

STATEMENT

By Prof. Assen Petkov Dudov, MD, PhD

Head of "Medical Oncology Clinic", Acibadem CityClinic UMBAL Mladost, Sofia;

Member of the Scientific Jury

Regarding: Competition for the occupation of the academic position "Professor" in the field of higher education 7. Health care and sports, professional direction 7.1. Medicine and scientific specialty "Oncology" for the needs of the Oncology Department, Faculty of Medicine at MU-Varna (announced in SG No. 83 of 03.10.2023).

Brief information about the competition

By order of the Rector of the MU-Varna, in connection with protocol No. 13 /11.12.2023 of the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Medicine of the MU-Varna, I have been selected as a member of the jury for a competition for the academic position of "Professor" announced in the State Gazette number 83 / 03.10.2023. According to Protocol No. 1 of the Scientific Jury, I am appointed to prepare a statement. Associate Professor Nikolay Conev, PhD is the only candidate in the competition. The procedure for announcing the competition is in accordance with the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (05.05.2018) and the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff at the MU - Varna (21.11.2022).

Brief details of the applicant

- In 2002, he graduated from the University of Economics - Varna - Bachelor of Economics, specialty in Commodities science.
- In 2009, he graduated from the Medical University of Varna, specialty in Medicine.

Professional Development

- Since 2010, he has been a fellow in the Medical Oncology Clinic, "St. Marina" - Varna.
- Since 2016, he has been an oncologist at the Medical Oncology Clinic, UMHAT St. Marina.
- Since 2018, he is the head of the Medical Oncology Clinic.
- Since 2019, he has been the head of the "Oncology Clinics Direction" at UMHAT Saint Marina.

Academic development and scientific development

- In 2013, he was appointed as a part-time assistant professor in the "Propaedeutics of Internal Medicine" department at the Medical University - Varna.
- In 2016, he received a PhD in the scientific specialty of Medical Oncology.
- Since 2017, he has been a full-time assistant at the Medical University - Varna.
- Since 2018, he has been a chief assistant, and in the same year - an Associate Professor at the Department of "Propaedeutics of Internal Diseases".
- Since 2020, he is an Associate Professor at the Department of Oncology.
- Since 2019, he has been the head of the "Oncology and Rare Diseases" department at the Research Institute of the MU - Varna.

Additional training:

- Qualification Course / Seminar on Organization , management and conduct of a clinical trial , (2012).
- Specialized Course in Antiangiogenesis Treatment, Belgium (2014).
- Antiangiogenic therapy in recurrent platinum-sensitive ovarian carcinoma (2015)
- Masterclass in Molecular Oncology, Prague, Czech Republic (2015).

Completed projects

- Study of the influence of specific carboxylesterase inhibitors on the effectiveness of Capecitabine chemotherapy . Period: 19.12.2019 – 20.12.2021. Organization: MU-Varna. Position: Expert.
- Study of expression levels of immunohistochemical markers of necroptosis in breast cancer. Period: 19.12.2019 – 20.12.2021. Organization: MU-Varna. Position: Scientific supervisor.

Professional experience

Associate Professor Nikolay Vladimirov Conev has over 14 years of professional experience in the field of Medical Oncology, and he fulfills the professional qualification requirements for the academic position "Professor".

Scientific and research activity (submitted for participation in the competition)

- Dissertation on the topic: "Microribonucleic acids miR-17, miR-21, miR-29a and miR-92 as potential markers for assessing the risk of recurrence after adjuvant chemotherapy in patients with colon cancer".
- 57 scientific articles and abstracts:
 - 12 full-text publications, equivalent to a monographic work, which are referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases with scientific information.
 - Provides a total of 33 publications and abstracts that have been published in referenced and indexed world-renowned databases of scientific information.
- Impact factor according to Academic Reference - 1276.168.

The submitted work covers the minimum state requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff at the MU – Varna for the acquisition of the academic position "Professor".

Main scientific directions of the presented papers

- Investigation of small non-coding RNAs as prognostic and predictive markers in cancer patients (B4.5, B4.6, B4.8);
- Markers of response to immunotherapy treatment in solid tumors (B4.9, B4.11);
- Association of time perception and distress in cancer patients;
- Association of the perception of time with other indicators for the assessment of the psychological state of oncological patients;
- Creation of ultra-rapid distress assessment tools (B4.7, B4.10, B4.12);
- Assessment of access to facilities that offer oncology care and treatment outcomes (B4.3);
- Investigation of circulating histones as markers for monitoring oncological diseases (B4.1);
- Analysis of the CASPIAN study and its long-term results (B4.2, B4.4).

Teaching activity

Prof. Nikolay Conev conducts training for students (seminars and lectures) in the specialties "Oncology", "Propaedeutics of Internal Diseases" and "Surgery", and also conducts the "Oncopharmacology" course, which is mandatory during the oncology fellowship. He is a supervisor of interns, oncology fellows and PhD students.

Study Load Reference:

Име на преподавател	Николай Владимиров Цонев
Научна степен /научно звание/, длъжност	Доцент
Учебен сектор	-
Катедра	Онкология
Факултет/Колеж/Филиал/Департамент	Факултет по медицина
Дата на започване на преподавателската дейност в МУ-Варна	13.02.2017 г.
Норматив по решение на АС на МУ-Варна, отразено в Протокол №30/11.04.2011 г. (часове)	110 часа

Учебна година	Лекции		Упражнения		Учебна практика	Преддипломен стаж	Общо часове за уч. Година
	БЕО	АЕО	БЕО	АЕО			
2019/2020	2	0	160	0	0	0	162
2020/2021	8	0	160	0	0	0	168
2021/2022	6	0	174	0	0	0	180
2022/2023	14	12	186	0	0	0	212

Conclusion

Prof. Nikolay Conev is a qualified professional in the field of Medical Oncology, with in-depth knowledge related to tumor biology, prognostic and predictive markers, and clinical behavior in malignant diseases. He has accumulated scientific and teaching experience, and his scientific output is of a sufficient volume that covers the minimum state requirements.

I personally know the candidate's career development and am convinced of his qualities as a thorough and academically prepared specialist. His active participation in almost all scientific forums, conference meetings and professional discussions has been distinguished by analytical thought and demonstration of excellent clinical work and thinking against the background of academic theoretical training. This is a combination of positive qualities that are increasingly rarely found in candidates for career growth.

Associate Professor Nikolay Conev meets the requirements of the Law for the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff at the MU - Varna. This gives me a reason to recommend to the esteemed jury to vote positively for awarding the academic position of "Professor" to Associate Professor Nikolay Conev.

Date: 19.01.2024

Prepared by:

Prof. Assen Dudov, MD, PhD

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