

To the Chairperson of the Scientific Jury,
appointed by Order of the Rector of MU-Varna

No. R-109-287/03.08.2026

and a decision of the Faculty Council (Minutes No. 62/27.07.2026)

Enclosed, I submit: Opinion

in the competition for the academic position of ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
in the scientific specialty ORTHOPAEDICS AND TRAUMATOLOGY

announced for the needs of the Clinic of Orthopaedics and Traumatology at MHAT "St. Anna –
Varna" AD, Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" – Varna,
in the State Gazette, issue No. 50 of 02.06.2026

Reviewer: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nikolay Kolarov, PhD

Scientific specialty: Orthopaedics and Traumatology

Institution: MU-Varna

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OPINION

by **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nikolay Petrov Kolarov, PhD**

Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology,

Faculty of Medicine,

Medical University – Varna

MHAT “St. Anna” – Varna

Re: Announced competition for the academic position of “Associate Professor” in the specialty “Orthopaedics and Traumatology”, professional field 7.1 Medicine, field of higher education 7. Health Care and Sports, Faculty of Medicine, Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology, Medical University “Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov” – Varna, as announced in the State Gazette, issue No. 50/02.06.2026.

By Order of the Rector of MU-Varna No. R-109-273/02.06.2026 and a decision of the Faculty Council (Minutes No. 62/27.07.2026), I have been included in the Scientific Jury to prepare an **Opinion**, as an internal member, in the procedure for the acquisition of the academic position of “Associate Professor” in the specialty “Orthopaedics and Traumatology”, professional field 7.1 Medicine, field of higher education 7. Health Care and Sports, Faculty of Medicine, Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology, Medical University “Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov” – Varna.

Only one candidate is participating in the competition and has been admitted by the committee for the acceptance of documents – Dr. Stoyan Ivanov Ivanov, PhD. The candidate has submitted all documents required for the competition in accordance with the Academic Staff Development in the Republic of Bulgaria Act and the Regulations of the Medical University – Varna for its implementation. He has been a chief assistant professor at the Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology at MU-Varna since 2022 and currently works at the Clinic of Orthopaedics and Traumatology at UMHAT “St. Marina” EAD – Varna.

The candidate, Dr. Stoyan Ivanov Ivanov, graduated from the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" – Varna in 2010 and acquired a specialty in Orthopaedics and Traumatology in 2015. He was awarded the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" (PhD) in the scientific specialty Orthopaedics and Traumatology at the Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology of the Medical University – Varna in 2016, with a dissertation on the topic: ***"Minimally Invasive Surgery in Displaced Intra-articular Fractures of the Calcaneus"***.

From 2017 to 2019, Dr. Stoyan Ivanov was a part-time assistant professor; from 2021, a full-time assistant professor; and since 2022, he has been a chief assistant professor at the Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology at MU-Varna. He has more than 9 years of teaching experience and takes part in teaching the discipline "Orthopaedics and Traumatology" to students of the "Medicine" programme, with instruction in Bulgarian, English and German. He is proficient in English and German and has completed numerous specialisations in Bulgaria and abroad.

Dr. Stoyan Ivanov Ivanov is a member of the Bulgarian Orthopaedic and Traumatology Association (BOTA), the Bulgarian Medical Association (BMA), the European Federation of National Associations of Orthopaedics and Traumatology (EFORT), the Society for Foot and Ankle Surgery, and others.

The candidate holds qualification diplomas in highly specialised activities such as Pelvic Surgery, Large Joint Arthroplasty and Arthroscopy, as well as a Master's degree in "Health Management" (2018).

SCIENTIFIC OUTPUT

For the present competition, in accordance with the Academic Staff Development in the Republic of Bulgaria Act and its Implementing Regulations, Dr. Stoyan Ivanov Ivanov, PhD, has submitted a list of scientific works, together with electronic copies of scientific publications in Bulgarian and international journals, as well as reports and communications from international and national conferences, symposia and congresses – a total of **40** scientific works. Of these: **32** articles with a total volume of 224 pages and **8** reports with a volume of 56 pages.

The submitted works, publications, citations and other scientific activities fully meet the current requirements of the Academic Staff Development in the Republic of Bulgaria Act in the field of higher education 7. "Health Care and Sports", professional field 7.1. Medicine, scientific specialty "Orthopaedics and Traumatology", as well as the Regulations of the

Medical University – Varna for its implementation regarding the occupation of the academic position of “Associate Professor”.

The scientific interests and innovative contributions of the candidate, Dr. Stoyan Ivanov Ivanov, cover several areas of orthopaedics, but mainly concern the surgical treatment of diseases and injuries of the pelvis, calcaneus and foot. In 2020, he successfully defended a dissertation on the topic **“Minimally Invasive Surgery in Displaced Intra-articular Fractures of the Calcaneus”**. In 2019, Dr. Ivanov completed a three-month fellowship programme at the AO Research Institute, Davos, Switzerland, and has also taken part in numerous courses in Bulgaria and abroad (France, Switzerland, Austria, Germany, Portugal, Greece and Belgium) to further his professional qualifications.

The author’s scientific contributions of significance to national Orthopaedics and Traumatology lie in the following areas:

The scientific contributions in the submitted works are structured into five main thematic areas:

1. Biomechanical studies, innovative surgical approaches and treatment of bone defects in fractures
2. Large joint arthroplasty – innovations, complications and national registry
3. Digitalisation, 3D technologies and modern biotechnologies in orthopaedics and traumatology
4. Diagnosis of periprosthetic joint infections (PJI) and rare clinical cases
5. Biological treatment, soft tissue surgery, paediatric traumatology and specialised rehabilitation.

Among the particularly valuable aspects of the scientific output of Dr. Stoyan Ivanov Ivanov, I would highlight:

1. The refinement of the concept of 3D-printed models and the successful application of preoperative planning for complex orthopaedic surgery of the entire lower limb, ensuring a personalised surgical approach.
2. The use of innovative operative techniques in injuries and diseases of the pelvis.

I believe that, in accordance with the terms and procedure for acquiring scientific degrees and occupying academic positions (Academic Staff Development in the Republic of Bulgaria Act, 2018) and the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff in the

Republic of Bulgaria, under which the competition is being conducted, Dr. Stoyan Ivanov Ivanov, PhD, fully meets the established minimum scientometric requirements for occupying the academic position of “**Associate Professor**” at the Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology, Medical University “Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov” – Varna.

In conclusion:

Having reviewed all the administratively required documentation, the submitted works, their quantitative and qualitative analysis as scientific output, and their compliance with the requirements of the Regulations for the Implementation of the Academic Staff Development in the Republic of Bulgaria Act and the Regulations of the Medical University – Varna, I find sufficient grounds to cast a “**positive**” vote and to propose to the Honourable Jury, as well as to the Rector of MU-Varna, that Dr. Stoyan Ivanov Ivanov, PhD – the sole candidate who submitted the required documentation in the announced competition for the academic position of “Associate Professor” in the field of higher education 7. Health Care and Sports, professional field 7.1. Medicine, and scientific specialty “Orthopaedics and Traumatology”, for the needs of the Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology, Medical University “Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov” – Varna – be elected “Associate Professor” in Orthopaedics and Traumatology.

23.09.2026

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nikolay Kolarov, PhD

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