points.

A collected total of 630.2 points with a minimal requirement of 400 points.

Teaching workload

Dr. Valev teaches at MHATPD "St. Sofia" EAD - a training base of the Faculty of Medicine at Medical University - Sofia for the training by the "Bronchology" module. He teaches specialising doctors of the "Pneumology and Phthysiatry" speciality, as well as other specialities, by the "Pulmonary Diseases" module. Since 2020, he has worked as an assistant at Medical University - Sofia - at the "Prof. Dr. Ivan Mitev" Affiliate in Vratsa. The applicant has presented an academic reference regarding his teaching workload from Medical University - Sofia, which encompasses the last five years and testifies to the fact that the applicant's teaching workload equals a total number of 405.2 teaching hours for the reviewed five-year period. Therefore, the applicant's average annual teaching workload as an assistant at a ½ position equals 81.04 hours. Dr. Valev teaches both lectures and seminars, and he participates in exams on the discipline of "Internal Diseases" of students from the specialities "Nursing", "Midwifery" and „Doctor's Assistant“, as well as students from the speciality "Occupational Therapy" on the disciplines of "Occupational Therapy in Endocrine Diseases" and "Occupational Therapy in Arthritis, Arthrosis and Osteoporosis". For his participation in the competition, Dr.

Dinko Valev has presented a participation in the preparation of curricula and an exam syllabus on the discipline of "Occupational Therapy in Internal and Endocrine Diseases" for the speciality "Occupational Therapy".

Dr. Valev is a clinician who has acquired two specialities - one in "Internal Medicine" and one in "Pneumology and Phthysiatry", and who has experience and clinical practice in the fields of "Bronchology" and "Interventional Pulmonology". He is an established clinician with many years of work and practical experience and expertise. As per the requirements of The Act for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and The Regulations for the Terms and Conditions for Acquisition of Academic Degrees and Holding of Academic Positions in Medical University - Varna, Dr. Dinko Valev, MD, PhD fulfils the minimal requirements for conferment of the academic position "Associate Professor".

I hereby suggest to the members of the academic jury to vote for the conferment of the academic position "Associate Professor" to Dr. Dinko Valev.

19 July 2021

Varna



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Diana Petkova, MD, PhD