

Opinion

By Prof. Dr. Marina Borisova Garcheva – Tsacheva, MD

Nuclear Medicine Clinic, UH "Acibadem City Clinic-Mladost", member of the Scientific Jury for the competition for occupying the academic position "Professor" in the scientific specialty "Nuclear Medicine", in the field of higher education 7. "Health and Sports", professional direction 7.1 "Medicine", for the needs of the Faculty of "Dental Medicine", Department of "Periodontology and Dental Implantology", MU-Varna, announced in SG No. 41/3.6.2022.

Re: The application of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Borislav Georgiev Chaushev, MD, Head of the Nuclear Medicine Clinic and Head of the Department of Periodontology and Dental Implantology, Faculty of Dental Medicine, MU-Varna.

Assoc. Prof. Chaushev graduated from the Medical University of Varna in 2001, as from 2007 he has obtained a specialty in nuclear medicine, and in 2010 defended a dissertation on "Nuclear medicine methods for establishing disturbances in the motor-evacuator function of the stomach in various diseases" and obtained the "Doctor" degree in Medical Radiology and X-ray radiography (including the use of radioactive isotopes). Since 2006, Dr. Chaushev became assistant and chief assistant at Medical University "Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov" - Varna; as from 2015 - Associate professor at the Department of Imaging. Since 2017, he is the head of the Clinic for Nuclear Medicine, Metabolic Therapy and Radiotherapy" at MU-Varna since 2018 and Head of the Department of Periodontology and Dental Implantology at the Faculty of Dental Medicine of the same university. Meanwhile, in **2008** he was nominated for "doctor of the year".

As a member of the team that introduced PET/CT diagnostics in our country, Dr. Chaushev had specializations in this field at Imperial College, London, Zagreb and Leipzig. Additionally he had specializations in Vienna -in the field of pediatric nuclear oncology and nephrourology and in the diagnosis of neurodegenerative diseases, as well as in Cyprus in the thyroid and parathyroid diagnostics.

Based on the high qualification obtained in the field of Nuclear Medicine, his inherent dedication to work, his experience in the organization of scientific projects and events {Research on the dynamics of healing processes in peri-implant tissues by means of scintigraphy with ^{99m}Tc-MDP,

2016-2021 (head of the project) and ESNM 2005, 2012 } as well as his personal qualities, he was elected head of the Clinic and Department at Varna Medical University.

In the current competition for the professor degree, Dr. Chaushev presents a total of 112 scientific papers, over 1/3 of which /35/ were published after him being awarded the title of "Associate Professor", participation in 2 monographs and 17 participations in international and national scientific forums. The total impact factor of the submitted works for "Professor" is 146.547.

His contributions include many fields of Nuclear medicine, most of which related to PET/CT diagnostics of oncological and non-oncological diseases:

- He contributed in determination of the prognostic value of standardised uptake value (SUVmax) from FDG PET/CT in unresectable colon cancer with liver metastases for determination of progression-free and overall survival.
- In the detection by FDG PET/CT of early asymptomatic recurrences in cervical carcinoma while other imaging studies were negative, as well as for accurate staging and monitoring of the patients.
- In establishing the role of 68Ga-PSMA PET/CT for detection of recurrence and metastases in high-risk prostate cancer patients in a comparative study with other imaging methods.
- In the evaluation of 18F-FDG PET/CT for detection of unknown primary tumors (CUP) for determination of the place of biopsy and for the detection of synchronous/metachronous tumors.
- In the evaluation of the prognostic significance of standardised uptake value (SUV max) from 18F-FDG PET/CT of regional lymph nodes in patients with non small cell lung carcinoma (NSCLC).
- He participated in the research for establishing the role of 18F-FDG PET/CT for localization of primary tumors of the head and neck in patients with metastatic cervical lymph nodes from Squamous cell carcinoma (SCC), and for evaluating the response to treatment by chemotherapy and radiotherapy.
- In the evaluation of 18F-FDG PET/CT place in the diagnosis and staging of advanced breast cancer regarding the appropriate choice of therapy approach.
- In the evaluation of 18F-FDG PET/CT versus CT-CE for determination of the extranodal involvement in diffuse large B-cell lymphoma (DLBCL)
- In the research for distinguishing the false-positive 18F-FDG PET/CT results for progression in patients with metastatic melanoma and chondrosarcoma.

In the field of conventional Nuclear medicine:

- He created a modified method for serial gastroscintigraphy for early diagnosis influencing the timely treatment of stomach motility disorders in diabetes, Parkinson's disease and multiple sclerosis.

- He contributed in the evaluation of the role of dynamic renal scintigraphy with ^{99m}Tc -DTPA in congenital hydronephrosis, before and after correction.

Under the supervision of Dr. Chaushev, 4 dissertations were defended, three of them at Varna Medical University and one at Plovdiv Medical University, which proves his care and responsibility to share his experience and knowledge for the qualification of his young colleagues. This again highlights his qualities as a scientific researcher and tutor. In the same time in the last 5 years he is an distinguished lecturer in the courses for students and post-graduates.

He is a well-known and respected member of the Bulgarian Nuclear medicine community, a member of Bulgarian and international organizations in Nuclear medicine and Imaging diagnostics.

CONCLUSION: Assoc. Prof. Chaushev meets entirely the requirements of the Medical University of Varna and of the national center for Information and Documentation for professor with remarkable qualities as professional, researcher, lecturer and leader. That is why I strongly recommend to the members of the respected scientific jury to choose as "Professor" the applicant, Associate Professor Dr. Borislav Georgiev Chaushev, MD.

Opinion prepared by:.....

Prof. M. Garcheva, MD, Acibadem City Clinic, Sofia, UMPHAT