

*To the Chairman of the Scientific Jury,
Appointed with order № P-109-259/23.06.2022
of the Rector of Medical University - Varna*

PEER REVIEW

on a competition for the occupation of an academic position "associate professor" in the scientific specialty "Oncology", field of higher education 7. Health care and sports, professional direction 7.1. Medicine - to the "Oncology" department, MU - Varna, 0.25 full-time position for the needs of the department, announced in state newspaper No. 32/26.04.2022 with only one candidate in the competition, Dr. Bozhil Stefanov Robev, MD, PhD

from Prof. Krasimir Ivanov, MD, PhD, Dsc
Head of the Department of General and Operative Surgery, Medical university "Prof.
Paraskev Stoyanov" – Varna

Dear Chairman of the Scientific jury,

Pursuant to Art. 4, para. 1 and para. 2 of the Law for the development of the academic staff of Republic of Bulgaria and MU-Varna and Art. 57, para. 1 and para. 2 of the Regulations for the Implementation of the Law for the development of the academic staff of Republic of Bulgaria, Art. 6, para. 1, Art. 127, para. 1 approved proposal by the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Medicine, MU-Varna (protocol No. 67/20.06.2022) to hold a competition and order of the Rector of MU-Varna No. R-109-259 I am appointed as a member of the scientific jury. At the remote first meeting of the scientific jury, I was chosen to present a peer review of the ongoing competition.

Analysis of the candidate's career profile

Dr. Bozhil Stefanov Robev, MD, graduated from Military Medical Academy Stara Zagora as a master of medicine - doctor 1987/1993 (diploma No. 976/23.11.1993). During the period 1997-1999,

he specialized in Pediatrics in Medical University - Sofia. After successfully passing the exam, he acquired a specialty with diploma No. 006053 from 01.06.1999. During the period from 2009 to 2014, he specialized in Medical Oncology at the University of Sofia, acquiring a specialty with diploma No. 014399 from 07.10.2014. He is defending a doctoral degree of independent preparation at the Department of "Toxicology and Pharmacology" at the Sofia University on the topic: "Comparative clinical study of the effect of combined chemotherapy with cisplatin on plasma antioxidant capacity in patients with lung cancer".

Professional Development

From 1993 to 1997, he worked as a pediatrician in the District Hospital of the city of Sliven. During the period 1999 to 2002, he worked as a pediatrician in the APMP, Botunets district, Sofia. From 2002 to 2005, he worked as a pneumophtisiatrist in the Lung Hospital in Sliven. From March 2005 to December 2005, he worked as a resident doctor - chemotherapist at SBALOZ, Sofia. From December 2014 to March 2016, he was the Head of the Department of Medical Oncology at "Saint Ivan Rilski" Medical Center, Sofia. During the period from March 2016 to August 2019, he was a specialist doctor at the Department of Medical Oncology at UMHAT "Saint Ivan Rilski" - Sofia. From August 2019 to the present, he is the Head of the Department of Medical Oncology at "St. Ivan Rilski" Medical Center, Sofia.

With a view to continuing medical education, Dr. Bozhil Stefanov Robev, MD, has conducted short-term courses and specializations focused on oncology and visits to international scientific events under the auspices of ASCO (American Society of Clinical Oncology), ESMO (European Society for Medical Oncology) and others regional and national events.

He is a member of foreign and our scientific and professional organizations - ASCO, ESMO, BOND, etc.

He is engaged in scientific and teaching activities in the following directions (lectures and seminars) - various therapeutic approaches in the treatment of colorectal carcinoma, therapeutic approaches in various paraneoplastic syndromes, emergency conditions in oncology, scientific research activity as a principal investigator in clinical trials, conducting colleges.

He is fluent in written and spoken English and Russian.

General description of the submitted materials for the competition

The documents submitted by the candidate, Dr. Bozhil Stefanov Robev, PhD, for the competition, are in accordance with the requirements of the Law for the development of the academic staff of Republic of Bulgaria and MU-Varna and the Regulations for the implementation of the Law for the development of the academic staff of Republic of Bulgaria and MU-Varna in the MU-Varna, regarding the procedure for awarding the academic position of "Associate Professor". All required materials are available, informative, very well structured, which allows responsible analysis and conclusions by the scientific jury.

Evaluation of the scientific works of the candidate for the overall academic development

The assessment of the academic development of the only candidate for the position of "Associate Professor", chief assistant Bozhil Stefanov Robev, MD, includes a complex evaluation of the scientific production and publication activity, application of the scientific and practical achievements of the candidate, participation in the implementation/management of projects, educational and teaching, diagnostic and therapeutic activities, including personal contributions related to them.

Scientific production and publication activity

Dr. Bozhil Stefanov Robev, MD, presents for the competition his scientific works, structured in lists, according to the requirements of the Regulations of the University of Varna, namely: List of articles in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in Scopus and Web of Science, from which and those in journals with impact factor and list of publications and reports published in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals or published in edited collective journal volumes.

Structurally, the specific publication activity is presented as follows: six articles in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases with scientific information (five of which in English), as the publications are from interdisciplinary collectives in the field of oncology. Scientific indicators are characterized by a total IF= 5.5.

SPECT-CT imaging with [99mTc]PSMA-T4 in patients with recurrent prostate cancer

Sonya Sergieva , Radoslav Mangalgiev , Milena Dimcheva, Kamen Nedev, Zahary Zahariev , Bozhil Robev - analysis of performing SPECT-CT with [99mTc]PSMA in patients with prostate carcinoma with the conclusion that uptake of this marker by SPECT-CT images has clinical importance of identifying and evaluating PSMA expression before considering radioligand therapy

(RLT) with Lu-PSMA. SPECT-CT imaging with [99m Tc]PSMA is a promising and reliable nuclear medicine method for monitoring the therapeutic effect after treatment and for detecting disease recurrence.

Do Mistletoe (*Viscum album* L.) Lectins Influence Isometric Contraction of Non-diseased Human Mesenteric Arteries *ex vivo*?, Daniela Z. Dimitrova, Biliiana Nikolova, Vanya Bogoeva, Bozhil Robev, Iana Tsoneva, Stanislav Dimitrov, Boris Kadinov - A Study Investigating mistletoe (*Viscum album* L., VA) lectins (MLs) and their potent antitumor activity. The widespread use of VA extracts for cancer treatment, the effects of purified MLs on the human vasculature regarding possible side effects.

Sarcopenia and high NLR are associated with the development of hyperprogressive disease after second-line pembrolizumab in patients with non-small-cell lung cancer

M.P.Petrova, I.S.Donev, M.A.Radanova, M.I.Eneva, E.G.Dimitrova, G.N.Valchev, V.T.Minchev, MS.Taushanova, M.V.Boneva, T.S.Karanikolova, R.B.Gencheva, G.A.Zhbantov, A.I.Ivanova, C.V.Timcheva, B.P.Pavlov, V.G.Megdanova, B.S. Robev and N.V. Conev - A multicenter retrospective study to evaluate the occurrence of hyperprogressive disease (HPD) after second-line treatment with pembrolizumab in patients with metastatic non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) whose tumors express programmed cell death ligand 1 (PD-L1) in $\geq 1\%$ and to search for hematological and imaging biomarkers related to its development.

Antineoplastic potential of curcumin (cooperative study in Bulgaria and Germany),

Y. Ilieva, K. Kaloyanov, D. Yosifov, B. Robev, I. Zhelezova, M. Genova, A. Mihova, G. Balatzenko, M. M. Zaharieva, M. R. Berger, S. M. Konstantinov - research focused on curcumin and its antineoplastic properties.

Clinical application of SPECT-CT with 99mTc-Tektrotyd in bronchial and thymic neuroendocrine tumors (NETs), Sonya Sergieva 1, Bozhil Robev, Milena Dimcheva, Albena Fakirova, Radka Hristoskova - a study to evaluate the role of SPECT-CT somatostatin-receptor scintigraphy (SRS) with 99mTc-Tektrotyd for imaging, staging and follow-up of patients with neuroendocrine tumors of the bronchi and thymus.

CANCER DRUG THERAPY AND CARDIOTOXICITY, Bozhil Robev, MD, PhD - Analysis of an important adverse drug reaction during the application of cytostatic and targeted therapy - cardiotoxicity, which in some patients correlates with the applied regimens and an opportunity for

better knowledge of the mechanisms of occurrence and .

Regarding the list of publications and reports published in non-refereed peer-reviewed journals or published in edited collective journal volumes, eleven publications are presented, a selection of which are:

Clodronate - an overview of its use in the prevention of bone metastases and complications of bone metastases in patients with breast cancer, Dudov, B. Robev, R. Ilieva

Medical specialists in health care in the health care system for the period 2005-2016, K. Dikova, B. Robev

Diagnostic and therapeutic problems in modern immunotherapy of malignant diseases, Bozhil Robev, Kalin Papochiev, Sonya Sergieva

PIK3 inhibitors in hormone therapy in breast cancer, Bozhil Robev

Gastroenteropancreatic neuroendocrine tumors, Bozhil Robev

Dr. Bozhil Robev, PhD has a successfully defended dissertation work in the field of oncology entitled "Comparative clinical study of the effect of combined chemotherapy with cisplatin on plasma antioxidant capacity in patients with lung cancer" which defines the scientific areas in which interests are focused of the candidate.

Participation in scientific events

Dr. Bozhil Stefanov Robev, dm presents the following participations at international, regional and national scientific forums:

- Participation in international congresses and conferences with abstracts published in magazines with IF – eight in number;
- Participation in international congresses and conferences with abstracts published in journals with no IF - five in number;
- Participation in international congresses and conferences without published abstracts - two in number;
- Participation in Bulgarian congresses, conferences and local meetings with published summaries - five in number;

Evaluation of the monographic work / equivalent publications submitted by the candidate for participation in the "Associate Professor" competition

Dr. Bozhil Robev, PhD, presents a monographic work in the competition on the topic "NEUROENDOCRINE TUMORS OF THE GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT - as this topic is of interest in oncology, because according to data from SEER (Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results Program) in the USA, the frequency of gastroenteropancreatic neuroendocrine tumors (GEP-NET) is similar in men and women, increasing with age. The mean age was lower in NETs originating from the appendix and pancreas compared with those of other gastrointestinal sites. The median age was less than 50 years for NETs of the appendix and pancreas and was more than 60 years for the other sites. Neuroendocrine tumors arise from neuroendocrine cells located throughout the body, including the lungs, breast, ovaries and endometrium, prostate. But the gastrointestinal system is the most common localization of these tumors, which is explainable in connection with the greatest concentration of neuroendocrine cells there.

Citation of the candidate's publications in the national and foreign literature (publication image).

The attached citation certificate of Dr. Bozhil Robev, PhD (source: MU-Sofia library), related to the researched scientific areas, proves:

- 23 citations in Scopus database;
- 22 citations in Web of Science database.

Argued evidentiary material is presented, including for the IF of all journals in which there is citation.

Comprehensive evaluation of the teaching-methodical and teaching activities

In the materials for the competition, Dr. Bozhil Robev, MD, presented the required official reference from MU-Sofia about his personal academic workload in the last three academic years at units with medical-clinical activity. It is reflected in it that Dr. Bozhil Robev, MD has classroom and non-auditory employment, the required minimum according to the norm. It includes teaching:

- Lectures for trainees - Therapeutic strategies in colorectal carcinoma and microsatellite instability;
- Lectures for students - Cardiotoxicity in modern targeted therapy in oncology;
- Lectures for trainees – Schwarz-Bartter syndrome and small cell carcinoma – diagnosis and therapeutic behavior;
- Lectures for specialists - Emergency conditions in oncology;

Overall assessment of the applicant's procedure and compliance

All stages of the Tender Disclosure and Announcement Procedure have been followed. They are in accordance with the requirements of the Law for the development of the academic staff of Republic of Bulgaria and MU-Varna and the Regulations for its application. The only candidate in the competition, Dr. Bozhil Robev, PhD, meets the minimum national requirements under Art. 2b, para. 2 and 3, respectively, to the requirements under Art. 2b, para. 5 of the Law for the development of the academic staff of Republic of Bulgaria and MU-Varna 7.1. medicine (medical-clinical activity), defined in the Regulations for academic development. The scientific works presented in the competition have a marked scientific/scientific-applied character and are aimed at modern diagnostic and therapeutic problems in clinical oncology. The scientific developments are planned and executed with a very well organized and structured research orientation, which proves permanently oriented scientific interests. Scientific metrics as well as proven qualities define the candidate as a erudite researcher and experienced clinician.

With the required 200 points for taking the academical position "associate professor", Dr. Bozhil Robev has defended 294.12 points according to the presented reference.

Conclusion

In view of the above, I believe that the only candidate in the announced competition for the position of Associate Professor, namely Dr. Bozhil Robev, **meets** the mandatory and specific conditions and scientometric criteria for the position of Associate Professor. I confidently give **my positive assessment** and offer to the honorable scientific jury to vote positively for the **occupation of academical position "Associate Professor" in scientific specialty "Oncology"**, field of higher education 7. Health care and sports, professional direction 7.1. Medicine Dr. Bozhil Robev.

Date:

12.09.2022

Prepared the peer review:

Prof. Krasimir Ivanov MD, PhD, DSc.

