

**To: The chairman of the scientific jury, determined by Order No. R-109-259/  
23.06.2022 of the Rector of the Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" -  
Varna**

**REVIEW**

**by Prof. Dr. Sonia Borisova Sergieva PhD,**

**Head of the Department of Nuclear Medicine, SBALOZ-EOOD, Sofia**

**Regarding:** Competition for the appointment of academic position "associate professor" of the scientific specialty "Oncology" in the field of higher education 7. Health care and sports, professional direction 7.1. Medicine in the Department of Oncology, Ministry of Health at the University of Varna, published in the Government Gazette, no. 32/26.04.2022., in accordance with the ZRASRB, art. 57, paragraph 1 and paragraph 2 of the Regulations for the Implementation of the RSARB, Art. 6, paragraph 1, art. 127, paragraph 1 and paragraph 2 of the Regulations for the development of the academic staff at the Medical University - Varna

**The single candidate: Dr. Bozhil Stefanov Robev, PhD**

**Dear Madam President,**

Pursuant to Art. 4(2) and Art. 25 of the ZRASRB and Art. 2, Art. 57(2) of the Regulations for the Implementation of the ZRASRB, approved proposal by the Faculty Council of the Medical Faculty in Medical University-Varna (protocol No. 67/20.06. 2022)

for conducting a competition and order of the Rector of MU-Varna No. R-1564/28.06.2022 I have been considered as a member of the Scientific Jury (SJ). At the remotely held first meeting of the National Academy of Sciences, I was chosen to present a review of the ongoing competition.

### **Career development of the candidate**

Dr. Bozil Stefanov Robev was born on June 26, 1967. in the city of Sliven. He completed higher education at the Medical Faculty of Medical University-Stara Zagora as a Master of Medicine (diploma No. 976/23.11.1993) with excellent success in 1993. He began his professional career as a pediatrician in the Emergency Department of the District Hospital in Sliven, where worked during the period 1993-1997. After successfully passing the exam, he acquired a clinical specialty in children's diseases in 1999. (diploma No. 006053/01.06.1999). After that, he worked as a specialist in pediatrics at the 3rd Workers' Hospital in Sofia and a resident pulmonologist in the children's office of the Sliven Pulmonary Hospital until 2005. From March 2005 until December 2014 worked as a resident physician in the Chemotherapy Department of SBALOZ EOOD, Sofia /then ODOZ/. In 2014 acquired a specialty in medical oncology at MU-Sofia (diploma No. 014399/10.07.2014). During the period 2015-2016 created and managed the department of medical oncology at the "St. Ivan Rilski" UMBAL, after which he was a specialist doctor in the same department from March 2016 to August 2019. After a successful competition in September 2019. and until now, Dr. Robev is the head of the medical oncology department at St. Ivan Rilski UMBAL.

Dr. Robev obtained a PhD doctorate from the National Academy of Sciences in the scientific specialty "oncology" in August 2019 after a successfully defended

dissertation in the Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology at the MU-Sofia Faculty of Medicine, on the topic: "Comparative clinical study of the treatment with combined chemotherapy with cisplatin on the plasma antioxidant capacity of patients with pulmonary cancer".

The candidate is a member of the European Society of Medical Oncology (ESMO), the Bulgarian Association of Medical Oncology (BAMO) and the Bulgarian Oncological Scientific Society (BOND). Since 2019, he is the chairman of the Medical Oncology Expert Council at the Ministry of Health.

Dr. Robev uses written and spoken English.

#### **Submitted documents and scientific materials for participation in the competition**

The documents presented by the candidate, Dr. B.Robev, for the competition are in accordance with the requirements of the ZRASRB and the Regulations for the implementation of the ZRASRB in MU-Varna, regarding the procedure for awarding academic position "associate professor". All necessary materials are available, informative, very well structured, which allows detailed analysis and conclusions about the scientific activity of the candidate by the scientific jury.

#### **Research papers and an asset representing the overall academic development of the candidate**

The academic development and assets of the only candidate for the position of Associate Professor, Dr. Bozhil Robev, PhD, include a complex assessment of scientific production and publication activity, application of the candidate's scientific and practical achievements, participation in the implementation/management of educational and diagnostic & therapeutic activities, incl. personal contributions related to them.

### ***A. Scientific production and publication activity***

Dr. B.Robev presents for the competition his scientific works, structured in two lists, according to the requirements of the Regulations of MU-Varna, namely: List of articles in scientific publications, referenced and indexed in MBD Scopus and Web of Science, of which at least three in journals with IF and List of publications in journals included in NACID National Register. Structurally, the specific publication activity is presented as follows:

1. Dissertation work for obtaining the educational and scientific degree "Doctor".
2. Monograph,
3. Contributions to scientific aids (textbooks)-2,
4. 20 scientific articles, published in journals and collections, of which 14 are in Bulgarian and 6 in a foreign language with IF – 5.55.

The candidate is the single author of 5 articles, co-author of 15 articles, being first author of 4 of them, second author of 4 issues, third author of 1 publication and fourth author of 3 issues.

5. **The scientific asset** of Dr. Robev includes a total of 22 participations with lectures, reports and posters, including: in international scientific congresses and conferences with abstracts published in journals with IF – 8; in scientific forums with printed abstracts in journals without IF - 5; participation in national symposia and scientific meetings - 9.

Of the citation reference presented by the Central library of Sofia University for the mentioned publications, 23 citations are documented in the Scopus database, and 22 citations are documented in the Web of Science.

**Scientific contributions are directed in several main scientific directions:**

1. The candidate's original scientific contributions are in the field of oncopharmacology: for the first time in the country, a comparative clinical study was conducted evaluating the effect of chemotherapy in lung cancer and its impact on the antioxidant status of patients, and an assessment of hyperprogressive disease during treatment was made with immune checkpoint inhibitors.
2. In the field of experimental oncology, it is necessary to note the participation of Dr. B.Robev in large-scale clinical studies of substances of plant origin /curcumin in patients with bladder cancer and white mistletoe extract on the mesenteric circulation/
3. The scientific and practical contributions of Dr. Robev are wide-ranging in the field of medical oncology, which includes various areas of medical treatment of malignant diseases, including diagnosis and overcoming the side effects that accompany it, various palliative approaches in advanced disease, most of them are in the field of thyroid gland tumors, breast tumors, tumors of the genitourinary system and neuroendocrine tumors. A special contribution of the candidate is his monograph, published for the first time in our country, dedicated to neuroendocrine tumors of the gastro-intestinal tract, in which almost all aspects of neuroendocrine pathology, methods of specific diagnosis and complex therapy are discussed in detail, in the context of the personalized approach for patients with this disease.

***B. Participation in educational projects***

Dr. B.Robev is the scientific supervisor of three specialists in the specialty "Medical Oncology" at UMBAL "St. Ivan Rilski", one of whom has successfully passed the state exam, and the other two are currently studying. The candidate actively participates in the teaching activities of specialists from the Clinics of Urology, Surgery and Internal Medicine of the UMBALSM "Pirogov" from 2017 to 2021, as well as in the educational individual modules in the relevant specialties. Dr. Robev has presented 2 references /from Prof. Dr. I. Hristozova and from the candidate's current employer, Dr. D. Dechev/, giving a high comprehensive assessment of the candidate's personal, professional and teaching qualities.

**Critical notes and recommendations - I have none**

**Personal impressions of the candidate:** I know Dr. Bozhil Robev, MD as an excellent professional, respected and responsible colleague, working with love and deep interest in establishing the high level of scientific, teaching-teaching and diagnostic-treatment activity in the Department of Medical Oncology at UMBAL "St. Iv. Rilski", Sofia. Possesses very good organizational and leadership skills for teamwork. I recommend that he continue his future work with his inherent enthusiasm and high professionalism in the difficult fight against oncological diseases.

**Overall assessment of the candidate's procedure and compliance**

All stages of the Tender Disclosure and Announcement Procedure have been followed. They are in accordance with the requirements of the ZRASRB and the Regulations for its application in the MU-Varna. The only candidate in the competition, Dr. Bozhil Stefanov Robev, MD, meets the minimum national requirements under Art. 2b, para. 2 and 3, respectively, to the requirements under Art. 2b, para. 5 of ZRASRB and the

specific criteria for MU-Varna under direction 7.1. medicine (medical-clinical activity), defined in the Regulations for Academic Development at the MU-Varna. The scientific works presented in the competition have a valuable scientific and scientific-applied nature for solving modern diagnostic and therapeutic problems in clinical oncology. The scientific developments show deep and permanently oriented scientific interests of the candidate. Scientific indicators, as well as the proven qualities of an erudite researcher, clinician and well-prepared teacher formulate the characteristics of Dr. B.Robev.

### **Conclusion**

In view of the above, I believe that the candidate in the announced competition for the appointment of academic position "Associate Professor" at the University of Varna, namely Dr. Bozhil Stefanov Robev, PhD, meets the mandatory and specific conditions and scientometric criteria for the appointment of AP "Associate Professor". I confidently give my positive assessment and propose to the honorable scientific jury to vote positively for the occupation of AP "Associate Professor" in the scientific specialty "Oncology", field of higher education 7. Health care and sports, professional direction 7.1. Medicine by Dr. B.Robev.

**Prepared by: Prof. Dr. Sonia Borisova Sergieva MD,PhD**

**Date: 01.09.2022**

