

## REVIEW REPORT

**By Corresponding Member, Professor Nikolay Stefanov Gabrovski, MD, PhD, DSc**  
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**Regarding:** Competition for the academic position of **Associate Professor** – one position in the field of higher education **7. Health and Sports**, professional field **7.1 Medicine**, scientific specialty **Emergency Medicine**, for the Department of Emergency Medicine at **Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda University Hospital**, announced in the *State Gazette*, Issue No. 35 of 14 April 2026.

### 1. Information on the Procedure

By Order No. 15-03-135#2/12.06.2026 of the Executive Director and the Procurator of Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda University Hospital, I was appointed as an external member of the Academic Jury. At the first remote meeting of the Jury, I was assigned to prepare the present review report.

All procedural requirements regarding the announcement of the competition, the deadline for submission of application documents, and the appointment of the Academic Jury have been duly observed. Only one applicant submitted documents for participation in the competition—**Dr. Parvoleta Krasteva Yakova-Krasteva, MD, PhD**, who fully satisfies the requirements of the **Academic Staff Development in the Republic of Bulgaria Act**, its Implementing Regulations, and the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda University Hospital.

Based on the materials submitted to me for the preparation of this review, I declare that I have found no evidence of plagiarism and that I have no conflict of interest.

### 2. Professional Profile of the Candidate

Dr. Parvoleta Krasteva, MD, PhD, was born in 1972. She graduated in Medicine from the Medical University of Sofia in 1997. From 1997 to 2006, she worked as a physician at the Centre for Emergency Medical Care in Sofia. In 2006, she joined the Emergency Department of Tokuda Hospital, and since 2017 she has served as **Head of the Emergency Department** at Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda University Hospital.

She obtained her specialty qualification in **Emergency Medicine** in 2005. In the same year, she also acquired a professional qualification in **Health Management** from the European College of Economics and Management in Plovdiv.

Dr. Krasteva is a certified instructor in **Advanced Life Support (ALS) simulation-based training**, certified by the Acibadem University Center of Advanced Simulation and Education, Istanbul, Türkiye (2017).

In 2023, she was awarded the educational and scientific degree of **Doctor (PhD)** in the scientific specialty **Internal Medicine** at Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda University Hospital,

Sofia, following the successful defense of her doctoral dissertation entitled: "**The Role of the Emergency Department of a Multidisciplinary Hospital in the Implementation of a Diagnostic and Therapeutic Algorithm for Patients over 18 Years of Age Infected with SARS-CoV-2 During the Pandemic.**"

Since 2024, she has held the position of **Chief Assistant Professor** in the scientific specialty **Emergency Medicine** at Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda University Hospital, Sofia.

Dr. Krasteva has a total professional experience as a physician of **28 years and 7 months**, including **21 years of professional experience in Emergency Medicine** (Certificate No. 122/27.05.2026 issued by Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda University Hospital ).

She is fluent in **Bulgarian, English, and Russian**.

### **3. Evaluation of the Candidate's Quantitative and Qualitative Academic Achievements**

Dr. Krasteva participates in the competition with a total of **19 scientific publications**, including:

- one doctoral dissertation;
- one monograph;
- one chapter in a collective monograph;
- twelve scientific articles published in peer-reviewed journals, of which four are indexed in **Scopus/Web of Science** and eight are published in Bulgarian journals included in the National Reference List;
- four presentations at scientific conferences.

In **93.4%** of the submitted scientific publications, Dr. Krasteva is either the sole author or the first author, demonstrating her leading role in the conducted research.

Her scientific activity is further represented by four presentations delivered at national and international scientific forums, one of which has been published as a conference abstract. In three of these presentations (75%), she is the sole or first author, while in one international presentation at the **European Congress on Emergency Medicine (EUSEM), Vienna, 2025**, she participated as a co-author.

Dr. Krasteva's international scientific activity also includes the development of her own project entitled "**The Central Role of the Emergency Department of a University Multidisciplinary Hospital During a Pandemic,**" which received the **First Prize** from the **European Private Hospitals Association (EPHA)** in the category **Healthcare Sustainability and Crisis Response** at a forum held in Bucharest in May 2024.

According to the report issued by the Central Medical Library, the candidate has a total of **11 citations**, including ten in Bulgarian publications and one in an international open-access source.

Based on the official certificate issued by the Central Medical Library of the Medical University of Sofia (No. 428/30.04.2026), the candidate's cumulative **Impact Factor** amounts to **0.2**.

The number and quality of Dr. Krasteva's scientific publications are fully sufficient for participation in the competition.

Table 1 presents a comparison between the minimum national requirements, the institutional requirements of Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda University Hospital EAD, and the achievements of the candidate.

**Table 1. Compliance with the Minimum National Requirements for the Academic Position of Associate Professor**

| Indicator Group | Required Minimum Points | Candidate's Points |
|-----------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Group A         | 50                      | 50                 |
| Group B         | —                       | —                  |
| Group C         | 100                     | 100                |
| Group D         | 200                     | 317.5              |
| Group E         | 50                      | 55                 |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>400</b>              | <b>522.5</b>       |

The comparison with the statutory requirements for academic and teaching achievements for the position of **Associate Professor** demonstrates that Dr. Krasteva fully satisfies all mandatory criteria and exceeds them in several categories. She has accumulated **522.5 points**, substantially exceeding the required minimum of **400 points**.

#### **4. Major Scientific Contributions**

Dr. Krasteva's research and applied professional activities focus on current and highly relevant issues in **Emergency Medicine**, including the organization and management of emergency departments and the diagnostic and therapeutic management of patients with chronic progressive diseases. Her scientific contributions can be classified into the following principal areas:

##### **I. The Fundamental Role of the Emergency Department of a General Hospital During Public Health Emergencies and Pandemics**

This research area constitutes the principal focus of Dr. Krasteva's scientific work and includes her doctoral dissertation as well as publications No. 3, 5, 7, 8, 9 and 15.

##### **Original scientific and organizational contributions include:**

- A comprehensive analysis of the Emergency Department as the primary and, in practice, the only hospital structure responsible for the initial assessment of patients with suspected and/or laboratory-confirmed infectious diseases, including COVID-19, in a multidisciplinary hospital without a dedicated infectious diseases department or infectious disease specialists.

- Well-founded recommendations for the structural reorganization of the Emergency Department and the redistribution of available human resources during public health emergencies.
- The implementation and effective utilization of medical triage as an indispensable tool for the rapid identification of patients and for limiting the transmission of infectious diseases.
- The development of an effective organizational model ensuring appropriate coordination and interaction between the Emergency Department and the remaining hospital departments.

**Original scientific and practical contributions include:**

- A comprehensive definition of the key responsibilities of emergency physicians during a pandemic, encompassing diagnostic testing, clinical assessment, interpretation of laboratory and imaging findings within the context of the patient's clinical presentation, stratification according to disease severity, prediction of disease progression, and timely decision-making regarding appropriate therapeutic management.
- An in-depth analysis of the risk factors associated with severe COVID-19 in adult patients, including the identification of qualitative and quantitative variables available during the initial Emergency Department assessment that are predictive of disease progression and potentially modifiable in real time.
- Demonstration of the importance of prognostic indicators for developing adaptive management strategies applicable to future epidemic or pandemic outbreaks.
- Development of diagnostic and therapeutic algorithms with substantial practical value, which may be further adapted for the management of other infectious diseases.

## **II. Organization and Management of the Emergency Department in a Multidisciplinary Hospital**

This research area is presented in the candidate's monograph and publications No. 4, 6, 10 and 11.

The principal scientific, organizational and applied contributions include:

- Presentation of an up-to-date triage model capable of ensuring timely medical care for large numbers of patients presenting simultaneously through optimal utilization of available Emergency Department resources.
- Development and implementation of standardized patient triage forms and nursing assessment protocols routinely used in the Emergency Department of Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda University Hospital. The associated risks arising from incomplete or inadequate medical documentation have also been systematically analyzed.
- Development, implementation and evaluation of diagnostic and therapeutic algorithms for the most common emergency conditions, as well as standardized protocols governing the secondary transport of emergency patients.

- Identification and critical analysis of the daily organizational challenges facing emergency departments in Bulgaria, together with practical managerial solutions proposed by the author for their prevention and resolution.
- Publication of the results of an original study addressing professional burnout among emergency physicians, identifying the principal causes of burnout syndrome and emphasizing the importance of improving communication skills in order to reduce aggression from patients and their relatives.
- A comprehensive definition of the Emergency Department as the central coordinating unit responsible for patient flow management, including initial assessment, diagnosis, stabilization and referral of patients either to specialized hospital departments or to outpatient care, while highlighting its pivotal role within the multidisciplinary hospital team.

### **III. Emergency Care versus Palliative Care in Patients with Chronic Progressive Diseases**

Publications No. 12, 13 and 14 address emergency conditions occurring in patients with advanced malignant diseases requiring urgent therapeutic interventions.

These publications emphasize the importance of providing appropriate emergency medical care without underestimating the patients' condition while maintaining an optimal balance between necessary diagnostic and therapeutic interventions and the avoidance of unnecessary procedures that do not contribute to improving quality of life.

Particular emphasis is placed on the need to integrate **palliative care principles** already at the level of the Emergency Department, thereby ensuring timely, patient-centered and ethically appropriate medical management.

#### **5. Teaching and Educational Activities**

Within the Emergency Department, Dr. Krasteva provides both theoretical and practical training to residents from various clinical specialties as part of the Emergency Medicine training module. She is also actively involved in the education of students enrolled in the Physician Assistant and Healthcare Professional programmes, as well as paramedics.

By Order No. RK36-1490/20.09.2022 of the Rector of the Medical University of Sofia, Dr. Krasteva was appointed a member of the examination committee responsible for conducting colloquia in Emergency Medicine at Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda University Hospital.

Since 2024, she has served as the academic supervisor of one resident specializing in Emergency Medicine.

Dr. Krasteva's teaching workload is documented in Certificate No. 19-283/05.05.2026 issued by Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda University Hospital. During the period from 1 January 2021 to 1 May 2026, she completed a total teaching workload **equivalent to 677 academic hours** in postgraduate medical education.

#### **6. Clinical Activity**

Dr. Krasteva is a highly accomplished emergency physician with extensive clinical experience.

Her active clinical practice encompasses the entire spectrum of emergency medical care, including the rapid recognition, assessment, diagnosis and treatment of patients presenting with acute illnesses or traumatic injuries, as well as the management of patients with non-emergency conditions and chronic recurrent diseases.

As Head of the Emergency Department, Dr. Krasteva is responsible for the overall organization and management of the department. Her responsibilities include the supervision of clinical activities, management of medical personnel and work schedules, quality assurance of healthcare services, monitoring of medical documentation, resolution of complex clinical and administrative cases, participation in hospital management, coordination between the Emergency Department and other hospital units, and organization of continuing professional education and staff development.

### **7. Professional and Expert Activities**

From 2022 to 2024, Dr. Krasteva served as a member of the National Expert Council in Emergency Medicine at the Ministry of Health.

She actively participated in two working groups established by the Ministry of Health for the development of diagnostic and therapeutic protocols and clinical algorithms intended for the Centres for Emergency Medical Care under the national project **"Improving the Conditions for Emergency Medical Care."** This work resulted in the publication of a national handbook containing diagnostic and therapeutic algorithms and clearly defining the competencies of the various healthcare professionals working within the emergency medical system.

In 2022, she was appointed to another Ministry of Health working group responsible for developing methodologies for the initial and periodic assessment of professional competencies of physicians, physician assistants and healthcare professionals employed in Emergency Medical Services.

In 2024, she actively participated in the Ministry of Health working group responsible for revising the national **Medical Standard in Emergency Medicine**, with particular emphasis on establishing criteria for the provision of Helicopter Emergency Medical Services (HEMS) and defining the organizational framework governing the interaction between HEMS and the other components of the Bulgarian healthcare system.

In 2026, Dr. Krasteva was appointed as a member of the expert panels of the **National Evaluation and Accreditation Agency (NEAA)** for the accreditation procedures of the doctoral programmes in **Infectious Diseases** and **Epidemiology** at the Military Medical Academy, Sofia.

### **CONCLUSION**

Dr. Parvoleta Krasteva, MD, PhD, fully satisfies all requirements stipulated by the Academic Staff Development in the Republic of Bulgaria Act, its Implementing Regulations, and the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda University Hospital for appointment to the academic position of **Associate Professor**.

Dr. Krasteva is an accomplished physician and academic with outstanding theoretical knowledge, broad professional culture, high scientific competence, and extensive clinical experience.

In view of the above, I confidently and unequivocally recommend that the distinguished members of the Academic Jury vote **in favour of electing Dr. Parvoleta Krasteva Yakova-Krasteva, MD, PhD, to the academic position of Associate Professor** in the field of higher education **7. Health and Sports**, professional field **7.1 Medicine**, scientific specialty **Emergency Medicine**, for the needs of the Emergency Department of Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda University Hospital.

**3 July 2026**

**Prepared by:**

**Corresponding Member, Professor Nikolay S. Gabrovski, MD, PhD, DSc**