

## OPINION

by

**Prof. Dr. Biser Kirilov Borisov, MD, PhD,**

Head of Nephrology Clinic, University Hospital "Dr. Georgi Stranski", Head of the Department of Nephrology, Hematology, and Gastroenterology, Vice-Rector of Medical University, Pleven

**Regarding:** Competition for the academic position "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education 7. "Healthcare and Sport", professional direction 7.1. "Medicine" and scientific specialty 03.01.15 "Nephrology", for the needs of the Second Department of Internal Medicine, Faculty of Medicine and the Clinic of Nephrology at University Hospital "St. Marina" EAD, as announced in State Gazette, issue № 15/21.02.2025.

*This opinion is prepared based on my appointment as a member of the Scientific Jury by Order № PK 109-202/16.04.2025 of the Rector of the Medical University – Sofia, and the decision of the Scientific Jury at its First (non-presence) meeting.*

### **Candidate in the announced competition:**

The only candidate in this competition is Dr. Aleksandar Aleksandrov Petrov, MD, Chief Assistant at the Sector of "Nephrology, Dialysis, and Toxicology", Medical University – Varna. Dr. Aleksandar Petrov, MD, has submitted all required documents according to the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of Medical University – Varna, accompanied by supporting evidence, both in paper and electronic format, within the required timeframe.

1. Professional Qualifications and Biographical Data Dr. Aleksandar Petrov was born on July 8, 1990, in Varna. He completed secondary education at the First Language High School, Varna. He obtained his Master's degree in "Medicine" from the Medical Faculty of MU-Varna in 2015 (Diploma №003565). He has acquired clinical specialization:
  - "Nephrology" in 2020 (Diploma №023850)
  - Obtained a PhD degree in "Nephrology" in 2022 (Diploma №478/21.12.2021) Dr. Petrov has completed numerous educational courses in Bulgaria and abroad, specializing in clinical nephrology and transplantation. He has over 10 years of professional experience in the field of medicine and 5 years specifically in nephrology. Dr. Petrov is proficient in English and German languages.

2. Analysis and Evaluation of Scientific Research and Publications 2.1. PhD Dissertation In 2021, Dr. Aleksandar Aleksandrov Petrov, MD, successfully defended his dissertation entitled "Level of Awareness Among Patients with Chronic Kidney Disease Regarding Kidney Transplantation and the Importance of Awareness in Choosing Renal Replacement Therapy."

2.2. Habilitation Thesis Dr. Petrov has presented a monographic work entitled "In Search of 'Liquid' Biopsy: Urinary Proteomics as a New Approach in the Diagnosis and Prognosis of Chronic Kidney Disease," consisting of 131 standard pages, published by STENO, Varna, 2024.

2.3. Scientific Publications Dr. Petrov has presented 15 articles (total 96 pages) and 12 reports (total 60 pages), along with participation in 19 scientific forums. Most of these publications are in refereed journals, with Dr. Petrov primarily serving as the first author.

2.4. Citations Dr. Petrov's citations in refereed scientific journals exceed the minimum national requirements.

2.5. Research Projects Dr. Petrov has provided documentation of his participation in project №19024 funded by the "Science" Fund, titled "Identifying Causes for the High Epidemiological Activity of Chronic Kidney Disease in Dalgopol Municipality, Varna Region."

2.6. Main Scientific Contributions Dr. Petrov's main scientific contributions can be categorized as follows:

- Research on chronic kidney disease and its complications, particularly anemia and erythropoietin resistance in dialysis patients.
- Clinical application of genetic testing and analyses for diagnosing rare and hereditary nephrological diseases.
- Introduction and development of innovative technologies, including 3D technologies and bioartificial organs, with potential impacts on renal failure and transplantation practices.
- Clinical studies and methods for early diagnosis and monitoring of glomerular and tubulointerstitial diseases, including contrast-enhanced ultrasound and urinary proteomics.

3. Analysis and Evaluation of Teaching Activities For the last five academic years, Dr. Petrov has documented a detailed teaching workload, amounting to 1087 academic hours, primarily teaching students in English.
4. Overall Assessment of Clinical Diagnostic and Therapeutic Activities Dr. Aleksandar Petrov, MD, is a Chief Assistant at the Sector of "Nephrology, Dialysis, and Toxicology," MU Varna. His scientific interests span clinical nephrology, dialysis treatment, and transplantation.

**Conclusion:** Considering all of the above, along with the requirements of the Law for the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, its Implementation Regulations, and the Regulations for the Development of Academic Staff at MU-Varna, I conclude that the evidence presented by Chief Assistant Dr. Aleksandar Aleksandrov Petrov, MD, surpasses the qualitative and quantitative requirements for the academic position of "Associate Professor." My positive personal impressions of Dr. Aleksandar Petrov as an accomplished clinician, diligent researcher, excellent lecturer, and respected colleague strongly support my decision to vote positively for his appointment to the academic position of "Associate Professor" in Nephrology.

20.07.2025

Заличено на основание чл. 5,  
§1, б. „В“ от Регламент (ЕС)  
2016/679

.....  
Prepared by: (Prof. Dr. Biser Borisov, MD, PhD)