

To the Chairman of the Scientific Jury
As determined by Order № P- 109-104/29.01.2025
Of the Rector of MU- Varna

Statement

from Prof. D-r Nikolay Metodiev Penkov, MD, PhD

External member of the Scientific Jury, according to an order № P- 109- 104/29.01.2025
of the Rector of MU- Varna

Concerning: procedure for taking up academic position "**Professor**" in the **specialty** "**Surgery**" professional field 7.1. Medicine, field of higher education 7. Health and Sports, - one number, 1 full-time position for the Educational Sector "Abdominal Surgery", Department of "Surgical Diseases", Faculty of Medicine of the Medical University - Varna and 0.5 full-time position for the Second Clinic of Surgery at the University Hospital "Saint. Marina" - Varna,

Information about the procedure: After a meeting of the Faculty of Medicine at MU-Varna under protocol No. 33/20.01.2025 and by Order of the Rector of MU-Varna No. 109-104/29.01.2025, I was elected as a member of the Scientific Jury of the Medical University, and by protocol No. 1 of the first meeting of the Medical University, I was assigned to prepare a statement.

The necessary materials for the competition have been deposited on paper and electronic media in accordance with the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of MU-Varna by the sole candidate - Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vasil Markov Bozhkov, MD, PhD. DSc from the Department of Surgery, MU-Varna and the Second Clinic of Surgery at the University Hospital "St. Marina" – Varna.

My statement is in accordance with the Law of the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (LAADRB), its Implementing Regulations and the Regulations of MU-Varna.

Candidate's professional data:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vasil Markov Bozhkov was born on 13.07.1973.

1992/1998 Master degree of Medicine

1999/2004 specialization in Surgery

2004 – Specialty in Surgery

2002 - Surgeon at the Second Clinic of Surgery, University Hospital "Sveta Marina

2007/2011 Assistant at the Department of Surgery – MU-Varna

2011/2013 Chief assistant at the Department of Surgery – MU-Varna

2013/2015 ESD „ Doctor “– “Diagnostic and therapeutic strategy in patients with cholangitis.”

2015/2023 Associate Professor: “Surgery”

2016/ 2023 Head of ED of Abdominal Surgery at the Department of Surgery

2024 Academic Degree "Doctor of Sciences"Postcholecystectomy syndrome - a current view on an "old" problem. Diagnostics and modern therapeutic strategy."2024г. Ръководител Катедра Хирургични болести

2024 Monography "Malignant tumors of the small intestine" ISBN 978-619-91772-6-6 2024

Member of: BLS, BGSS, IASGO Member of the editorial board of the journal "Surgery";
Vice President of BGSS 2024

Evaluation of the candidate's research activity:

The scientific production of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bozhkov complies with the minimum national requirements under Art. 2b, 2 and 3 of the Act on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria.

A report on the fulfillment of minimum national requirements and the requirements of the regulations of the Medical University - Varna is presented, prepared by the Library of the Medical University - Varna, based on information provided by the candidate and automated information from international scientific databases.

The publication activity of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vasil Markov Bozhkov, MD, PhD meets the scientometric requirements for holding the academic position of "Professor" and includes a dissertation for the award of the ONS "Doctor", a monographic work, scientific publications in publications that are referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases with scientific

information, publications and reports published in non-refereed journals with scientific review, and two full-text publications in a scientific journal (beyond the minimum scientometric requirements for holding the position of "Professor") and 31 citations.

Scientific production

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bozhkov participated in the contest with 37 publications, of which 17 in Bulgaria and 20 abroad. Single author - 3 first author - 9, as the second author - 11 and as the third and subsequent - 14.

The thematic areas in which Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bozhkov's publications are located can be divided into 5 groups that represent the interests of the candidate and the most common surgical pathology in the clinic in which he practices. The largest number of publications are in the field of hepatobiliary surgery – 7; clinical cases – 6; diseases of the small and large intestine – 6; herniology – 2; monographic work 1.

The monography "Malignant Tumors of the Small Intestine" contains 177 pages. It contains a general part - introduction - introduction to the problem, anatomy and physiology of the small intestine. Three parts follow, in which the three most common malignant tumors of the small intestine are presented: adenocarcinoma, neuroendocrine tumors, GIST. Each part ends with the modern classifications of each individual type of tumor and a rich and modern literature reference. The last chapter describes the author's own experience in the treatment of small intestinal tumors. The clinical picture, imaging methods, and surgical treatment are presented. A wealth of photographic material is presented. The work is written in excellent Bulgarian, it is easy and a pleasure to read.

According to the academic report from the Library of MU-Varna No. 25/20.01.2025, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bozhkov presents the following scientific production after defending the "Doctor of Sciences" thesis:

1. Dissertation for the acquisition of the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" A1-
50 p.
 2. Monography "Malignant Tumors of the Small Intestine" B4 – **100 p.**
 3. Publications G7 – 16 - **353,57p.**
 4. Publications G8 - 16 - **126,9 p.**
 5. Full - text articles, beyond the minimum scientometric requirements for taking up a
AP „Professor “ – **2**
- Total of all indicators – **632,47p.**

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**.

Teaching and learning activities

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bozhkov actively participates in the educational activities of the Department of Surgery, which includes training of students in the discipline "Surgical Diseases" for students of the specialty "Medicine", Bulgarian-language and English-language training. The teaching experience of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bozhkov is 17 years, 11 months and 17 days. The study load report shows that over the last four academic years from 2020 to 2024, the workload was as follows - 620, 396, 387, 502 hours, which exceeds the workload norm by three to six times, which is 110 hours. In the period 2016 - 2024, Assoc. Prof. Bozhkov is the head of the ES of Abdominal Surgery at the Department of Surgery.

Medical and diagnostic activities

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Bozhkov has 24 years and 10 months of experience in the specialty and actively participates in the operational activities of the Second Clinic of Surgery of UMHAL "Sveta Marina" - emergency and elective. For the last three years, Assoc. Prof. Bozhkov has participated in **1017** - surgical interventions - **426** emergency and **591** elective. As an established surgeon, he masters both conventional and minimally invasive surgical techniques. He applies laparoscopic surgery as the preferred method for surgical treatment of diseases of the hepatobiliary system.

Conclusion:

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vasil Bozhkov, MD, is an established lecturer with very good theoretical and practical training. He is characterized by high professionalism, ethics and organizational qualities.

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Therefore, I confidently give my positive assessment and recommend to the Honorable Scientific Jury to award Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vasil Markov Bozhkov, MD, PhD, the Academic Position "Professor" in the Scientific Specialty of General Surgery.

31.03.2025г.

Sofia

prof. D-r Nikolay Penkov MD. PhD

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