

## STANDPOINT

on the contest for acquisition of the academic position of “Associate Professor” in the specialty “Diagnostic Imaging”, professional direction 7.1. Medicine, higher educational field 7. Healthcare and sport, announced in the National Newspaper issue № 8 from 28.01.2020.

with applicant: teaching assistant Georgi Nikolaev Valchev, MD, PhD

Member of the scientific jury: Assoc. Prof. Nikolai Lazarov Topalov, MD, PhD  
in accordance with order № P-109-176/03.06.2020 of the Rector of Varna Medical University “Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov”

### **Analysis of the candidate’s career profile**

Georgi Valchev MD is born on 24.07.1987 in Varna. In 2006 he graduates Varna’s First Language School. In 2012 he completes his higher education in Medicine at the Varna Medical University “Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov”, after which he specializes in Diagnostic Imaging at the Clinic of Diagnostic Imaging of UMHAT “Sveta Marina” Varna, acquiring the title of specialist on 01.01.2018. In the period 2013-2017 he is a full-time doctoral student at the Department of Diagnostic Imaging, Interventional Radiology, and Radiotherapy. In 2018 he successfully defends his dissertation, thus acquiring the scientific title of PhD in the field of “Medical Radiology and Röntgenology”. In the period 2013-2020 he works as a teaching assistant at the Clinic of Diagnostic Imaging of UMHAT “Sveta Marina” Varna and actively engages in academic and scientific endeavors.

### **Summarized description of the submitted contest materials.**

The candidate submits 40 scientific works, among which 37 articles (8 in referred scientific journals and 29 in non-referred scientific journals), one dissertation (with abstract), one individual monography, a chapter of a collective monography, a chapter of a translated textbook of clinical radiology.

### **Citations of the candidate's submitted works in national and international literature.**

The data from Dr. Valchev's scientific publications are cited 7 times, of which 5 in scientific publications referred and indexed in world-renowned scientific databases, and 2 in non-referred peer-reviewed publications.

### **Assessment of the candidate's scientific works for his overall academic development.**

A large portion of Dr. Valchev's scientific works are related to the diagnostic imaging aspects of the rare tumor neuroblastoma. In his dissertation and several publications the candidate presents current scientific information regarding the diagnostic, epidemiological, and pathogenetic aspects of neuroblastoma, as well as his own diagnostic experience. Additionally he presents all potential findings of neuroblastoma in the various imaging methods (radiography, ultrasonography, computed tomography, and magnetic resonance tomography) in exhaustive detail. He also provides thorough instructions for optimal interpretation and establishment of the image defined risk factors, which are pertinent to the resectability and long-term prognosis of this disease.

Dr. Valchev has several publications regarding interventional radiology, as well as publications pertaining to avant-garde diagnostic techniques. Minimally invasive, intravascular, and percutaneous interventions for malignant liver lesions, image-guided interventional procedures in obstructive jaundice, as well as embolization of bronchial arteries in life-threatening bleeding are presented in original experience-based articles.

In several review articles with an urological focus the candidate presents the embryological stages of development of the excretory system and the application of magnetic resonance tomography in prenatal diagnostics, as well as ultrasonography in postnatal diagnostics of its malformations. Additionally, two review articles pertaining to the rare renal anomaly oligomeganephronia and its relatively unknown computed tomography image are presented, illustrated with a case from his own practice.

Dr. Valchev also has several publications focused on congenital anomalies (congenital absence of the vena cava, congenital urinary anomalies in children), cardio-pulmonary diagnostic imaging (diagnostic imaging findings in HRCT examinations of pulmonary-renal syndromes), pediatric pathology (postoperative complications of liver transplantation in children).

In two review articles the candidate discusses some purely neuroradiological issues – differential diagnosis of viral encephalitides, magnetic resonance sequences and findings in Alzheimer’s disease. In a separate publication with a multidisciplinary team a case of cortical laminar necrosis after subarachnoid hemorrhage is presented.

#### **Multifactor, qualitative assessment of the educational-methodical and teaching activities**

Since his appointment as teaching assistant up to the present day Dr. Valchev performs yearly educational and teaching duties. He participates in theoretical and practical workshops with students, and is an active part of creating and utilizing new teaching tools. The references for his teaching hours for the academic years 2014/2015, 2015/2016, 2016/2017, 2017/2018, and 2018/2019 show an active engagement in teaching activities.

#### **Overall assessment of the candidate’s compliance with the mandatory conditions and mandatory quantitative criteria and scientometric indicators**

After familiarizing myself with the submitted contest materials, I deem that they meet the prerequisites of the Law for Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Rulebook for its implementation, and the acquisition of the academic position of “Associate Professor”. The candidate has scientific research and teaching credentials of sufficient volume and contributions, which should be recognized accordingly by the Scientific Jury.

## **Conclusion**

As a result of the aforementioned I deem that the candidate **fulfills** the mandatory and specific conditions, as well as the scientometric criteria for the academic position for which he is applying. I recommend to the Honorary Jury to vote in favor of awarding Dr. Georgi Nikolaev Valchev the academic title of “Associate Professor” for the needs of the “Radiological Technologist” sector of the Varna Medical College and the Clinic of Diagnostic Imaging at UMHAT “Sveta Marina” Varna.

01.08.2020

Assoc. Prof. N. Topalov

