

## STATEMENT

from Prof. Dr. Petko Penkov Marinov, MD  
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**Subject:** Competition for the academic position "Professor", in the field of higher education 7. "Health and Sports", professional field 7.1. "Medicine", specialty "Nephrology", announced in the State Gazette no. 8 / 21.01.2020 for the needs of the Faculty of Medicine, Second Department of Internal Medicine, Board of Nephrology, Dialysis and Toxicology.

By order № P-109-168 / 03.06.2020 of the Rector of the Medical University - Varna I was appointed a member of the Scientific Jury, and under Protocol №1 of the first meeting of the Scientific Jury I was appointed to prepare a statement on the procedure for occupation an academic position "professor" in "Nephrology". The only candidate in the competition is Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Ivanov Kundurdjiev, Ph.D. The competition procedure has been followed and the candidate's documents are in accordance with the requirements of the Law for the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for its implementation and the Rules for the development of the academic staff at the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna and the criteria set in it for holding the academic position "professor".

### **Qualification:**

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Kundurdjiev was born in 1957. In 1983 he graduated medicine at the Medical Academy - Sofia. The professional development of Assoc. Prof. Kundurdjiev began in 1983 as a district therapist at the SZS in the village of Hadjidimovo. From 1985 to 1988 he was a clinical resident in internal medicine. From 1988 to 1993 he was consecutively assistant and senior assistant at the Cardiology Clinic and the Nephrology Clinic. He acquired degree in Internal Medicine in 1990, and in 1992 he acquired a second degree in Cardiology. In 1995 he acquired degree in Nephrology. From 1995 to 2015 he was chief assistant in nephrology at the University Hospital "Alexandrovska" EAD. Assoc. Prof. Kundurdjiev holds a master's degree in Health Management. After developing a dissertation, he received the educational and scientific degree "Doctor" in 2013, and in 2017 he was elected associate professor.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Kundurdjiev has an extremely rich managerial experience - Deputy Minister of Health from 2000 to 2001, Chairman of the Board of Directors of UMHAT "Alexandrovska" since 2000 until 2001, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Blagoevgrad Hospital from 2000 to 2003, Executive Director of Alexandrovska Hospital from 2001 to 2002, Secretary General of Bulgarian Medical Association from 2002 to 2003, Member of the Board of Directors of UMHAT "Alexandrovska" from 2014 to 04. 2017, Head of Nephrology Department at the Clinic of Nephrology and Dialysis of UMHAT "St. Ivan Rilski", Deputy Chairman of the Board of Directors of UMHAT "St. Ivan Rilski" EAD, Official Deputy Minister of Health, Head of the Nephrology Clinic - a position he currently holds.

The candidate has an additional qualification with the relevant certificates in Abdominal Ultrasound, Doppler Ultrasound, Thyroid Ultrasound, Echocardiography, Management of

hospitals and healthcare services, Current issues of health management, Expert in assessment and accreditation of medical institutions for hospital care and diagnostic centers, Good clinical practice for researchers in Bulgaria.

Assoc. Prof. Kundurdjiev is also actively involved in public activities, having been elected Municipal Councilor at the SOS from 2003 to 2007.

The total experience of Assoc. Prof. Atanas Kundurdjiev in the professional field of Medicine is over 36 years.

He speaks Bulgarian, Russian and English.

He is a member of Bulgarian Medical Association, Bulgarian Scientific Society of Nephrology, Dialysis and Transplantation, Bulgarian Scientific Society of Cardiology, Member of the Balkan Association of Nephrology, Dialysis, Transplantation, Bulgarian Association of Ultrasound in Medicine, Editorial Board of the Journal "Yearbook of hospital pharmacy", The Supreme Council of Pharmacy at the Ministry of Health. He is Chairman of the Accreditation Council at the Ministry of Health and of a working group for updating Ordinance №1 for specialization.

The main professional interests of Assoc. Prof. Kundurdzhiev are in the field of cardiorenal syndrome, instrumental sonographic studies, the influence of certain drugs on glomerular filtration, acute and chronic, diffuse and focal inflammatory diseases of the kidneys, changes in renal blood flow in chronic renal failure, renal amyloidosis, renal tumors, renal vein thrombosis, etc., immunological aspects of the chronic glomerulonephritis and systemic vasculitis, as well as some less common conditions - medullary spongy kidney, thin basement membrane disease, retroperitoneal fibrosis, urinary tract involvement in lymphoproliferative conditions, renal amyloidosis.

#### **Teaching activity:**

Assoc. Prof. Atanas Kundurdjiev has 32 years of teaching experience. Actively participates in the education of medical and pharmacy students, doctors specializing in internal medicine, nephrology, general medicine, doctors studying abdominal ultrasound, surface structures - conventional and Doppler ultrasound, echocardiography. He is a member of examination commissions of medical and pharmacy students in Bulgarian and English, examination commission for the specialty of nephrology. His study load after being elected associate professor is more than 250 hours per year.

#### **Scientific activity:**

In the competition for professor Assoc. Prof. Atanas Kundurdjiev presents a total of 74 scientific papers and a monograph after holding the academic position of "Associate Professor":

\* 27 scientific publications. 12 of them are in foreign journals, 11 are in Bulgarian. There are 3 chapters published in scientific journals.

\* 10 actually printed full-text publications in scientific journals and collections, which are not included in the reference to cover the minimum scientometric requirements of Assoc. Prof. Atanas Kundurdjiev

\* Monograph - "Cardiorenal syndrome".

\* Participation in scientific work / book / - "Kidney and cardiovascular complications in gout".

\* 28 participations in Bulgarian and 9 participations in international scientific forums -

congresses, conferences, symposia.

\* Participation in a research project.

In the presented scientific publications Assoc. Prof. Kundurdjiev is an independent or first author in 6 (18.18%), second author in 19 (57.57%), second in 8 (24.24%).

The citations of the publications of Assoc. Prof. Kundurdjiev are 241, and the total impact factor of articles and published abstracts - 108,039, which shows good international visibility of the scientific works of the candidate.

**Evaluation of scientific contributions:**

The scientific interests of Assoc. Prof. Kundurdjiev are primarily in the field of kidney and heart diseases. Studies related to cardiorenal syndrome are of an original nature. Scientific research in this direction ends with the publication of a monograph with the same title. Contributions to the relationship between gout and cardiovascular risk and the findings that disease progression impairs systolic and diastolic heart function are also contributing, with tophi increasing cardiovascular risk commensurately and even more than hypertension. The scientific interests of Assoc. Prof. Kundurdjiev are in other areas of clinical nephrology, such as inflammatory kidney disease, rare kidney disease and others. They are aimed at solving important issues in the field of kidney disease. The results of these scientific researches have an original contributing or confirmatory character.

**Conclusion:**

Based on the materials provided to me according to the competition by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Atanas Kundurdjiev, I am convinced that he fully meets the requirements of the Law for the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria, the Rules for its implementation and the Rules for the development of the academic staff at the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov"- Varna and the criteria set in it for holding the academic position "professor". That is why I give my positive assessment of the election of Assoc. Prof. Kundurdjiev as a professor and I recommend to the respected members of the Scientific Jury to vote positively for his election.

06/23/2020

Varna

Prof. Dr. Petko Marinov, Ph.D.

