

TO
The Chairman of the Scientific Jury
Assigned by Order No. 15-03-95#2/16.04.2026
of the Executive Director and Procurator
of "ACC UMBAL TOKUDA" EAD

To your protocol No. 1/11.02.2025.

I am attaching a REVIEW on a competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education 7. Health and Sports, professional field 7.1. Medicine, scientific specialty "**NEONATOLOGY**", announced for the needs of **the Neonatology Department** of "Acibadem City Clinic UMBAL Tokuda". The competition was announced in the **State Gazette No. 18/17.02.2026.**

Reviewer: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kalin Yordanov Lisichki, MD, PhD

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The review was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Academic Staff Development Act, in implementation of Art. 4, para. 2 and Art. 25 of the ZRASRB and Art. 2, Art. 57, para. 2 of the Regulations for the Implementation of this Act, Art. 61 of the Regulations for the Development of Academic Staff at "Acibadem City Clinic UMBAL Tokuda" and Order of the Executive Director and Procurator of "Acibadem City Clinic UMBAL Tokuda" No. 15-03-95#2/16.04.2026 upon proposal of the Scientific Council (Minutes No. 64/18.03.2026).

One candidate has been admitted to the competition for the academic position of Associate Professor in the scientific specialty of Neonatology - Dr. Radka Tsokova Maslarska, MD, PhD.

All documents for the competition are presented in accordance with the requirements of the Regulations for the Application of the ZRASRB, well arranged, in excellent aesthetic form and supported by the necessary evidentiary material.

PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATE

Dr. Radka Tsokova Maslarska

Biographical data and professional development

Dr. Radka Tsokova Maslarska was born on 10.10.1962 in the town of Ugarchin

In 1986 she graduated from the Medical University of Pleven.

From 1987 to 1992 she worked in the Department of Neonatology, Hospital - Lovech.

From 1992 to 1995 she was the Head of the Department of Premature Infants, Hospital "Georgi Stranski" - Pleven.

From 1995 to 2005 she worked in the Clinic of Neonatology, University Hospital of Sofia, Sofia.

From 2005 to 2006 she was the Head of the Department of Neonatology, Second City Hospital, Sofia.

From 2006 to the present, he is the Head of the Neonatology Department, Acibadem City Clinic UMBAL Tokuda, Sofia.

Doctor of Medicine since 2023 with a dissertation on the topic "Hemangiomas in infancy and early childhood - innovative treatment and follow-up".

In 1992, he acquired a specialty in "Children's Diseases", and since 2003 - "Neonatology".

Since 2017, he has a Master's degree in Public Health and Health Management.

He holds a GCP certificate.

Membership in organizations and expert activity

Member of the Bulgarian Medical Union, Bulgarian Pediatric Association, the Neonatology Management Board, the Maternal-Fetal Medicine Association, the Association of Premature Children and Children with Infantile Hemangioma, an expert at the Ministry of Health in neonatology and air transport, an expert in vaccine prophylaxis, an expert in the consensus for the treatment of children with infantile hemangioma, a member of the editorial board of the MEDICAL Magasin magazine.

The presented data speak of the upward development of Dr. Radka Maslarska and her aspiration to expand knowledge in the field of pediatrics and neonatology.

Assessment of teaching and learning activities

Dr. Radka Maslarska has five years of experience as a teacher. Since 1.02.2024, she has held the academic position of "Chief Assistant".

Dr. Maslarska has submitted a certificate of academic workload from "Acibadem City Clinic UMBAL Tokuda", Sofia, stating that for the period 1.01.2021 - 31.12.2025 she has completed an academic workload with residents (in equivalent hours) of 1858 hours. She is the supervisor of 6 residents.

Evaluation of scientific research activity

Dr. Maslarska submits the following scientific works for participation in the competition:

Publications:

Total number of scientific works - 83, in the form of one dissertation, 33 scientific publications and 49 scientific communications.

Scientific publications in publications that are referenced and indexed in world-renowned databases of scientific information - Scopus, Web of science - 16 (12 in Cyrillic and 4 in Latin).

Publications with impact factor – 7.

Publications published in non-refereed journals with scientific review or published in edited collective volumes – 17 (all in Cyrillic).

Dissertation – 1

First or sole author in 36.4% of all publications. There is a total impact factor of the publications 10.62.

Citations, H-index (Scopus):

From the official reference of the Bulgarian Journal of Medical Sciences, the total number of citations of the candidate's publications in refereed and indexed journals and in non-refereed ones is 8.

H-index - 1

Citations in Bulgarian sources – 0

Citations in foreign sources (Scopus, Elsevier) – 8

All 8 cited articles were used in this competition.

Reference for the competition indicators.

Quantitative and scientometric criteria for occupying the academic position of "Associate Professor" at "ASK UMBAL Tokuda"

Dr. Maslarska has a total score of 599.05 with a minimum score requirement of 400.

Habilitation Thesis

As her habilitation thesis, Dr. Maslarska has presented 16 articles published in journals that are referenced in international databases. Additionally, she participated in the competition with 17 articles published in non-referenced journals. The majority of them are related to her scientific interests in the field of neonatology.

Contributions that emerged after reviewing the scientific production of Dr. Radka Maslarska

Dr. Maslarska's dissertation is on the topic "Hemangiomas in infancy and early childhood - innovative treatment and follow-up". The contributions that emerge from it are:

I. Contributions of methodological significance:

1. The typology of the disease infantile hemangioma

has been analyzed

according to a number of parameters and factors.

2. The causes of infantile hemangioma,

related to maternal and fetal factors,

have been established.

3. The main lines of influence of clinical behavior

and therapeutic approach on the progression of the disease have been outlined.

4. Data from long-term

treatment and monitoring of children with infantile hemangioma have been derived for the Bulgarian hospital sector.

5. A multidisciplinary approach and

algorithm for the timely detection and in-depth

diagnosis of infantile hemangioma among a wide population

of patients have been comprehensively applied.

II. Contributions of practical and applied significance:

1. A clinical multidisciplinary algorithm for

recognition, diagnosis, treatment and monitoring of children with

infantile hemangioma in Bulgaria has been developed.

2. The factors related to the mother and those of the fetus that increase the risk of developing the disease have been identified.

3. Specific guidelines for active treatment of children with infantile hemangioma and first choice of drug therapy have been outlined.

4. A thorough assessment of the efficacy of Propranolol has been made.

5. Specific guidelines for palliative treatment of children with infantile hemangioma have been outlined.

6. Specific proposals for improving the quality and access to treatment of patients with infantile hemangioma have been outlined, to be analyzed by the health authorities for taking legislative actions.

The overall scientific research and scientific-applied activity of Dr. Maslarska and the relevant contributions are directed in the following directions:

1. Infantile hemangiomas - diagnosis, treatment, follow-up (dissertation topic and 3 publications): methodological contributions to diagnosis, multidisciplinary approach and behavior; An algorithm for the behavior and active treatment of children with infantile haemangiomas has been developed.

2. Pulmonary ventilation and surfactant therapy (8 publications): They review current trends and progress in the field of respiratory therapy in newborns, in particular premature children. In separate publications, rare clinical cases of congenital Coxsackie virus infection complicated by pleural effusion, meconium aspiration, new trends in behavior in persistent ductus arteriosus in premature infants are presented.

3. Enteral and parenteral nutrition in at-risk newborns (2 publications): Own data and current trends in the nutrition of healthy and at-risk newborns are presented.

4. Ultrasound examinations in newborns (3 publications): Own data, analyses and contributions to the ultrasound examination and monitoring of the CNS, lungs and abdomen are presented.

5. Assisted reproductive technologies – ART. 4 publications address the problems of newborns conceived through ART: behavior during pregnancy; maternal morbidity; risk of congenital anomalies, problems associated with multiple pregnancy and premature birth.

6. Neonatal infections are the topic of 6 publications. They address personal experience and behavior in both maternal-fetal and nosocomial infections, and recommendations are made for risk reduction.

7. Retinopathy of prematurity: One publication summarizes personal experience and provides guidelines for prevention, screening and behavior.

8. Rare clinical cases are addressed in 5 publications. Their discussion is useful for timely diagnosis and behavior in subsequent cases.

9. Urgent surgical conditions in newborns. 4 publications address behavior in congenital diaphragmatic hernia. The emphasis is on a multidisciplinary approach, including prenatal diagnosis, fetal surgery, neonatal behavior and postnatal surgical intervention.

A number of the candidate's works have been presented at our and foreign conferences as reports or posters. They include both results, analyses and conclusions from own studies, as well as presentation of cases.

Clinical and diagnostic activity

Doctor Maslarska is a specialist with almost 40 years of experience in the field of neonatology. She also has a very good general pediatric training. She leads and actively participates in the treatment-diagnostic and consultative activities of the neonatology department of "Acibadem City Clinic UMBAL TOKUDA" EAD. A prerequisite for this is good theoretical preparation and mastery of all basic diagnostic and treatment methods in neonatology.

Conclusion

Dr. Radka Maslarska meets all mandatory conditions, exceeding the minimum requirements for scientific and teaching activities for holding the academic position of "Associate Professor" in Professional Field 7 - "Health and Sports" in Professional Field 7.1 - "Medicine" and scientific specialty "Neonatology" for the needs of the Department of Neonatal Medicine of "Acibadem City Clinic UMBAL TOKUDA" EAD, announced in the State Gazette No. 18/17.02.2026.

Based on the above, I recommend that the members of the scientific jury, appointed by Order No. 15-03-95#2/16.04.2026, award Dr. Radka Maslarska, MD, the academic position of "Associate Professor", in the field of higher education 7. Health and Sports, in the professional field 7.1 Medicine and scientific specialty Neonatology for the needs of the Pediatrics Clinic of "Acibadem City Clinic UMBAL TOKUDA" EAD.

05.05.2026

Reviewer:

(Associate Professor Kalin Lisichki, MD, PhD)

