

To the Chair of the Scientific Jury
Determined by Order No. P-109-418/03.10.2025
To the Rector of MU-Varna

OPINION

By Prof. Dr. Plamen Milchev Chernopolsky, DSc- Head of the Board of "Abdominal Surgery", Department of "Surgical Diseases" MU-Varna Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov; UMBAL "Sveta Marina EAD - Varna - internal member of the Scientific Jury, according to Order No. P-109-418/03.10.2025.

About: procedure for the academic position of "professor" in the specialty of "Surgery," professional field 7.1. Medicine, area of higher education 7. Healthcare and Sports – one position, 0.25 full-time position for the Department of General and Operative Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, and additional conditions for the competition: the requirement in Appendix No. 1 shall not apply – the total number of points shall be 100, without the requirement that 80 points be from indicator E14.

Information about the procedure:

Following a meeting of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Medicine at MU-Varna, Protocol No. 45/10.09.2025, and by Order of the Rector of MU-Varna No. R-109-418/ 03.10.2025, I was elected as a member of the Scientific Jury, and by Protocol No. 1 from the first meeting of the Scientific Jury, I was appointed to prepare an opinion.

The necessary materials for the competition have been submitted in paper and electronic form in accordance with the Regulations for the Development of Academic Staff at MU-Varna by the sole candidate, Associate Professor Dr. Veselin Marinov Marinov, MD, from the Department of General and Operative Surgery, MU-Varna.

My opinion is in accordance with the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for its application, and the Regulations of MU-Varna.

Professional data of the candidate:

Associate Professor Dr. Veselin Marinov Marinov, MD, was born on March 29, 1973; 1991-1997: Higher education - Master's degree in Medicine; 2013 - Independent doctoral student at MU-Sofia; 1998-2003 - Third Surgical Clinic, Pirogov Hospital; 2003-2005 - General Surgery Clinic, Lozenets Hospital; 2012 – defended a dissertation on "Study on the surgical treatment of chronic pancreatitis and its complications" and obtained the academic degree of Doctor; 2014 – senior assistant in General Surgery; 2019 – Associate Professor – Department of General and Operative Surgery – Medical University of Varna; 2024 – acquired the degree of Doctor of Science after defending a dissertation on "Effectiveness and safety of laparoscopic colorectal resections. Comparative analysis of the results with open surgery. Risk assessment and methods for reducing perioperative complications."

Description of the materials submitted for the competition

The opinion on the materials submitted in the competition is based on the requirements of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Regulations for the Development of Academic Staff at Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov Medical University – Varna for the academic position of "professor"

Evaluation of the scientific works submitted in the competition

The scientific output of the candidate meets the minimum national requirements under Article 2b, paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Law on the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria.

A report on the fulfillment of the minimum national requirements and the requirements of the regulations of the Medical University of Varna has been submitted. It was prepared by the Library of the Medical University of Varna based on information provided by the candidate and automated information from international scientific databases. The publications of Associate Professor Veselin Marinov Marinov, MD, meet the scientometric requirements for the academic position of "professor" and include a dissertation for the award of the academic degree of "doctor," a dissertation for the award of the degree of Doctor of Science, a monograph, scientific publications in journals that are referenced and indexed in world-renowned scientific information databases, publications and reports published in non-referenced peer-reviewed journals, full-text

publication in a scientific journal (beyond the minimum scientometric requirements for the academic degree of "professor") and 16 citations.

Assoc. Prof. Marinov participates in the competition with **35** publications, distributed as follows: first author - **10**, second author - **12**, and third and subsequent author - **13**, **2** dissertations, and **1** monograph.

According to the data from the Academic Report prepared by the library of MU - Varna / No. 25 of 20.01.2025/ and the compliance with the minimum national criteria in Area 7. Healthcare and Sports, Professional field 7.1 Medicine – Medical-clinical field, it is established that: the total number of points for indicators **G5-G9** is **254.14** points (with a mandatory minimum of 200 points). The total number of points for indicator **G7** is **130.57** points (with a mandatory minimum for clinical specialties of 80 points).

The main areas of diagnostic, therapeutic, and research work of Assoc. Prof. V. Marinov, MD, PhD, are related to diseases of the biliary-hepatic system and pancreas, colorectal surgery, diseases of the stomach and esophagus and their complications, hiatal hernias, inguinal hernias, and acute abdominal diseases. Particular emphasis is placed on minimally invasive and robot-assisted techniques and surgical interventions.

Most of the publications reflect original results. The presented habilitation thesis has been developed in accordance with the requirements of MU – Varna.

The presented scientific output is sufficient in volume for participation in the competition and meets the criteria adopted by MU – Varna.

The results of the candidate's scientific research activities have been reported at 40 scientific forums in Bulgaria and abroad.

The citations reflecting the scientific activity of the candidate for the academic degree of "Professor" according to the report from the Medical Library at MU-Varna (indicator **D 10-12** - with a list of citations of the works of Assoc. Prof. Marinov, MD, there are **16/150**).

The author's report on compliance with and fulfillment of the minimum national requirements for the rank of Professor has been prepared on the basis of Article 26 of the LDASRB and Articles 65 and 67 of the RDAS of MU-Varna).

Indicators	Content	Professor (number of points)	Points
A	Indicator 1	50	50
B	Indicator 3	100	100
G	Sum of indicators 5 to 9	200	254.14
D	Sum of indicators 10 to 12	50	150
	Overall result		554,14 p.

The materials submitted for participation in the competition show that the scientometric indicators significantly exceed the minimum requirements for the position of "professor."

Teaching and lecturing activities

Assoc. Prof. Marinov actively participates in the teaching activities of the Department of General and Operative Surgery at MU-Varna and the Department of Surgical Diseases, Obstetrics, and Gynecology at SU "St. Kliment Ohridski," which includes teaching students in the discipline of Surgical Diseases for students in Medicine, in Bulgarian and English. The average teaching load of Assoc. Prof. Veselin Marinov meets and exceeds the required teaching load.

Medical and diagnostic activities

Assoc. Prof. Marinov is a highly qualified surgeon with excellent training and a keen interest in innovations in medicine and, respectively, in surgery. This is evidenced by both the scientific papers presented, reflecting his own experience, and the candidate's attached report on his surgical activity.

In terms of treatment and diagnosis, Assoc. Prof. Marinov actively participates in the surgical activities of the Clinic for Hepatobiliary, Pancreatic, and General Surgery at Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda Hospital EAD - both emergency and elective. According to the report on surgical interventions for the period 2023-2025, Assoc. Prof. Marinov has participated in a large number of surgical interventions, 807 in total, a significant part of which are of large and very large volume and complexity.

Conclusion

The professional qualifications, scientific research, and teaching activities of Associate Professor Veselin Marinov Marinov meet the requirements of the Regulations on the conditions and procedures for acquiring scientific degrees and occupying the academic position of "professor" at the Medical University of Varna. His scientific activity and teaching work fully meet and exceed the criteria required for this competition.

Based on the above, I give a positive assessment for the award of the academic position of "PROFESSOR" to Associate Professor Dr. Veselin Marinov Marinov and propose that the honorable members of the Scientific Jury vote positively for the award of the academic position of "professor" in the field of higher education 7. Healthcare and Sports, professional field 7.1. Medicine, scientific specialty "Surgery" for the Department of General and Operative Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Medical University – Varna.

31.10 2025

Varna

Sincerely,

Prof. Dr. Plamen Chernopolsky, DSc

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