

To the Chairman of the Scientific Jury

Determined by Order № P -109-109/29.01.2025

To the Rector of MU-Varna prof. Dr Dimitar Raykov MD, PhD, DSc

Statement

from

Prof. dr Sergey Dimitrov Iliev MD PhD

Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, MU - Pleven

Head of Department „Surgical Propaedeutics“

Concerning: contest for taking academic position „Professor" in scientific specialty „Surgery“ in Department of Surgery ES Abdominal Surgery Faculty of Medicine MU-Varna

Information about the procedure:

The contest for taking academic position „Professor" of Surgery in professional field 7.1. Medicine Department of Surgery ES Abdominal Surgery Faculty of Medicine MU-Varna was announced in the State Gazette № 101/29.11.2024. At the first meeting of the Scientific Jury held on 07.02.2025 and by decision of the Chairman of the SJ on the grounds of art.139, par.1, par.2,par.3,par.4 and par.5 I have been assigned by the ASDR of MU-Varna to prepare a statement. Only one candidate submitted documents to participate in the contest - Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vasil Markov Bozhkov, MD DSc. I received from the scientific department and reviewed all the materials necessary for the preparation of this opinion, which is in accordance with the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LAADRB), the Regulations for its implementation and the Regulations of the Medical University - Varna.

Candidate's biographical data:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vasil Markov Bozhkov, MD DSc was born 13.07.1973 He graduates Medicine in MU - Varna in 1998 – Diploma № 851/1998. From 1999 to 2004 is resident in surgery in Second Department of Surgery UMHAT "Saint Marina". In 2002 was appointed as a resident surgeon in Second

Department of Surgery UMHAT "Saint Marina". In 2007 – after a contest is choosed for assistant. In 2011 is choosed as chief assistant in Department of Surgery MU-Varna. In 2004 acquires a specialty in surgery. In 2013 defended his dissertation "Diagnostic and therapeutic strategy in patients with cholangitis", Medical University - Varna, for which he was awarded the Diploma ESD "Doctor" (№ 039/17.05.2013), in scientific specialty 03.01.37 – „General Surgery “. In 2015 acquires AP "Associate professor" in surgery, Department of Surgery, MU-Varna (№82/18.12.2015) From 2016 is Head of ES Dbdominal Surgery in Department of Surgery, MU-Varna. In 2024 defended his dissertation "Postcholecystectomy syndrome - a current view on an "old" problem. Diagnosis and modern therapeutic strategy." 2024 and acquires SD, „Doctor of Science“. Since 2024 is Head of Department of Surgery. He has published a monography "Malignant tumors of the small intestine" ISBN 978-619-91772-6-6 2024

Professional specialization courses taken by the candidate:

1. 2001 - Hôpital Erasme Bruxelles Chirurgie digestive
2. 2017 - Chirurgia Generale e del Pancreas Policlinico “G.B. Rossi” Verona Italy
3. 2017 – 11-th European digestive surgery postgraduate course Budapest Hungary
4. 2017 – laparoscopic suturing course Herceghalom Hungary.
5. 2020 Departement of Colorectal Surgery, Beaujon Hospital, Clichy, and University of Paris, FRANCE
6. 2023 Global Surgeon Summit Third Convention of Surgery Meril Academy Gujarat India
7. 2023 IASGO Pre congress course – IOUS and ablations in liver tumors Vero Italy
8. 2024г. Basic skills in laparoscopic surgery 23-25. 09. Surgical training institute Bucharest, Romania

Membership: BLS, BGSS, Since 2012г. is a member of IASGO (International Association of Surgeons, Gastroenterologists and Oncologists); Membr of editorial board of „Surgery“ journal ; Deputy Chairman of BGSS

English – B2-level;

French- written and oral;

Russian – written and oral.

The scientific orientation of Assoc. Prof. Bozhkov is aimed at:

- I. Research on diseases of the hepatobiliary system***
- II. Research on diseases of the small and large intestine:***
- III. Research, related to Herniology***
- IV. Casuistry.***

Direction I. Research on diseases of the hepatobiliary system:

The candidate's studies analyzed the features of acute cholecystitis and mortality after cholecystectomy in adult patients; proposed a modern diagnostic and therapeutic approach in patients with biliary-digestive fistulas and biliary ileus; analyzed postcholecystectomy syndrome and its challenge for the general practitioner; proposed a diagnostic and therapeutic strategy for the diagnosis and management of postcholecystectomy syndrome; analyzed antimicrobial treatment for intra-abdominal abscesses; analyzed treatment options for patients with liver abscess; proposed an algorithm for behavior in complicated hepatic echinococcosis and postoperative biliary hemorrhage.

The results of the studies are presented in 7 publications: (G7.16, G8.5, G7.5, G7.6, G7.13, G7.14, G8.9).

Direction II. Research on diseases of the small and large intestine:

The candidate's studies analyzed a cohort of patients with neuroendocrine tumors of the colon and rectum; the behavior of intestinal intussusception in adults; the metastatic colorectal carcinoma associated with pyogenic liver abscess was analyzed; behavior in the treatment of intestinal fistulas was proposed; a diagnostic and therapeutic strategy was proposed in patients with complicated diverticulosis of the colon; therapeutic behavior was proposed in patients with periappendicular abscesses.

The results of the studies are presented in 8 publications: (G7.12, G7.4, G7.9, G8.16, G8.7, G8.10, G8.11, G8.12).

Direction III. Research, related to Herniology:

The studies of Assoc. Prof. Bozhkov reflect his experience in the treatment of postoperative and recurrent hernias of the anterior abdominal wall. The

reconstructive surgical techniques and the risks leading to recurrence are analyzed.

The results of the studies are presented in 2 publication: (G8.12, G8.13).

Direction IV. *Casuistry*

The studies of Assoc. Prof. Bozhkov reflect his experience in the treatment of solid pseudopapillary tumor of the pancreas - Frantz tumor; splenic felonosis; malignant melanoma. Four cases of metastases from the GIT; heterotopic pancreas - 2 cases; small intestinal ileus caused by "insertion" of a small intestinal loop at the site of a trocar from a laparoscopic myomectomy performed a few days earlier; gastric actinomycosis.

The results of the studies are presented in 8 publications: (G7.1, G7.2, G7.3, G8.2, G7.7, G8.1, G7.8, G8.3)

Assessment of quantitative and qualitative scientific indicators:

Scientometric indicators:

The candidate participated in the contest with a total of 32 scientific publications, necessary to meet the minimum requirements for acquiring the title of Professor and a monographic work on the topic "Malignant tumors of the small intestine" - 100 points by indicator B4

Sixteen (50%) of the scientific publications to meet the minimum national requirements for AP "Professor" are indexed in global databases (Scopus, Web of Science) (G7.1-G7.16) - 353.57 points with a minimum requirement of 80 points for clinical disciplines, and 16 are in non-refereed journals with scientific review (G8.1-G8.16) 126.9 points with a total number of points of 480.47 points with a mandatory minimum for indicators G5-9 - 200 points.

In BD Google Scholar on the name Vassil Bozhkov has a profile with 56 documents, which has an h-index of 3.

On ResearchGate, a person named Vasil Bozhkov has a profile with 35 publications cited 38 times.

The scientific output of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bozhkov has been presented at national and international congresses and has been published in a number of recognized journals in Bulgarian and English. The scientific output is absolutely

sufficient in volume and quality for participation in the contest and covers the national requirements for the academic position "Professor".

Teaching and learning activities:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vasil Bozhkov, MD, PhD has significant teaching and research experience - 17 years, 11 months and 17 days, according to the official report from 09.01.2025.

Mainly in the following areas:

- Lectures, seminars and exams in surgery for medical students BEO and AEO, for the last 4 years amounting to 1905 hours, with a norm of 126 hours per year.

Научно ръководство на докторанти:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vasil Bozhkov, MD, PhD. has been the scientific supervisor of 1 successfully defended doctoral student in an independent form of study – Atanas Iliev Lisichkov, who obtained the ESD "Doctor" on 11.03.2019.

At this moment, he is the scientific supervisor of 2 doctoral students in full-time education: Deniz Shirinov Ahmedov and Vladislav Krasimirov Velikov.

He was the scientific consultant of Dr. Yanko Georgiev Stefanov - a doctoral student in independent education in "General Medicine"

Conclusion:

I know Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vasil Markov Bozhkov, MD, PhD from his participation in scientific forums of the Bulgarian Surgical Society. He is collegial and ethical. During the years that I have known him, he has grown professionally and scientifically and has become a valuable figure for the Bulgarian medical community. All the above facts from the professional biography, scientific production, diagnostic-therapeutic and educational-teaching activities of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vasil Markov Bozhkov, MD, PhD, fully comply with and exceed the legal requirements and regulations of the Medical University - Varna. This, together with my personal impressions, give me a definite reason to recommend to the Scientific Jury to vote positively and award the Academic Position "Professor" in the scientific specialty "Surgery" in the Department of "Surgical Diseases" of the Department of Abdominal Surgery of the Faculty of Medicine, MU-Varna.

16.03.2025

Pleven

Respectfully:

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

Prof. D-r Sergey Iliev, MD, PhD.