



**Agency RADINA Ltd**

Translation Services

21 Gen. Kolev Str., entr. "B", apt. 7

9000 Varna - Bulgaria

tel: +359 /52/ 613 908

tel/fax: + 359 /52/ 622 365

e-mail: office.radina@gmail.com

Translation from Bulgarian

## REVIEW

**By Prof. Dr. Mario Draganov Stankev, MD**

**Head of the Vascular Surgery Clinic of the National Heart Hospital, city of Sofia**

**Re: the competition for Associate Professor in Surgery, part-time position, announced for the needs of the Faculty of Medicine, Department of Cardiovascular Surgery and Angiology, Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov Medical University, city of Varna**

The competition was announced in State Gazette 43 of 31.05.2019. Dr. Angel Angelov, MD, is the only candidate.

Dr. Angel Angelov, MD, was born on 18.09.1959 in the city of Varna. He completed his secondary education in 1978 at a German language high school. The same year, he was admitted to study Medicine at the Medical University of Varna and completed his higher education with honours in 1986.

In 1986, he was appointed as an intern at the surgical ward of the Municipal Hospital of Veliki Preslav, where he began his specialization in surgery. In December 1994, he defended his first surgical specialty, and in May 2004, his second specialty in vascular surgery. Between January 1990 and October 1990, he worked as a surgery intern at the Municipal Hospital of Varna. In November 1990, he occupied the academic position of Assistant at the Clinic of Vascular Surgery of the Medical University of Varna. On 18.03.1996, he occupied the academic position of Senior Assistant, and on 18.02.2010, the academic position of Chief Assistant. In the period from 2004 to 2006, he had a two-year specialization in Germany, at the Hospital for Cardiovascular Surgery in Bad Bevensen. There he specialized in vascular surgery and phlebology. He returned to Bulgaria and on 31.05.2006 started working at the outpatient care of St. Marina Diagnostics and Consultation Centre, and on 26.01.2011 he was appointed at the Vascular Surgery Department of UMHAT St. Marina EAD. On 01.03.2018, he started his specialization in his third specialty – Angiology - at ACIBADEM Tokuda Hospital, city of Sofia.

In 2014, he defended a thesis - *EVLA - Endovascular Laser Ablation of Varicose Veins - Analysis of Results by Wavelength and Type of Fibre* - at the Department of General and Operative Surgery of UMHAT St. Marina EAD.



In addition to the mandatory documents for participation in the competition, Dr. Angelov also submitted certificates of participation in scientific events and postgraduate courses for continuing education in Bulgaria and abroad - a total of 120 events with 19 certificates. He is especially interested in the field of aesthetic phlebology as part of vascular surgery. He declared skills for working with most modern surgical equipment. Of note is the fact that he was certified to work with Biolitec intravenous surgery equipment. He is fluent in German and speaks English and Russian.

In this competition, Dr. Angelov presents himself with the following scientific works:

1. Habilitation thesis *Endoluminal Laser Ablation of Stem Varicose Veins*. The thesis fulfils all the conditions for submission of a habilitation thesis;
2. Co-authorship in two collective monographs;
3. Publications in journals and scientific collections, collective volumes with ISSN and ISBN – 15 in total, in 9 of which he is first author; in 4 – second or third author; and in 2 – with another position in the authors' team. The publications are in the following areas: endoluminal laser ablation - 6; arterial vascular surgery - 4; sclerotherapy - 2; phlebology - 1; others - 2.

I confirms the information provided by the author about his contribution to scientific works. Below is the contribution of the candidate to the defended thesis *EVLA - Endovenous Laser Ablation of Varicose Veins - Analysis of Results by Wavelength and Type of Fibre*:

- The author was the first in Bulgaria and has been performing laser ablation treatment of stem varicose veins of lower extremities since January 2007, initially with a wavelength of 980 nanometres. He performed the first laser ablation in Bulgaria on 22.01.2007, and the entire operating procedure was documented by the representatives of the manufacturer of laser generators Biolitec – Germany;
- In recent years, the author introduced laser ablation treatment of stem varicose veins as a routine technique and established it as an alternative to Babcock's stripping;
- For the first time in Bulgaria, he administered and validated the administration of tumescent anaesthesia as an option in the treatment of varicose veins;
- He strongly demonstrated that the administration of general or regional anaesthesia in laser endovascular treatment is not a necessity;
- He improved the methods used so that the patient's stay at the medical facility takes up to two hours maximum;
- For the first time in Bulgaria, the author made his patients stand up immediately after the procedure for treatment of varicose veins and validated motor activity as a mandatory element of early postoperative therapy;
- He proved that the use of minimally invasive techniques for radical treatment of varicose veins does not impair the patient's ability to work;
- He strongly rejected inguinal access in the treatment of stem varicosis;
- He proved that laser ablation therapy can be performed in parallel with therapies with anticoagulants or antiaggregants as well as in the presence of a pacemaker without any risk for the patient;



- He proved and confirmed in practice that several laser fibres may be used in multiple additional branches of stem varices;
- For more radicality and in order to achieve better results, the author developed already known additional minimally-invasive techniques performed under tumescent anaesthesia and combined them to create his own algorithm at the beginning of 2012;
- The author promoted the method of laser ablation treatment by training teams of vascular surgeons in the cities of Sofia, Burgas, Stara Zagora, Shumen, Gorna Oryahovitsa, and Debrecen in Hungary;
- The author was also the first to perform laser ablation treatment with radial laser fibres and wavelengths of 1470 nm with mono- and bi-radial laser sets, which has been routinely performed in Varna and Sofia since 2009.

There are more contributions related to the studies reported in the publications:

- Upon successful defence of his thesis in 2014, the author introduced and validated as an option the use of laser fibres with radial energy emission;
- He was the first in Bulgaria to perform cosmetic transdermal and non-contact removal of spider and mesh veins less than one mm in diameter by using laser energy and no anaesthesia;
- The author convincingly proved that in patients with a large body mass - BMI > 50, laser treatment of varicose veins has significant advantages over open surgical treatment.

Two official reports were presented from the Central Medical Library (CMB) of Sofia and the library of the Medical University of Varna, where there is a total of 35 citations.

The candidate submitted a list of 120 scientific forums attended in Bulgaria and abroad.

The academic load certificate shows 695 hours of lecturer activity for the last five years.

Additionally, Dr. Angel Angelov, MD, submitted a reference for co-authorship in a recognized invention, for membership in the management body of an international phlebological society, and for additional skills acquired upon successful completion of a course in echo-Doppler diagnostics in vascular surgery.

## CONCLUSION

Dr. Angel Angelov, MD, meets the requirements of the Higher Education and Academic Positions Act. There is a sufficient number of scientific publications, citations, and proven contributions. There is also proven lecturer activity. He is a well-established vascular surgeon with extensive operational experience in the field of aesthetic phlebology. I personally know Dr. Angelov and was his reviewer in previous years. I am convinced and insist that the members of the Honourable Jury award the academic position of Associate Professor to Dr. Angel Angelov, MD.



Varna, 12.08.2019

(sign. ill)

Prof. Dr. Mario Stankev, MD

---

*The undersigned Ivelina Ivanova Ivanova hereby certifies that this is a true and accurate translation from Bulgarian into English of the attached document (Review by Prof. Dr. Mario Stankev, MD). The translation consists of 4 (four) pages.*

Translator:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Ivelina Ivanova Ivanova".

Ivelina Ivanova Ivanova

