

STATEMENT

by Assoc. Prof. Eleonora Georgieva Dimitrova-Gospodinova, MD, PhD

Head of the Department of Oncology, Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna

Subject: Competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education 7. "Healthcare and Sports", professional field 7.1 "Medicine", scientific specialty "Oncology" for the needs of the Department of Oncology, Faculty of Medicine at the "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" Medical University - Varna and the Clinic of Medical Oncology at the University Hospital Sveta Marina EAD - Varna

Brief information about the competition

By order No. P-109-201/16.04.2025 of the Rector of the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna, I have been elected as a member of the Scientific Jury in connection with a competition announced in the State Gazette No. 15/21.02.2025 for the academic position of "Associate Professor" following a decision of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Medicine under protocol No. 37/31.03.2025, and based on Article 4, paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB), as well as Article 57, paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Regulations for the development of academic staff at the Medical University – Varna.

The competition is for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the specialty "Oncology", professional field 7.1 Medicine, field of higher education 7. Healthcare and Sports - 0.5 full-time position for the Department of Oncology, Faculty of Medicine at MU-Varna and 1 full-time position for the Clinic of Medical Oncology at UMBAL Sveta Marina EAD - Varna.

According to protocol No. 1/28.04.2025 of the Scientific Jury meeting, I was elected as Chair of the Scientific Jury and assigned to prepare a statement.

The only candidate for participation in the competition is Dragomir Svetozarov Stoyanov, MD, PhD.

Brief information about the candidate

Dr. Dragomir Stoyanov was born on 13.05.1992 in the city of Varna. He completed his secondary education at the High School of Mathematics "Dr. Petar Beron" - Varna in 2011. In 2017, he graduated from the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna with full honors. In 2023, he acquired a specialty in medical oncology.

In 2017, he began working as a resident physician at the Clinic of Medical Oncology, UMHAT Sveta Marina EAD – Varna. Since 2023, he has been working as a medical oncology specialist at the same institution.

In 2018, he started working as an assistant at the Department of Propaedeutics of Internal Medicine at MU-Varna. In the period 2018-2020, he was a full-time doctoral student, and in 2020, he successfully defended his dissertation on the topic "The Relationship between Distress and Time Perception in Cancer Patients". With the establishment of the Department of Oncology at MU-Varna in 2020, he was reappointed as an assistant at the new department. Since 2021, he has held the position of Chief Assistant at the Department of Oncology at MU – Varna.

He is fluent in English. He is a member of the Bulgarian Medical Association and the European Society of Medical Oncology (ESMO). He has presented scientific research at prestigious scientific forums, including the meetings of the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) in 2018, 2019, 2022, and 2023, and the ESMO congress in 2020.

Research activity

For participation in the competition for the academic position of Associate Professor, Dr. Stoyanov submitted the following scientific works:

- In 2020, Dr. Dragomir Stoyanov defended his dissertation on the topic "The relationship between distress and time perception in cancer patients" (Indicator A1).
- In 2024, he published a monograph titled "Palliative Care for Cancer Patients" in a total volume of 260 pages (Indicator B3).
- He presented 7 publications and reports in indicator group Г7 and 13 publications and reports in indicator group Г8 with abstracts both in Bulgarian and English.
- He submitted a report listing 6 citations in peer-reviewed scientific journals (Indicator Д10).

The topics of the scientific papers submitted for participation in the competition are in seven main research areas:

- Distress in cancer patients
- Palliative care for cancer patients
- Impact of patients' distance from treatment centers on therapeutic outcomes
- TCTP as a prognostic marker in colorectal carcinoma
- Study of the frequency of PIK3CA mutations in breast cancer patients and their prognostic role
- Fundamental and general oncology
- Therapeutic approaches for specific malignancies

In total, Dr. Dragomir Stoyanov has published 33 scientific papers in co-authorship and 2 as an independent sole author, with 49 citations according to the Google Scholar platform (h index = 3).

The total Impact Factor of the journals in which the candidate has publications and with which he participates in this competition = 168.111.

Teaching activity

Dr. Stoyanov teaches the subjects "Propaedeutics of Internal Medicine" and "Oncology" to 3rd and 5th year students in both Bulgarian and English-language programs at the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna. According to the provided teaching workload report for the past 5 academic years, he has conducted a total of 1116 teaching hours. He also participates in the semester exams in the mentioned disciplines.

Diagnostic and therapeutic activity

As a medical oncology specialist at the Clinic of Medical Oncology at UMHAT Sveta Marina – Varna, Dr. Stoyanov actively participates in the diagnostic and therapeutic activities of the clinic by providing comprehensive care for patients with malignant solid tumors. This includes consultations, prescribing systemic antitumor therapy, managing adverse drug reactions, evaluating therapeutic response, providing palliative care, prescribing and monitoring treatment for cancer pain, and follow-up monitoring. He is a member of the General Clinical Oncology Committee, the Oncology Committee for Chemotherapy and the Committees for prescribing endocrine therapy for breast and prostate cancer at the University Hospital Sveta Marina - Varna.

He acquires and maintains his professional skills and competencies by participating in numerous training courses in various European centers and by regular attendance in the annual forums of the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO) and the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO).

Conclusion

Dragomir Svetozarov Stoyanov, MD, PhD is a well-established specialist in the field of medical oncology with a focus on scientific work. He is a respected lecturer among both colleagues and students. His scientific output is sufficient in volume, covers the minimum state requirements and reflects diverse interests. Dr. Stoyanov meets the requirements of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, its Implementing Regulations, and the Regulations for the Development of Academic Staff at the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" – Varna. This provides grounds for me to recommend to the esteemed members of the Scientific Jury to vote in favor of appointing Dragomir Svetozarov Stoyanov, MD, PhD, to the academic position of "Associate Professor".

10.06.2025

Statement prepared by:

Assoc. Prof. Eleonora Dimilova-Gospodinova, MD, PhD

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