

OPINION

Regarding the competition for the academic position of "Professor"

In the scientific specialty of General Surgery /03.01.37/

To the Department of General and Operative Surgery

Faculty of Medicine of Medical University "Prof. Dr. Parashkev

Stoyanov" Varna

Member of the scientific jury: Prof. Dr. V. Dimitrova, DSc

In the State Gazette No. 64/05.08.2025, a competition was announced for the academic position of

"Professor" in Surgery at the Department of General and Operative Surgery at the Faculty of Medicine of Medical University "Prof. Dr. P. Stoyanov" Varna. The only candidate in the competition is Assoc. Prof. Dr. Veselin Marinov Marinov, DSc

Biographical data about the candidate

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Veselin Marinov was born in 1973 in Sofia. He graduated medicine at MU-Sofia with excellent success in 1997. He specialized in surgery at the 3rd Surgical Clinic of the Pirogov Medical University Hospital. During the period 2003-2005, he worked at the Lozenets University Hospital, specializing in hepatobiliary, pancreatic and transplant surgery in the city of Essen, Germany. Since 2006, he has been working in the surgical clinic of Tokuda Hospital Sofia. In 2012, he defended his dissertation on the topic "Study on the surgical treatment of chronic pancreatitis and its complications" and acquired the educational scientific degree "doctor". Subsequently, he held the academic position of "chief assistant". In 2019, after winning a competition, he acquired the academic position of "Associate Professor" at the Department of General and Operative Surgery at the Faculty of Medicine of MU-Varna.

In 2024, Assoc. Prof. Marinov defended his dissertation on the topic

"Effectiveness and safety of laparoscopic colorectal resections.

Comparative analysis of results with open surgery. Risk assessment and methods for reducing perioperative complications". With this defense, Assoc. Prof. Marinov acquired the scientific degree "Doctor of Sciences".

Assoc. Prof. Marinov is a member of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgarian Association of Health and Medical Scientific research activity

The scientific output of Assoc. Prof. Marinov includes 2 dissertations, 2 monographs and over 100 publications. Of these, 9 have been published in scientific journals, refereed and indexed in world databases with scientific information after being awarded the National Academy of Sciences "Doctor of Sciences". The personal impact factor - IF is 7.5 after taking up the position of AD "Associate Professor". The list of citations includes 15 titles.

The scientific production with which Assoc. Prof. Marinov participates in this competition can be presented in sections depending on the presented evidence of compliance with each academic direction:

- Dissertation for the acquisition of the educational scientific degree "Doctor"

- Monograph on the topic "Surgical treatment of hiatal hernias and GERD", published in 2024

- Full-text publications published in scientific publications, refereed and indexed in world databases with scientific information - 9 n.tr. after awarding the National Council "Doctor of Sciences".
- Reports and publications, printed in non-refereed journals with scientific review or published in edited collective forums - 25 articles
- Dissertation for the award of the degree of Doctor of Sciences.

Assoc. Prof. Marinov is an active surgeon, successfully performs open and laparoscopic surgery with a preference for the latter. He is presented a list of 918 surgical interventions performed by himself over the last two years. This allows him to successfully use not only his own experience but also his own. It is no coincidence that part of the topic of his doctoral dissertation is a comparative analysis between open and laparoscopic surgery. Mastering the techniques of laparoscopic surgery and delving deeply into its possibilities, Assoc. Prof. Marinov has the opportunity to offer solutions to many problems encountered in everyday practice and those arising in special situations, as well as to recommend the application of various techniques. So, one of his last .tr. examines the possibilities for a multidisciplinary approach in robot-assisted operations on the esophagus. In another paper he examined laparoscopic resections in colorectal cancer, in the third - the possibilities for multi-organ resection in anterior gastric carcinoma, etc. But in general, the scientific production and generally

scientific achievements of Assoc. Prof. Marinov are in the field of

mini-invasive and robotic surgery of colorectal,

hepatobiliary, pancreatic, gastric pathology and

the treatment of hiatal hernias and GERD. The main direction is colorectal minimally invasive surgery. He focuses his studies on the perfection of certain techniques, achieving greater ablaticity by determining and defining the levels of lymphadenectomy, the level of ligation of the lower mesenteric vessels in different locations of left-sided colon carcinomas, the need and methods of imposing protective stomas, etc. His findings are valuable because he can compare them with the possibilities of open surgery from studies on his own material. His latest publications show his interest in the treatment of hiatal hernias and GERD. The scientific production of Assoc. Prof. Marinov has a certain contribution in many areas, but his recommendations for a lateral dissection approach in CRC, his recommendations for a standard laparoscopic approach in performing palliative colon resections, the introduced methods for reducing anastomotic insufficiency in left colon resections, possibilities for positioning trocars in right colon resections depending on a number of factors and the possibility of lymphatic dissections, etc. From the point of view of the scientometric requirements for acquiring the academic title "Professor" according to the ZRASRB and its regulations for application at MU-Varna, the candidate has presented the following: 1. By indicators group A - 50 out of the required 50 2. By indicator group B - 100 3. By indicator C - 100 out of the required 100 4. By indicator D - 254.14 out of the required 200 5. By indicator D - 150 out of the required 100 6. By indicator E - 150 out of the required 100 These data show that the minimum scientometric requirements for acquiring the title of Professor AD have been met and exceeded.

Educational and teaching activities

- Assoc. Prof. Marinov has held the position of "Chief Assistant" since 2016.

- Conducts practical exercises for 3rd, 4th and 5th year medical students, as well as for intern doctors with a total of 581 hours for the last 5 years.
- Has a lecture course at the Medical University of Varna with a workload of 20 hours per year.
- Is the head of the specialization of two surgical specialists with a workload of 1620 equivalent hours.
- Is the head of two doctoral students, one of whom has defended his dissertation.
- Has been a member of the state examination commission for the acquisition of a surgical specialty for two years.

From the presented academic record it is evident that Assoc. Prof. Marinov takes an active and regular part in the national scientific forums on surgery.

A list of 13 participations in congresses and conferences on surgery after 2019 as an "Associate Professor" is presented, in most of which he participated in lecture presentations. 26 certificates are presented in training seminars, training and certification courses in:

- Laparoscopic surgery
- Hepatobiliary and pancreatic surgery
- Abdominal ultrasound
- Da Vinci robotic surgery

Associate Professor Marinov himself continues his education, improvement and qualification improvement, and in recent years he has conducted specializations in:

- Laparoscopic colorectal surgery
- Laparoscopic pancreatic surgery
- Minimally invasive liver surgery
- Thyroid surgery
- Laparoscopic surgery of abdominal wall hernias
- Bariatric and metabolic surgery

CONCLUSION

Assoc. Prof. Veselin Marinov Marinov comes from a family of Bulgarian doctors. He is an erudite, highly intelligent, well-read and constantly searching scientist, surgeon and lecturer. Stepping on the classical achievements in abdominal surgery, he seeks the new, the useful, the modern, the contemporary. His behavior, his appearance, his manner of bearing radiate attention and dignity, which is of particular importance for teaching and training students. Considering his overall medical-surgical, scientific and educational-teaching activity, and in accordance with the requirements of the ZRASRB and the regulations for its implementation, I recommend to the esteemed members of the scientific jury to award him the academic title "Professor", for which I vote positively and personally.

October 27, 2025 Prof. Dr. V. Dimitrova DSc