

OPINION

from
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Member of the Scientific Jury, appointed by order No. R-109-140/23.02.2023 of Prof. Valentin Ignatov, MD - Rector of the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov", Varna.

Regarding: Contest for the academic position of ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR in the field of higher education 7 Health care and sports, by professional direction 7.1 Medicine and scientific specialty "Cardiology" for the needs of the First Department of Internal Medicine, Faculty of Medicine at MU-Varna and Clinic of Cardiac surgery at UMHAT "St. Marina"-Varna.

Brief information about the competition

By order No.R-109-140/23.02.2023 of the Rector of Varna University of Medical Sciences, in connection with decision No.81/06.02.2023 of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Medicine, Medical University of Varna, I have been elected as a member of the jury for a contest for Associate Professor which was published in the State Gazette no.102/23.12.2022. According to Protocol No. 1 of the Scientific Jury dated 06.03.2023, I was appointed to prepare an opinion. Dr. Yavor Dimitrov Peychev is the only candidate in this contest. The procedure for announcing the contest is in accordance with the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria/05.05.2018 and the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff at the Medical University of Varna/28.01.2021.

Brief details of the applicant

Dr. Yavor Dimitrov Peychev graduated in medicine in 1988 at the Medical University, Varna with excellence. He started his professional career as a physician in the IIIrd Polyclinic at the Primary District Hospital - Ruse in 1988, and since 1990 he has successively worked as an assistant professor, senior assistant professor, and chief assistant professor in the Clinic of Cardiology, and since 2005 in the Clinic of Cardiac Surgery of UMBAL "St. Marina" and MU-Varna. Dr. Peychev is fluent in English and Russian.

Acquired specialties and postgraduate qualification

Dr. Peychev obtained specialties in Internal Medicine - 1994 and in Cardiology - 1997.

Specializations:

Professional qualification with recognized legal capacity "Echocardiography - expert level, Transthoracic echocardiography, Transesophageal echocardiography, Stress-echocardiography" - 2013.

1992: Specialization in "Treatment of Cardiac Arrhythmias", Medical University - Freiburg, Germany.

1993: Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Specialization, Michigan State University, Lansing, Michigan, USA - Annual Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) and Basic Cardiac Life Support (BCLS) Course.

Projects:

He participated as an Academic Mentor under project BG05M2OP001-2.002-0001 - "Student practices" - phase I. Research projects - Euro Heart Survey (EHS) on Atrial Fibrillation (EHS-AF). He also participated as an investigator in several randomized controlled international clinical trials

Experience

Dr. Yavor Peychev has long been devoted to internal medicine, and in particular to Cardiology, and has already spent nearly 23 years dedicated to the treatment of heart disease patients.

In terms of professional qualification, he fulfills the requirements for habilitation.

Research activity

Dr. Yavor Peychev obtained the educational and scientific degree DOCTOR in cardiology in 2018 after a successfully defended dissertation on the topic: "Prognosis and prognostic factors in aortic valve prostheses due to aortic valve stenosis".

In the current contest, the candidate presents the following scientific production - 15 scientific works (out of a total of 82 presented):

- Monography with a total volume of 148 pages on the topic: " Calcification aortic stenosis. Sex-specific differences and their clinical significance." – 2022, a total **100 points**.
- Publications:

A. To cover the minimum state requirements under the 2018 Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria/ and the MU-Varna Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff / 2021: a total of **202.5 pts**.

- o In scientific publications, referenced or indexed by the world-famous database WOS or Scopus: abstracts in scientific publications - 2 items, a **total of 2 (90 pts)**. Of them, with Impact factor - 2, total IF 36,166 .
- o In non-refereed peer-reviewed journals or published in edited collective volumes - full text - 10, **total 10 (112.5 pts)**.
- o Chapter of a collective monograph - 0 items.

B. Articles in non-refereed journals with scientific peer review beyond the required minimum state requirements - 2 items, a total of **30 pts**.

- Publications from previous contests that are not reviewed – 8, a total of **93.6 pts**.

- Participation in international events - 14, in national and regional scientific events - 39.

Number of citations: a total of 4, of which 3 in articles referenced or indexed by world-acknowledged databases, 1 in monography and collective volumes with scientific review, a total of 65 pts .

Dr. Peychev is an independent author in 2 publications, first author in 4, second author in 8 and third and subsequent in 1 of the scientific works.

The profiled activity under this indicator covers the minimum state requirements of the Law and the Regulations of the MU-Varna for acquiring the academic position of Associate Professor.

Scientific achievements and contributions

The main scientific interests of Dr. Yavor Peychev are in the field of cardiology in 4 main areas:

1. Valvular aortic stenosis. (A1, B3, D7.2)

The contributions are that, for the first time in our country, a study was conducted on the prognosis of patients with calcified aortic stenosis after surgical aortic valve replacement, and the prospective follow-up of the operated patients lasted for 10 years. For the first time in our country, an attempt was made to investigate gender differences in patients with calcific aortic stenosis and to evaluate their clinical significance. Risk factors for an unfavorable prognosis, such as hypertension, anemia and others, have been studied.

2. Modern pharmacotherapy of heart diseases (publications D8.1, D8.2, D8.3, D8.4, D8.5 and #1):

The role of some antiarrhythmic drugs, antithrombotic agents, ACE inhibitors and antianginal drugs (nitrates) has been studied.

3. Non-invasive electrocardiology (publications G7.1, G8.6, G8.7, G8.8, G8.9 and G8.10)

Dr. Peychev's main research interests are mainly in relation to: electropathogenesis of dangerous ventricular ectopism in ischemic heart disease, "electrical hypertrophy" of the left heart ventricle by means of signal-averaged ECG in combination with dispersion of the QT-interval, investigation of presence of late potentials, electrocardiological aspects of heart failure syndrome.

4. Sudden cardiac death. Risk of sudden death. Sudden death in heart surgery. Principles of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (publications B3, D7.2, D8.8, D8.9, D8.10 and #2)

Dr. Peychev is a member of Bulgarian Physicians Society, Heart-Lung Association, Bulgarian Society of Cardiology, Association of Echocardiography Specialists - "Varna-Echo", American Heart Association, International Society of Electrocardiology.

Teaching and learning activity

Dr. Yavor Peychev was elected as a regular assistant professor after a contest to the Department of Internal Medicine in 1990, since 2019 he is a chief assistant professor in the First Department of Internal Medicine, Educational Sector of Cardiology, MU-Varna.

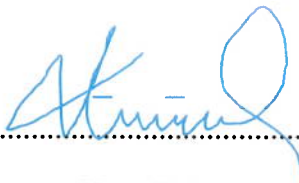
A report on the academic workload over the last 5 years shows an average academic employment of 221.2 hours (from 144 to 249 hrs) with practical exercises and lectures with training of Bulgarian- and English-speaking medical students, as well as theoretical post-graduate training of cardiology specializing physicians.

According to this indicator, he fulfills the minimum requirements according to Law and the Regulations for academic development of MU-Varna.

In conclusion:

Dr. Yavor Dimitrov Peychev is a trained professional in the field of internal medicine and cardiology, with in-depth knowledge and skills, especially in the field of non-invasive diagnostic methods in cardiology, rhythm disorders and SCD, valvular heart diseases, especially aortic stenosis and in the therapy of heart diseases, with excellent professional training and proven qualities. He has extensive teaching experience and is admired and respected by his students and colleagues. His scientific production is sufficient in volume, meets the minimum state requirements and shows a variety of interests, the publications are in journals of different nature. It fully meets the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations on the Development of the Academic Staff at the University of Varna. This gives me reason to recommend to the respected members of the scientific jury to vote positively for awarding the academic position of **"Associate Professor"** to Dr. Yavor Dimitrov Peychev, MD.

15.05.2023


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/ Prof. Dr. Yoto Trifonov Yotov, MD/