

## **Academic Opinion**

From Assoc. Prof. Dr. Velina Nedeltcheva Guergueltcheva, M.D., Ph.D.

Associate Professor at the Department of Neurology, Psychiatry, Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation, Preventive Medicine and Public Health, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski";  
Head of the Clinic of Neurology, University Hospital "Sofiamed"

Member of the Scientific Jury in the procedure for filling the post of Associate Professor in the specialty "Nervous System Diseases", in the field of higher education 7. Health and Sport, Professional direction: 7.1. Medicine at the Faculty of Medicine, Department of Nervous Diseases and Neurosciences, according to an announcement in the SG, no. 54 of 23.06.2023. Candidate – ch. assist. Mihael Emilov Tsalta-Mladenov, Ph.D.

Dr. Mihael Emilov Tsalta-Mladenov, was born on 13.02.1991 in the town of Varna. Since December 2016 he has been working at the Second Clinic of Neurological Diseases, University hospital "St. Marina" - Varna successively as resident, assistant and chief assistant since 24.11.2021. On 26.04.2021 he acquired the scientific and educational degree "Doctor of Medicine" after successfully defended PhD thesis. The title of his work is "Quality of life in ischemic stroke survivors - clinical-social and neuroimaging studies". Dr. Tsalta-Mladenov has published one monograph, 23 articles and 31 reports /posters/. Author and co-author of at least 9 scientific publications in journals that have been referred and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information, 8 of them after obtaining the academic position of senior assistant professor and the scientific and educational degree "Doctor of Medicine".

Dr. Tsalta-Mladenov participated in over 70 scientific conferences, symposia and forums in the country and abroad, as well as in 3 scientific projects part of the Science Fund. His teaching activity covers seminars in the discipline "Nervous diseases" for students of the specialty: "Medicine" - English and Bulgarian language training; "Dental Medicine" - English and Bulgarian language training; "Midwife" - Bulgarian language training; "Nurse" - Bulgarian-language training.

The main scientific contributions of Dr. Tsalta-Mladenov are in the field of stroke. Dr. Tsalta-Mladenov works at the Department of Nervous Diseases and Neurosciences at the Medical University "Prof. dr. Paraskev Stoyanov - Varna, which has traditions in the study of cerebrovascular pathology. Dr. Tsalta-Mladenov contributes to quality of life studies after acute ischemic stroke (AIS). For the first time in our country, a study of quality of life after AIS was conducted and the most affected aspects of life of ischemic stroke survivors were identified. The results are published in the journal. Neurological research, 2022, IF 2.448. For the first time in our country a comparative analysis of quality of life in patients with intravenous thrombolysis (IVT) and those without differential treatment was performed. The results are published in the journal. The Egyptian Journal of Neurology, Psychiatry and Neurosurgery, 2021. The predictive value of various sociodemographic and clinical indicators regarding quality of life after AIS was assessed. The results are published in the journal. Neurological Research, 2021, IF: 2.529.

Other scientific areas in which Dr. Tsalta-Mladenov works and contributes are: studies on rare causes of ischemic stroke; studies related to the epidemiology of acute stroke and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic; studies of rare neurological diseases in the course of systemic and endocrine diseases. The results of these studies have been published in referred and indexed journals in world-renowned databases. One publication draws attention - Tsalta-Mladenov M, Levkova M, Andonova S. "Factor V Leiden, Factor II, Protein C, Protein S, and Antithrombin and Ischemic Strokes in Young Adults: A Meta-Analysis", Genes, 2022, IF: 3.886.

Dr. Tsalta-Mladenov is the first author in 8 publications in referred and indexed in world-renowned databases journals.

Having familiarized myself with the scientific contributions and teaching activities of Dr. Mihael Emilov Tsalta-Mladenov, I believe that he fulfills the national requirements for the scientific and teaching activities for the academic position of Associate Professor and I propose the Scientific Jury to award this degree in the specialty "Nervous Diseases" at the Medical University - Varna.

Sincerely,

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Velina Nedeltcheva Guerguelcheva, PhD:

25.10.2023

Sofia

