

**TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SCIENTIFIC JURY**  
**APPOINTED BY ORDER R-109-109/29.01.2025**  
**OF THE RECTOR OF MU – VARNA**

**OPINION**

From Assoc. Prof. Dr. Polina Georgieva Marinova-Kichikova MD, PhD,  
Assoc. Prof. at Department of Surgical diseases Medical University – Pleven

In connection with a competition for occupying an academic position “Associate Professor” in the field of higher education 7. Health and Sport, professional field 7.1. Medicine, for the needs of Department of Surgical Diseases, Faculty of Medicine at MU-Varna, Education Sector "Abdominal Surgery" and Second Clinic of Surgery at the University Hospital "St. Marina" EAD - Varna, announced in the State Gazette, issue 101/29.11.2024 with only one candidate Assist. Prof. Dr. Dilyan Svilenov Chaushev, PhD.

The required materials have been submitted on paper and electronic media for the competition, in accordance with the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of MU - Varna by the only candidate Assist. Prof. Dr. Dilyan Svilenov Chaushev, PhD., Senior Assist. Prof. at the Department of Surgical Diseases, Medical University - Varna.

**Professional development and achievements**

Dr. Dilyan Chaushev, PhD was born on 18.09.1985 in Varna. In his hometown he graduated from high school, then higher education in Medicine at the Medical University - Varna in 2010. In the period 2012 - 2019 he successively passed through the professional stages of specialist in surgery, assistant-specialist and assistant-surgeon at Second Clinic of Surgery, University Hospital "St. Marina" EAD – Varna. From 2019 until now he is a Chief Assist. Prof. of surgery at the same structure. In 2018 he acquired a specialty in "Surgery" and has 14 years of experience as a doctor. Since 2013 he has been teaching at the Department of Surgical Diseases of Medical University - Varna and conducts practical seminars and lectures on "General and Operative Surgery" - Bulgarian- and English-speaking medical students, III year and practical seminars and lectures on

"Surgical Diseases" - Bulgarian- and English-speaking medical students, IV and V year;

Professionally, he has undergone the following qualification courses:

- 2021 - MU - Varna - Certificate of Professional Qualification for "Laparoscopic cholecystectomy and laparoscopic operations in emergency surgery".
- 2024 - MU - Varna - Certificate of professional qualification for "Conventional abdominal ultrasonography in gastroenterology and superficial structures - first level".
- 2024 - Surgical skills centre Ninewells hospital and medical school Dundee Scotland - "Core skills in Laparoscopic Surgery course".
- 2024 - Specialization in Surgery - IRCAD Strasbourg France - "New perspectives in hepatobiliary and pancreatic surgery advanced core.

### **Scientific production**

Dr. Chaushev participate in the competition with 29 scientific works, distributed as follows:

Habilitation thesis/monograph - 1

Dissertation thesis - 1

Chapter of a book (published in Bulgaria) - 3

Publications in journals and collections (published in Bulgaria) - 20

Publications in journals and collections (published abroad) - 4

As an independent author - 3 in total, in co-authorship - 26, of which as:

first author - in 2 publications

second author - in 3 publications

third author - in 6 publications

fourth and subsequent author - in 15 publications.

Thematically, the areas in which the publications of Dr. Chaushev, PhD can be divided into 5 groups. The main directions in the research work are related to diseases of the biliary system- (4 publications), acute cholecystitis and its complications - (5 publications), postcholecystectomy syndrome-1 publication, liver abscess and echinococcosis of the liver- 4 publications, acute pancreatitis and its complications- (1 publication), benign and malignant diseases of the small and large intestine - 8 publications, postoperative hernias and their complications - 2 scientific works; acute peritonitis.

Publications in refereed and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information Scopus and Web of science - 6 publications; publications and reports published in non-refereed journals with scientific peer review or published in edited collective volumes (National Reference List of Contemporary Bulgarian Scientific Publications with Scientific Peer Review) -20;

The author's report on compliance and fulfillment of the minimum national requirements for Associate Professor is prepared on the basis of the Regulations for the Implementation of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for the Development of Academic Staff of the Medical University - Varna.

Group of indicators	Content	Associate Professor (number of points)	Points
A	Indicator 1	50	50
B	Indicators 3 or 4	100	100
C	Sum of indicators 5 to 9	200	206.63
D	Sum of indicators 10 to 12	50	90
	Total	400	446.63

It is evident from the submitted application materials that the scientific metrics exceed the minimum requirements for the position of Associate Professor.

### **Study and teaching activity**

Dr. Chaushev, PhD actively participates in the teaching activity of the Department of Surgical Diseases, which includes education in the disciplines "General and Operative Surgery" - Bulgarian- and English-speaking students of Medicine, III year; "Surgical Diseases" - Bulgarian- and English-speaking students of Medicine, IV and V year. For the last 5 years it has realized a total workload of 2526 teaching hours, of which 87 teaching hours are with Bulgarian-language education and the predominant 2439 teaching hours are with students of English-language education.

### **Medical-diagnostic activity**

In the medical-diagnostic plan Dr. Chaushev, PhD actively participates in the surgical activity of the Second Clinic of Surgery at the University Hospital "Saint Marina", EAD – Varna. He is a member of the Medical Department of the University of Varna. For the period

2022-2024 he has performed a total of 795 surgical interventions, of which 512 - elective and 283 – by emergency. He was the operator in 378 (47,5%) of all operations and assisted in 417 (52,5%) operations. In terms of complexity, interventions of medium and high complexity predominate, with a steady increase in the number of operations of very high complexity and volume.

The contributions of Dr. Chaushev, PhD are of highlighted practical focus, he offers a clear diagnostic - therapeutic algorithm for the treatment of patients with acute cholecystitis over 60 years of age, applied in practice. He proposes and implements in the work of the clinic modern and accurate criteria for surgical management of patients with acute cholecystitis over 60. In separate scientific papers, the experience in the diagnosis and treatment of acute pancreatitis; acute cholecystitis and acute abdominal pain in the most at-risk group of elderly and elderly patients is presented. In the field of emergency surgery, the current aspects in the treatment of peritonitis and the methods for its treatment are discussed in detail in a chapter of a collective work - BSS Consensus Statement 2021(G8-13).

### **Conclusion**

The professional qualification, scientific research and teaching activities of Dr. Dilyan Chaushev PhD meet the requirements of the Regulations for the conditions and procedure for the acquisition of scientific degrees and for holding the academic position "Associate Professor" at the Medical University - Varna. The publications submitted for participation in the competition fully comply with the quantitative and qualitative criteria for holding this position. Dr. Chaushev, PhD is a well-established surgeon with solid clinical and surgical experience, a teacher with his own style and authority among students; a scientist who constantly strives for improvement and precision in his scientific work.

On the basis of the complex analysis of the achievements of Dr. Chaushev, PhD, I categorically declare my positive vote for his election for the academic position "Associate Professor" in the scientific specialty of "Surgery" !

26.03.2025  
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Sincerely,

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Polina Georgieva Marinova-Kichikova MD, PhD

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