

OPINION

by prof. Stanimir Stefanov Sirakov, md, phd, DmSc
member of the scientific jury appointed by Order № R-109-200/16 April 2025 of the Rector
of the "Prof. Dr Paraskev Stoyanov" Medical University – Varna,
regarding the competition for the academic position "Associate Professor"
In Higher-education field 7. Health Care and Sport,
professional area 7.1 Medicine,
specialty Diagnostic Imaging, announced in State Gazette, issue 15 of 21 February 2025

I. Candidate's details

Candidate: Dr Emilian Bozhidarov Kalchev, MD, PhD – Senior Assistant Professor at the Department of Diagnostic Imaging and Interventional Radiology.

Date of birth: 06 June 1986

Education and qualifications:

- Master of Medicine, MU-Varna (2011)
- Specialty "Diagnostic Imaging" (2017)
- PhD (2019); dissertation: Arterial Spin Labeling for the Assessment of Brain Perfusion in Patients with Small Vessel Disease

Professional development:

- Assistant (2012–2021), Senior Assistant Professor (since 2021) at MU-Varna
- Since 2012 – Radiologist at University Hospital "St Marina", Varna

II. Documents submitted for the competition

- Habilitation work – 10 publications equivalent to a habilitation thesis, indexed in Scopus/WoS
- 5 additional publications
- Creative résumé
- Extended habilitation reference summarising scientific contributions
- List of participations in scientific forums
- Copies of diplomas, etc.

III. Compliance with statutory requirements

In accordance with the requirements of the Act on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ADASRB), its Implementing Regulations, and the Internal Rules of MU-Varna, the provided reference (outgoing № BIB-122/25 March 2025) confirms that the candidate meets the mandatory minimum criteria for the academic position "Associate Professor" in professional area 7.1.

IV. Analysis of scientific contributions

1. Arterial Spin Labeling (ASL) MRI

- Development of a 5-grade visual scale (Cereb Circ Cogn Behav, 2024)
- Concept for combined global and regional perfusion assessment in neuro-degenerative diseases (Cureus, 2024)
- Important observations on ASL perfusion of meningiomas at different locations (J Med Imaging Radiat Sci, 2023)
- Guidance for ASL interpretation in fetal-type posterior cerebral artery (J Med Imaging Radiat Sci, 2023)

2. Oncologic imaging

- Determination of a risk threshold for PSA density in PI-RADS 3 prostate lesions (Cureus, 2023)
- Critical analysis of contrast-enhanced mammography (Rentgenologia/Radiologia, 2024)

3. Paediatric and rare cases

- Emphasis on CT and MRI findings in drug-induced PRES and lymphom-induced intussusception (Rentgenologia/Radiologia, 2024)

- Description of a rare combined case of glial tumour and AV malformation (Scripta Scientifica Medica, 2024)

4. Cardiovascular imaging

- Case report of LVOT obstruction due to pronounced mitral calcification (Rentgenologia/Radiologia, 2024)

5. Medical education

- Review on adapting radiology education to personalised medicine (J Med Imaging Radiat Sci, 2024)

V. Teaching activity

Active teaching of Diagnostic Imaging to medical students at MU-Varna in the Bulgarian- and English-language programmes.

VI. Conclusion and proposal

Dr Emilian Kalchev, MD, PhD fully satisfies the requirements of the ADASRB, its Implementing Regulations, and the Internal Rules of MU-Varna.

I give a positive opinion and propose that Dr Emilian Kalchev be elected to the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the specialty "Diagnostic Imaging" in MU-Varna.

Date: 19.06.2025

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

Signature:

