**REVIEW**

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**Subject:** Competition for the academic position of *Professor* in the field of higher education area 7. Healthcare and Sports, professional field 7.1. Medicine, in the scientific specialty *Cardiology*, for the needs of the Department of Cardiology at *Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda University Hospital*, as announced in State Gazette No. 54/04.07.2025.

By Order No. 15-03-215/03.09.2025 of the Executive Director and the Procurator of *Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda University Hospital*, I was appointed as an internal member of the Scientific Jury and assigned to prepare a review.

This review has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ZRASRB), its implementing regulations, and the internal regulations for academic development at *Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda University Hospital*. The procedure has been conducted in compliance with this regulatory framework.

Only one candidate has submitted documents for participation in the competition: **Assoc. Prof. Vassil Borislavov Traykov, MD, PhD.**
I declare that I have no conflict of interest and have not identified any evidence of plagiarism.

## 1. Professional Background of the Candidate

Dr. Vassil Traykov was born in 1975. He graduated in Medicine from the Medical University of Sofia in 2000 and obtained his specialization in Cardiology in 2010 from the Faculty of Medicine, University of Szeged, Hungary.

**Qualifications include:**

- Certificate in Interventional Cardiac Electrophysiology, European Heart Rhythm Association (EHRA), 2011;
- Professional qualification in *Cardiac Pacing – Basic and Expert Level*, MU Sofia, 2013;
- Professional qualification in *Invasive Electrophysiology – Basic and Expert Level*, MU Sofia, 2014;
- Diploma of Advanced Studies in Cardiac Arrhythmia Management, EHRA, 2023.

Since 2016, Dr. Traykov also holds a Master's degree in Health Management from the Faculty of Public Health, MU Sofia.

In 2021, he successfully defended his doctoral dissertation titled *"Catheter Ablation in Atrial Fibrillation: Procedural Characteristics and the Role of Trigger Structures in the Fibrillatory Process"*, earning the educational and scientific degree *Doctor*.

His professional path includes consecutive positions as cardiologist at the National Cardiology Hospital, Sofia (2002–2014), where between 2004–2008 he was Research Fellow (Grade III) in the Electrophysiology Laboratory. Between March 2011 and November 2012, he was Head of the Department of Invasive Electrophysiology at Tokuda Hospital's Cardiology Clinic, and

from April 2013 onward has led the same department within *Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda University Hospital*.

Since the 2019/2020 academic year, Assoc. Prof. Traykov has been a lecturer in Internal Medicine at the Faculty of Medicine, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski," teaching medical students in both Bulgarian and English.
Since 2021, he has held the academic position of *Associate Professor of Cardiology* at *Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda University Hospital*.
He has completed advanced training programs in electrophysiology and pacing in Belgium, the Netherlands, Italy, and the Czech Republic.

**2. Evaluation of the quantitative and qualitative indicators of the candidate**

Assoc. Prof. Vassil Traykov participates in the competition with a total of 87 scientific works, of which 86 were created after assuming the academic position "Associate Professor." These include: one dissertation for obtaining the educational and scientific degree "Doctor," 39 scientific publications, and 47 scientific reports (Table I), described in detail in the lists under Nos. 9 and 10 from the mandatory set of documents for the competition.

Of these, 37 scientific articles have been published in refereed and indexed journals included in the Scopus and Web of Science databases. Of these publications, 26 are international, published in journals with an impact factor (IF), part of the most authoritative editions in the field of cardiology and electrophysiology, such as *European Heart Journal*, *Europace*, *BMJ Open*, *Clinical Cardiology*, *Journal of Arrhythmia*, *Frontiers in Cardiovascular Medicine*, and others. In Bulgarian scientific journals, also indexed in Scopus and Web of Science, 11 articles have been printed.

Assoc. Prof. Traykov is a sole, first, or last author in nearly half of the publications (49%), and a second author in 2.5% of them. Regardless of his position in the authorship group, he participates actively in all stages of the scientific process – from conducting the studies and analyzing the data to preparing and editing the manuscripts.

His scientific activity also includes 47 participations in scientific forums – as a presenter, organizer, or co-author of scientific reports, of which 28 are international and 19 national. In 45 of them (96%) Assoc. Prof. Traykov is a sole or first author.

According to the citation report of the Central Medical Library – Medical University of Sofia (No. 542/05.08.2025), the total number of citations amounts to 9530, of which 4757 in Scopus and 4739 in Web of Science. In Bulgarian sources from the library fund of the Central Medical Library, 34 citations are recorded.

The cumulative impact factor of the publications is IF = 272.54, with IF = 187.98 referring to the period September 2021 – September 2025, i.e. after the acquisition of the academic position "Associate Professor."
According to the Scopus database, as of September 2025 the H-index of Assoc. Prof. Traykov is 21.

He is a regular reviewer for leading international journals such as *Europace*, *Heart Rhythm*, *JACC: Clinical Electrophysiology*, and others, as well as Associate Editor of the journal *Frontiers in Cardiovascular Medicine*.

The number and the scientific level of the presented works fully meet the requirements for participation in the competition

## 3. Main scientific contributions

The scientific output of Assoc. Prof. Traykov is directed toward the problems of electrophysiology and cardiac pacing, as well as the prevention of cardiovascular diseases. It is of original character and high value. The studies possess proven scientific-theoretical and scientific-applied contributions. The main directions are:

### I. Study of the mechanisms of atrial fibrillation and catheter ablation as a therapeutic approach.

The scientific publications devoted to atrial fibrillation (AF) represent a natural continuation of the author's research interests from previous stages of his scientific activity. They examine the mechanisms of occurrence and maintenance of AF, with an emphasis on the role of anatomical structures exhibiting trigger activity, as well as on the indications, methodology, procedural features, and possible complications in catheter ablation of AF (1, 6, 7, 12, 13, 17, 27, 33).

*Contributions of scientific-theoretical character*

The author establishes the role of trigger structures in the maintenance of the fibrillatory process. By applying methods for frequency analysis, the frequency distribution in the atria during induced episodes in patients with paroxysmal atrial fibrillation is studied, proving high temporal stability of these frequency patterns. The data confirm the leading role of the pulmonary veins in maintaining the process of AF (1).

*Contributions of scientific-applied character*

Analyses have been carried out covering the procedural characteristics, success, and frequency of complications in patients undergoing catheter ablation of AF (1). Factors determining long-term procedural success have been identified, among which a new, hitherto unreported predictive indicator has been identified—the sum on the HAS-BLED scale (1).

Evidence has also been presented of the benefits of applying general anesthesia, leading to a reduction in total procedural time, radiation exposure, fluoroscopy time, the number of radiofrequency applications, and cumulative radiofrequency time (1).

In other studies, the attitudes of a large group of cardiologists from different subspecialties regarding the use of digital devices in making therapeutic decisions for patients with AF have been examined (5, 8). The results show significant heterogeneity in approach across different clinical scenarios, with a trend toward increasingly wide implementation of portable digital technologies for intermittent ECG monitoring, as well as a growing need for additional training of specialists regarding their capabilities and limitations.

Sex differences in embolic risk in AF have also been investigated. Within a population-based cohort study with 78,852 patients, no significant difference between the sexes was found with respect to the frequency of embolic events (12).

An additional analysis compares the risk scales $CHA_2DS_2$-VASc and $CHA_2DS_2$-VA (excluding sex). It has been shown that both have limited predictive value for a composite endpoint (all-cause mortality, ischemic stroke, systemic embolism), but $CHA_2DS_2$-VA demonstrates higher diagnostic accuracy (AUC 0.651 versus 0.639; $P<0.05$).

These results represent one of the evidentiary grounds for the subsequent revision of the recommendations for management in AF (13), which led to the removal of sex as an independent predictor of embolic events.

The first results for Bulgaria regarding quality of life in patients with AF after catheter ablation have

also been reported (33). The analysis shows significant improvement in all domains of quality of life, measured by the EQ-5D-5L questionnaire.
Within a multicenter international registry with 873 patients, the values of activated clotting time (ACT) and the doses of administered unfractionated heparin during pulmonary vein isolation have been compared (27). The results show that patients treated with dabigatran or vitamin K antagonists have higher ACT values and lower heparin requirements compared with those taking apixaban or rivaroxaban.
A unique clinical case has also been reported of long-standing persistent AF in a patient with rheumatic mitral disease after surgical intervention, in whom isolation of the posterior wall of the left atrium and persistent fibrillatory activity within it was achieved, despite restoration of sinus rhythm in the remaining atrial areas (17).
The author is part of the international collective that developed the contemporary recommendations for management in AF (2024) (6, 7, 13). This document systematizes the main principles of treatment and follow-up of patients with AF, introducing the new AF-CARE algorithm, which places emphasis on the integrated and personalized approach to the disease—a contribution of substantial scientific-applied character.

**II. Catheter ablation in supraventricular tachycardias, atrial flutter, and vasovagal syncope.**

The scientific publications in this section encompass studies devoted to catheter ablation without or with minimal use of fluoroscopy in patients with supraventricular tachycardias and atrial flutter (9, 18, 31, 32). They also present innovative approaches to ablation in patients with corrected congenital heart malformations, which place emphasis on the safety and effectiveness of the procedures in this complex population.
Cardioneuroablation in vasovagal syncope is considered as a completely new therapeutic method (16). The procedure is aimed at ablation of the autonomic ganglia located in the fat pads around the heart, with the goal of modulation of parasympathetic activity.
By eliminating part of the parasympathetic neurons located in these structures, a change in the sympathovagal balance is achieved, which leads to a reduction in the episodes of cardioinhibitory vasovagal syncope and an improvement in symptomatology in functional bradycardias.

The published results show a significant reduction in the frequency of syncopal events and a tangible improvement in quality of life in patients after performed cardioneuroablation.
Contributions of original character
Results are presented from an international multicenter study (9, 18), including 680 patients with supraventricular tachycardias and atrial flutter, in whom catheter ablation with minimal use of fluoroscopy was performed. The data show that in 90% of cases the procedure was carried out without the use of x-ray exposure, with a high success rate and an extremely low complication rate (0.4%).

The first series for Bulgaria is also reported of patients in whom catheter ablation of supraventricular tachycardias and atrial flutter was performed with zero or minimal fluoroscopy time (32).

For the first time in our country, a clinical case is also described of macroreentry atrial tachycardia in a patient with corrected complex congenital heart malformation—cavopulmonary anastomosis with extracardiac conduit—in whom access to the cardiac chambers was achieved through transconduit puncture (31).

*Contributions of applied and confirmatory character*

The author presents a review publication on the topic of cardioneuroablation in the treatment of vasovagal syncope (16). It examines the pathophysiological mechanisms influenced by the procedure, as well as the different techniques and approaches used in its performance.
The mechanistic features of each of the methods and the evidence from published studies confirming the reduction in the frequency of syncopal episodes and the improvement in quality of life after applying this approach are discussed.

**III. Cardiac pacing and infections in implantable electronic devices for control of heart rhythm.**

The scientific works in this section present original data and practical contributions in the field of cardiac pacing, with particular emphasis on physiological pacing of the conduction system. Alongside this, in continuation of the author's previous work, current trends in the prevention and treatment of infections in implantable electronic devices (CIED) are examined (23, 24, 26, 34, 35, 40).

*Contributions of original character*

New data are presented regarding the effect of right ventricular apical pacing on right and left ventricular function, assessed by conventional and speckle-tracking echocardiography (24).
The results show that in patients with a high percentage of right ventricular pacing there is a substantial worsening of echocardiographic parameters, which confirms the unfavorable influence of this type of pacing on ventricular mechanics.
Contributions of applied and confirmatory character
The author publishes two clinical cases illustrating the application of physiological cardiac pacing (34, 35). The first describes His bundle pacing in a patient with impaired AV conduction in the context of persistent atrial flutter after hybrid coronary revascularization and closure of the left atrial appendage. The second case represents the first description in the country of pacing in the area of the left bundle branch, performed under the control of intracardiac echocardiography (ICE). The publication discusses the advantages and potential limitations of this imaging method for intraoperative monitoring of physiological pacing.
In connection with the concept of image-navigation-guided implantation, the author is the initiator of a single-center prospective study, the aim of which is to evaluate the electrical parameters of the pacing lead at different depth in the interventricular septum. The procedures are performed under continuous echocardiographic control, providing precise visualization of the position and progression of the tip of the lead in real time (scientific communication No. 46).
Two review publications examine infections related to implantable electronic devices, presenting epidemiological data, pathogenetic mechanisms, and the main strategies for prevention (23, 26). They analyze the indications and effectiveness of antibacterial envelopes used for the prevention of CIED infections, discussing the mechanism of action, clinical benefit, and economic efficiency of this approach.
In a chapter from a collective monograph the author examines the changes in the conduction system at advanced age and offers practical guidelines for implantation of electronic devices in elderly patients (40).
These data have high applied value, as they support the individualized approach in the choice and performance of implantation in the geriatric population.

**IV. Treatment of ventricular tachyarrhythmias and prevention of sudden cardiac death.**

This section presents scientific publications devoted to ventricular tachyarrhythmias—both in patients with structurally healthy hearts and in those with the presence of structural heart

disease (19, 20, 25). The works combine clinical experience and an analytical approach to diagnostics, mechanistic bases, and therapeutic strategies in ventricular arrhythmias.
Contributions of original character

A series of patients is presented with ventricular ectopy originating from the inferoseptal process of the left ventricle (19). For successful catheter ablation in these cases a combination of approaches was used—endocardial via the left ventricle, epicardial via the right atrium, as well as via branches of the coronary sinus—which demonstrates an innovative and personalized approach to complex arrhythmogenic substrates.
Results are also reported from a meta-analysis evaluating the effect of early catheter ablation in patients with structural heart disease and an implanted cardioverter-defibrillator (ICD) (25). This analysis summarizes the available data on the effectiveness and safety of early intervention, providing an evidentiary basis for optimizing the timing of ablation in this high-risk group.

*Contributions of scientific-applied value*
One of the publications examines the significance of fever-induced ECG changes in asymptomatic patients with Brugada syndrome (20). The author analyzes these changes as a potential risk factor for the occurrence of malignant ventricular arrhythmias, placing emphasis on early identification and risk stratification. The publication is presented in the form of an introductory article in which the results of an original study on the topic are interpreted and commented. The article formulates clear practical guidelines for the assessment and follow-up of patients with Brugada syndrome, which represents a contribution of high scientific-applied value.

**V. Development of recommendations, consensus documents, and documents expressing the position of leading organizations.**

This section includes publications that reflect the author's participation in the development of international consensus documents covering key aspects of clinical cardiology and electrophysiology, insufficiently detailed in the existing guidelines and recommendations (10, 11, 14, 22). These documents have high clinical-applied value, as they supplement existing standards and offer algorithms for management in real clinical scenarios.
*Contributions of clinical-applied character*
The author is a co-author of a consensus document of the European Heart Rhythm Association (EHRA) and the European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging (EACVI), devoted to periprocedural imaging in electrophysiology (14). The document has high scientific-applied significance, as it offers structured diagnostic and therapeutic algorithms for a number of situations that are not examined in detail in the existing clinical guidelines. It supports the integration of imaging in electrophysiological practice, thereby improving the accuracy and safety of procedures. Another consensus document of the European Heart Rhythm Association (EHRA) examines contemporary approaches to the selection of patients for mass screening for atrial fibrillation (22). It analyzes the different methods for monitoring, the optimal duration and frequency of screening, as well as the applicability of digital devices in the context of diverse clinical situations. The document offers clear, practical recommendations aimed at effective detection and management of patients with atrial fibrillation, which determines its high practical value.

In two consecutive publications, an international consensus is presented regarding the diagnosis and treatment of Takotsubo syndrome (10, 11). These documents examine the pathophysiological mechanisms, diagnostic criteria, and therapeutic strategies in this specific condition. Specific recommendations are given for risk stratification—both in the general population and in certain subgroups of patients, including those with atypical clinical

manifestations. These publications contribute to the harmonization of clinical practice and the improvement of the diagnostic-therapeutic process in patients with Takotsubo syndrome.

**VI. National and international registries in the field of arrhythmias.**

This section includes publications based on data from national and international registries that examine the organization and quality of care for patients with rhythm and conduction disorders (3, 30, 31, 36–38). These studies have high epidemiological and organizational value, as they contribute to the assessment of systems for the provision of electrophysiology services and to the identification of gaps in access and in the application of contemporary diagnostic-therapeutic strategies.

*Contributions of original character*

For the first time in such great detail, current data are presented regarding the organization of care for patients with cardiac arrhythmias in the member countries of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) (3). These results are part of the work of the ESC Atlas initiative and include information on 98 different indicators, providing an exhaustive and comparative picture of patients' access to diagnostic and therapeutic options recommended in the current guidelines. The report outlines key differences among the individual health systems and serves as a basis for strategic planning and harmonization of care in the field of electrophysiology in Europe.

Data are also presented from two national electronic registries—Bg-PACE and Bg-EPHY—covering different time periods (30, 31, 36–38). These registries provide real-world clinical information regarding trends in the development of cardiac pacing and invasive electrophysiology in Bulgaria, including with respect to activity volumes, types of procedures, and technological innovations. Publications based on these data outline the evolution of national practice, emphasizing the gradual implementation of new methods and standards in accordance with European guidelines and recommendations.

**VII. Prevention of cardiovascular diseases and promotion of cardiovascular health.**

Within his term as President of the Society of Cardiologists in Bulgaria (2022–2024), the author develops active activity aimed at the promotion of cardiovascular health and at initiating a National Plan for Cardiovascular Health. The present section encompasses publications reflecting these efforts, with a focus on prevention and strategic planning in the field of cardiovascular diseases (28, 15).

*Contributions of original character*

Results are presented from a national survey among 585 cardiologists, including three thematic directions: professional profile of the participants; clinical circumstances in which testing of lipoprotein (a) [Lp(a)] is recommended; and main reasons for the limited use of the test in routine practice (28). The results provide an initial assessment of the attitudes and practices of Bulgarian cardiologists, related to the testing of Lp(a), and outline the need for wider awareness and training regarding the significance of this biomarker for stratification of cardiovascular risk.

*Contributions of applied character*

The author presents a review publication examining the role of coordinated actions among

the Member States of the European Union in the process of developing a European Plan for Cardiovascular Health and initiating national strategies in this field (15). The publication emphasizes the importance of political engagement and multisector cooperation for reducing the burden of cardiovascular diseases and formulates clear recommendations for building sustainable national policies for prevention and control of CVD.

**VIII. Miscellaneous**

This section presents publications that reflect the author's active participation in key international and national initiatives aimed at the development of electrophysiology, the digitalization of health processes, and the establishment of national standards in the field of cardiology (2, 4, 21, 39).

*Contributions of original and applied character*

A review paper is presented summarizing the main topics discussed at the meeting of the leadership of the European Heart Rhythm Association (EHRA) with the presidents of national societies and working groups on electrophysiology, held in 2024 and dedicated to the digital transformation of electrophysiology (2).
The publication analyses the possibilities and challenges of telemonitoring of implantable electronic devices, the role of mobile technologies in electrophysiology, and the development of artificial intelligence in cardiology. Particular attention is paid to the European Health Data Space (EHDS) initiative—a project of the European Union, which aims at unifying and facilitating the exchange of medical data among the Member States and represents a key stage in the digital integration of health systems in Europe.

In the context of the 50th anniversary of the Society of Cardiologists in Bulgaria, a review of the history and development of the Society is presented, including its scientific, educational, and organizational achievements, as well as information about the XVIII National Congress of Cardiology (2024) (4). The publication emphasizes the contribution of the Society to the development of modern Bulgarian cardiology and its role as a leading professional platform for scientific exchange and education.

A separate publication presents national data regarding the use of fluoroscopy in electrophysiological procedures (21). On the basis of the collected information, for the first time in our country reference levels of radiation exposure have been developed, which serve as a guide for comparison, control, and standardization of practice in the future.
The author is also a co-author of a chapter in a cardiology textbook devoted to the basic principles of electrophysiological study and catheter ablation (39). This work has educational and practical value, presenting a structured and contemporary overview of the methodology, indications, and techniques of catheter procedures.

**4. Teaching and instructional activity**

According to Certificate No. 19-490/17.07.2025, issued by the Educational Department of "Acibadem City Clinic UMBAL Tokuda" EAD, for the period 01.01.2020 – 31.12.2024, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vassil Traykov has carried out a total of 2817 equivalent teaching hours. The workload includes: training of cardiology residents – 714 equivalent hours; training in internal medicine specialties (VSD) – 441 equivalent hours; conducting modules with external residents – 1312 equivalent hours; continuing education – 90 equivalent hours.

According to an official note from the Faculty of Medicine of Sofia University "St. Kliment

Ohridski," for the academic years 2021/2022 – 2024/2025 inclusive, Assoc. Prof. Traykov has completed 975 teaching hours as a part-time lecturer. The teaching workload of Assoc. Prof. Traykov for the reviewed period (2020–2024) is high and excellently represented, reflecting his active and systematic teaching activity. He conducts practical training in cardiology for medical students in Bulgarian and English at the Faculty of Medicine of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski": with third-year students in the subject "Propaedeutics of Internal Diseases" (cardiology); with fourth-year students and medical interns in the subject "Internal Diseases" (cardiology). Assoc. Prof. Traykov is the supervisor of the specialization of two cardiology residents. In addition, he has trained 72 external residents in the modules "Electrophysiological Study and Treatment" and "Cardiac Pacing." He trains 7 physicians in internal medicine and cardiology within the courses "Electrophysiological Study" (basic and expert level) and "Cardiac Pacing" (basic level). Assoc. Prof. Traykov is the scientific supervisor of one PhD student, as well as an active participant in national and international scientific forums, where he presents review and original reports in the field of cardiology and electrophysiology.

## 5. Therapeutic and diagnostic activity

The therapeutic and diagnostic activity of Assoc. Prof. V. Traykov includes primarily the diagnosis and treatment of rhythm and conduction disorders. He devotes particular interest to studying the mechanisms of atrial fibrillation, the application of catheter ablation as a therapeutic approach in supraventricular tachycardias, atrial flutter, and vasovagal syncope, and to catheter ablation in general. Another field of focus is cardiac pacing, the significant clinical problem of infections related to implantable electronic devices for cardiac rhythm control, as well as the treatment of ventricular tachyarrhythmias and prevention of sudden cardiac death. He also shows a particular interest in cardiovascular disease prevention and the promotion of cardiovascular health. He performs the full range of complex electrophysiological procedures and implantation of various types of cardiac pacemakers. He actively participates in electrophysiology and cardiac pacing consultations in his capacity as Head of the Department of Electrophysiology and Cardiac Pacing.

## 6. Expert activity

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vassil Traykov is a member of numerous national and international scientific societies and professional organizations, in some of which he holds leading and expert positions. This is convincing evidence of his high professional authority and the wide recognition he enjoys both in Bulgaria and within the international cardiology community.

He is a member of the Society of Cardiologists in Bulgaria (SCB), where he holds the position of President for the term 2022–2024. In this capacity, he actively works to promote cardiovascular health, as well as to develop and implement a National Plan for Cardiovascular Health.

Assoc. Prof. Traykov is a member of the European Society of Cardiology (ESC) and a long-standing active member of the European Heart Rhythm Association (EHRA).

Within EHRA, he has successively held several key positions:

- Member of the Committee for Scientific Documents (2016–2022);
- Co-Chair of the Selection Committee (01.10.2022 – 12.10.2024);
- Member of the Committee on Declaration of Interests to the ESC (since 09.2024).

At the national level, he has served as President of the Professional Association of Cardiac Pacing and Electrophysiology in Bulgaria for two consecutive terms (2016–2019 and 2019–2022).

Thanks to his active organisational work, he has played a key role in highlighting the importance of rhythm and conduction disorders in patients, which are directly related to their quality of life and prognosis. As a result, adequate resources have been ensured for the modern and effective treatment of this broad patient population.

### 7. Comparative assessment (number of points) by indicators

The table compares the quantitative criteria — the minimum nationally required points and those of "ASC UMHAT Tokuda" — and those presented by the candidate for occupying the academic position of "Professor" in the field of higher education 7. Healthcare and Sports, professional field 7.1 Medicine, in the scientific specialty "Cardiology," for the needs of the Clinic of Cardiology at "Acibadem City Clinic UMBAL Tokuda" EAD.

| **Group of indicators** | **Content** | **Minimum required points (NACID) for "Professor"** | Points presented by Assoc. Prof. V. Traykov, PhD |
|---|---|---|---|
| **A** | Indicator 1 | 50 | 50 |
| **B** | Indicator 2 | - | - |
| **C** | Indicator 3 or 4 | 100 | 129,31 |
| **D** | Sum of indicators 5 to 9 | 200 | 281,82 |
| **E** | Sum of indicators 10 to 12 | 100 | 142 610 |
| **F** | Sum of indicators 13 till the end | 100 | 220 |
| **Total number of points** | | **550** | **143 291.13** |

The comparative evaluation by indicators, according to the regulatory requirements for scientific and teaching activity for occupying the academic position of "Professor" by Assoc. Prof. V. Traykov, shows that he meets them and significantly exceeds them in all points. With 550 points required, 143,291.13 points have been presented.

**Conclusion**

The materials submitted by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Vassil Traykov, PhD, fully comply with the requirements of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ZRASRB), the Regulations for its implementation, and the Rules of "Acibadem City Clinic UMBAL Tokuda" EAD for occupying the academic position of "Professor."

Assoc. Prof. V. Traykov is an experienced physician with extensive clinical, scientific, teaching, and administrative experience. His work to date is of high academic and scientific level and has made significant contributions to the development of cardiology and electrophysiology.

In conclusion, based on the presented scientometric indicators, as well as on the high achievements in the scientific, teaching, and public activities of the candidate, I firmly recommend that the esteemed members of the Scientific Jury vote in favor of the appointment of Assoc. Prof. Vassil Borislavov Traykov, MD, PhD to the academic position "Professor" in the scientific specialty "Cardiology" for the needs of the Department of Cardiology of "Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda University Hospital" EAD.

23.10.2025
Sofia
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