

STATEMENT

From

Assoc. Prof. Dimitar Stefanov Karastatev, MD, PhD,

Member of the Scientific Jury pursuant to the order № P-109-140/23.02.2023 of Prof. Svetoslav Georgiev, MD, PhD – Vice-rector “Career Development” at MU – Varna, for Rector, pursuant to the order for substitution № P-100-60/06.02.2023, regarding a procedure for holding an academic position of “Associate Professor”, announced in the State Gazette № 102/23.12.2022, with a candidate – Principal assistant professor **Yavor Dimitrov Peychev, MD, PhD.**

Dr. Y. Peychev graduated from the Medical University – Varna in 1988. Since 1990, he advanced from assistant to Principal assistant professor in the Cardiology Clinic at the First Department of Internal Diseases, MU-Varna, and the Clinic of Cardiac Surgery at St. Marina University Hospital – Varna. Dr. Peychev has acquired two clinical specialities – “Internal Diseases” (1994) and “Cardiology” (1998).

Dr. Peychev is an established clinical cardiologist with outstanding professional qualification: “Echocardiography – expert level, Transthoracic echocardiography, Transesophageal echocardiography and Stress-echocardiography”.

Dr. Peychev is an academic teacher with large experience and a broad spectrum of research interests in several clinical areas:

- Non-invasive cardiology with a focus on severe ventricular ectopic activity in ischemic heart disease. Dr. Peychev has demonstrated that by mastering of non-invasive methods, certain accessible to routine clinical practice risk markers for severe ventricular ectopic activity could be identified.
- Dr. Peychev is one of the pioneers to put forth the issue of “electrical hypertrophy of the left ventricle” for further diagnostic clarification.
- Calcific aortic stenosis is the principal focus of Dr. Peychev's clinical and scientific research. He dedicated to that subject his doctoral thesis and, subsequently – a monograph.
- Some problems related to sudden cardiac death.

The above-mentioned research areas are represented in a vast number of scientific publications. His research activity contributed to the author's participation in some substantial international research projects: EHS-AF, HERO-2, ESTEEM, CORONA, CONVINCENCE, and TRIUMPH.

Dr. Peychev has published a substantial number (61) of scholarly works in respected scientific journals, bringing him an impact factor score of 38.202 IF. To

my personal opinion, the “International Scholar” Award of the American Heart Association, under the name of Paul Dudley White, attributes remarkable significance to Dr. Peychev's research activity. He received this award at Scientific Sessions 2019 of the American Heart Association for a scientific report on the relevance of comorbidities in operated patients with aortic stenosis.

Dr. Peychev's research showcases a comprehensive assessment of the scientific literature on the challenges under consideration, rigour, superb understanding of the right statistical tools for assessing the outcomes, and self-criticism.

The scientific output of Dr. Peychev meets all the scientometric indicators for holding the academic position of “Associate Professor”.

The monograph “**Calcific aortic stenosis. Sex-Specific Differences and Their Clinical Significance**”, published in 2022, deserves particular attention. This impeccably structured work provides a current outlook on calcific aortic stenosis. Dr. Peychev has committed more than ten years of research to this subject. His doctoral thesis, the results of which are included in the monograph, is a controlled study on the prognosis of patients operated for aortic stenosis.

Dr. Peychev guides the cardiologist's assessment depending on the sex-specific differences, the burden of aortic valve calcification in male patients and the higher fibrosis scores in women. The author investigates the concept of “Anatomic” vs “Electrical” hypertrophy of the left ventricle.

The scientific supervisors, research teams and creative atmosphere in which Dr. Peychev works contribute to his research output and participation in the many forums at home and abroad.

I am fully confident that **Yavor Dimitrov Peychev, MD, PhD**, meets all the requirements for obtaining the academic position of “Associate Professor”.

It is my belief is that the rest of the members of the distinguished Scientific Jury will hold the same opinion.

02/05/2023
PhD

Assoc. Prof. Dimitar Karastatev, MD,

