

STANDPOINT

of Prof. Dr. Dimitrichka Bliznakova, MD, PhD
Director of the Medical College at Varna Medical University

Regarding: *Contest for the acquisition of the academic position of “Associate Professor” in the higher educational field of 7. Healthcare and sport, professional direction 7.1. Medicine, specialty “Diagnostic Imaging”, with Georgi Nikolaev Valchev MD, PhD applying*

for the needs of SS “Radiological Technologist” at Medical College Varna and 0.5 position for the needs of the “Clinic of Diagnostic Imaging” at UMHAT “Sveta Marina” – Varna.

In accordance to Rector order № P-109-176/03.06.2020 I have been appointed as a member of the Scientific Jury judging on the aforementioned contest, announced in the National Newspaper issue № 8 / 28.01.2020.

In accordance to protocol № 1 of the conducted first session of the Scientific Jury I have been appointed to formulate a standpoint.

The standpoint is based on the Law for Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations issued by the Ministry of Education and Science and Medical University – Varna. I declare no conflict of interest.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL DATA AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT.

Georgi Nikolaev Valchev MD, PhD is born on 24.07.1987 in the city of Varna. In 2000 he graduates his primary education from the mathematical high school “Dr. Petar Beron”, and in 2006 he graduates his secondary education from Varna’s First Language School. In 2012 he completes his higher education in Medicine at the Varna Medical University “Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov”.

Professional development

- 03.12.2012 – 01.07.2013 – physician at the Clinic of Diagnostic Imaging at UMHAT “Sveta Marina” Varna.
- 01.07.2013 – 28.10.2013 – physician and Radiology intern at the Clinic of Diagnostic Imaging at UMHAT “Sveta Marina” Varna.
- 28.10.2013 – 01.02.2018 – physician, teaching assistant and Radiology intern at the Clinic of Diagnostic Imaging at UMHAT “Sveta Marina” Varna.
- Since 28.10.2013 – teaching assistant at the “Radiology Technologist” Sector of Varna Medical College, part of Varna Medical University “Prof. Dr. Paraskev Stoyanov”.
- Since 01.02.2018r – Radiology specialist at the Clinic of Diagnostic Imaging at UMHAT “Sveta Marina” Varna.

Academic development

- 2013 – 2017 – full-time doctoral student at “Department of Diagnostic Imaging, Interventional Radiology, and Radiotherapy” at Varna Medical University, in the field of “Medical Radiology and Röntgenology (Including Use of Radioactive Isotopes)”.
- Since 21.05.2018 – PhD in the field of “Medical Radiology and Röntgenology (Including Use of Radioactive Isotopes)”.

Georgi Nikolaev Valchev MD, PhD has the following additional qualifications:

- Percutaneous image-guided interventions,
- Cardiac MRT,
- Radiopaedia course on Imaging Anatomy in 2016,
- Radiopaedia course on Neuroradiology in 2016,
- Radiopaedia course on Trauma Imaging,
- Updated Radiopaedia course on Imaging Anatomy in 2019,
- European Society of Radiology course in Varna, 26 September 2019, on Pediatric Radiology.
- Professional mastery of Adobe Photoshop,
- Illustration of medical schematics,
- Creation and design of logos and promotional materials for congresses (including the logo of ASMB Varna, the logo and promotional poster of the XVIII Congress of the Bulgarian Association of Radiology).

Georgi Nikolaev Valchev MD, PhD has completed a specialization in “Cardiac MRT (AKH Wien, Vienna, Austria, August 2018), a student practice in “Diagnostic Imaging” (AKH Wien, Vienna, Austria, August 2010), participation at an interdisciplinary symposium for aortic treatment – 13th Vienna Interdisciplinary Symposium on Aortic Repair VISAR (14-15 November 2019, Vienna, Austria).

Georgi Nikolaev Valchev MD, PhD uses English and German proficiently.

SCIENTOMETRIC INDICATORS.

Georgi Nikolaev Valchev MD, PhD is applying to the contest for the acquisition of the academic position of “Associate Professor” in the higher educational field of 7. Healthcare and sport, professional direction 7.1. Medicine, specialty “Diagnostic Imaging”, for the needs of Study Sector “Radiological Technologist” at Medical College Varna and 0.5 position for the needs of the “Clinic of Diagnostic Imaging” at UMHAT “Sveta Marina” – Varna, with the following scientometric indicators:

- Dissertation for the acquisition of the scientific and educational title of “Doctor of Philosophy” – “Classification and Selection of Image Defined Risk Factors in Neuroblastoma”, MU Varna, 2018
- Foreign and Bulgarian journals – 3 referred foreign, 7 non-referred foreign, 5 referred Bulgarian, 18 non-referred Bulgarian
- Publications in Bulgarian – 21
- Publications in a foreign language – 12
- As a sole author – 2 referred Bulgarian
- As a co-author – 31
- Inquiry conducted by the Library of MU Varna for publications in referred and indexed journals – 8
- Inquiry conducted by the Library of MU Varna for publications in non-referred peer-reviewed journals – 25
- Inquiry conducted by the Library of MU Varna for citations or reviews in scientific publications, referred and indexed in international scientific databases or in monographies and collective tomes – 5
- Inquiry conducted by the Library of MU Varna for citations or reviews in non-referred peer-reviewed journals – 2

Georgi Nikolaev Valchev MD, PhD has, via his dissertation, successfully attained the scientific title of “Doctor of Philosophy” in Medicine in the field of “Medical Radiology and Röntgenology (Including Use of Radioactive Isotopes)”.

Georgi Nikolaev Valchev MD, PhD is an active participant in three scientific projects:

1. Change in the Amount of Visceral Fat Mass and Its Relation to Increased Cardio-Vascular Risk in Patients with Long-Term Diabetes Type 1, “Science” Fund, Grant 13/3, 14.12.2017, of the National Research Fund of the Bulgarian Ministry of Education and Science, project head Prof. Y. Yotov. (2017 –2020).
2. Cardio-vascular and Metabolic Risk Associated with Visceral Fat in Patients with Long-Term Diabetes Type 1, “Scientific Research” Fund, Grant 13/35, 26.07.2017, project head Prof. V. Yotova. (2017 – 2020).
3. Стохастични и симулационни модели в някои области на медицината, обществените науки и динамичните системи, Фонд „Научни изследвания”, проект номер Н12/36, договор 12/11 на НИС при ТУ-София, ръководител проф. К. Проданова (2017-2020)

Georgi Nikolaev Valchev MD, PhD is teaching a repertoire of academic classes:

1. Diagnostic Imaging workshops (Students of Medicine – in Bulgarian and in English),
2. Diagnostic Imaging workshops (Students of Dental Medicine – in Bulgarian and in English),
3. Diagnostic Imaging workshops (Students of Midwifery),
4. Imaging Anatomy workshops (Radiological Technologists),
5. Clinical Diagnostic Imaging workshops (Radiological Technologists),
6. Basics of Diagnostic Imaging Part IV workshops (Radiological Technologists),
7. Diagnostic Imaging Basic Course Lectures (Interns of Diagnostic Imaging),
8. Diagnostic Imaging Lectures (Students of Medicine – in English) – substitute lecturer,
9. Imaging Anatomy Lectures (Radiological Technologists) – substitute lecturer.

Georgi Nikolaev Valchev MD, PhD has been awarded with the honorary seal of MU Varna for illustrations in a foreign publication (received May 24 2008). He has also been awarded with a bronze medal (Certificate of Merit) at the European Congress of Radiology 2016 for his work ECR 2016/C-0603 Pulmonary-Renal Syndromes - Comprehensive Review.

CONCLUSION.

Georgi Nikolaev Valchev MD, PhD has defended his dissertation, attaining the scientific title of “Doctor of Philosophy” in Medicine in the field of “Medical Radiology and Röntgenology (Including Use of Radioactive Isotopes)”. Of utmost importance is his participation in the three scientific projects pertaining to diabetes type 1 patients and determining the cardio-vascular risk’s relation to the visceral fat mass.

The scientific works presented prove an exceptional degree of competence for a young scientist, with not merely a theoretical, but also a practical focus. A confirmation for this can be found in his monographic work “Neuroblastoma. Nature and Diagnosis”.

The monography is state-of-the-art and focuses on survivability, risk factors such as age, parent occupation, social status, the importance of breastfeeding, establishing a correlation between breastfeeding and neuroblastoma risk. The role of parental smoking, alcohol consumption and use of marijuana as teratogenic agents are accentuated. The clinical presentation and specific symptoms, associated with the location of the primary mass, resulting directly from compression, as well as the hallmarks of metastatic disease are assiduously

addressed in the text. The staging systems are described with a special emphasis on the imaging staging system. Additionally the prognostic factors and expected survival rates in each stage are discussed in detail.

The author also presents his own diagnostic experience with children suffering from neuroblastoma, emphasizing the role of the radiologist, whose duty is to evaluate the localization, size, and Image Defined Risk Factors in every patient. The work is brilliantly written, and illustrated richly with tables and figures. It presents the latest tendencies in the diagnostic and therapeutic approach in an extremely rare solid tumor in children under 5 years of age. This monography will successfully find application in clinical practice as an invaluable methodical guidebook, not just in the workflow of radiologists, but also oncoheamatologists.

I recommend that the members of the respected Scientific Jury cast a positive vote in favor of Georgi Nikolaev Valchev MD, PhD attaining the academic position of “Associate Professor” in the higher educational field of 7. Healthcare and sport, professional direction 7.1. Medicine, specialty “Diagnostic Imaging”, for the needs of SS “Radiological Technologist” at Medical College Varna and 0.5 position for the needs of the “Clinic of Diagnostic Imaging” at UMHAT “Sveta Marina” – Varna.

13.06.2020
Varna

With respect,
Prof. D. Bliznakova, MD, PhD
Director of Varna Medical College

