

To:

The Scientific Jury appointed by

Order No. 15-03-221#2 / 03.09.2025

of the Executive Director and the

Procurator of Acibadem City Clinic

University Hospital Tokuda, Sofia

REVIEW

by

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Subject: Competition for the academic position of Associate Professor in the field of Higher Education 7. "Health Care and Sports", Professional Field 7.1. "Medicine", Scientific Specialty "Orthopaedics and Traumatology", for the needs of the Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology, Acibadem City Clinic University Multiprofile Hospital Tokuda, Sofia, announced in the State Gazette, Issue 54 / 04.07.2023.

By Order No. 15-03-221#2 / 03.09.2025 of the Executive Director and the Procurator of Acibadem City Clinic University Multiprofile Hospital Tokuda, Sofia, and based on a decision of the Scientific Council of the same institution (Minutes No. 58 / 05.06.2025), I was appointed as a member of the Scientific Jury for the announced competition. At the first remote meeting of the Jury, it was decided that I should prepare the present review.

I. Biographical Data and Career Profile of the Candidate

Dr. Evgeni Vlaev was born on April 2, 1971. He completed his secondary education at the High School of Foreign Languages – English Department, Stara Zagora (Diploma Series A 89, Reg. No. 409 / 05.07.1989). In 1995 he graduated in Medicine from the Faculty of Medicine of Trakia University, Stara Zagora, and in 2004, after successfully passing the examination, he obtained a specialty in

Orthopaedics and Traumatology. In 2022, after defending a dissertation on the topic "Surgical Treatment of Scoliosis in Childhood – Methods for Evaluation and Analysis of the Achieved Results", he was awarded the educational and scientific degree Doctor.

Throughout his professional development, he has completed numerous training courses, including:

- Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery and Surgery of the Upper Limb, Moscow Medical Academy (CITO), Russia (Certificate No. 63 / 26.09.2005);
- Arthroscopy – qualification course for professional certification (Certificate No. 2388);
- Joint Endoprosthesis – qualification course for professional certification (Certificate No. 3048);
- "Ultrasound Diagnostics of the Hip Joint according to Graf" – qualification course (Certificate No. 4829);

as well as several additional specializations in Austria, Germany, the Czech Republic, and other countries.

Dr. Vlaev's professional career began as a physician in the Pediatric Department of the Municipal Hospital in Chirpan. He continued his work at the Department of General Medicine and the Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology, Faculty of Medicine, Trakia University, where between 1998 and 2006 he held the positions of Assistant, Senior Assistant, and Chief Assistant. Since 2006, he has been a specialist at the Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology at Acibadem City Clinic University Multiprofile Hospital Tokuda, Sofia. Since 2019, he has also been an Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Medicine of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski". Dr. Vlaev is a recognized specialist in orthopaedics and traumatology, who has proven his professional qualities both before his patients and among colleagues from various medical specialties.

II. Evaluation of Teaching and Educational Activity

Dr. Evgeni Vlaev has extensive experience as an assistant in the specialty of Orthopaedics and Traumatology. He actively participates in the training of medical students, residents, and course participants in the clinical settings where he works. He is also involved in organizing and conducting scientific and educational events both in Bulgaria and internationally.

According to the official workload reports for the period 2020–2025, his total teaching load amounts to 606.5 equivalent hours at Acibadem City Clinic University

Multiprofile Hospital Tokuda and 405 hours at the Faculty of Medicine, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" — a total of 1,011.5 hours.

III. Evaluation of the Candidate's Scientific Work

Dr. Vlaev participates in the competition with a total of 32 scientific works: one dissertation for the degree of Doctor, one monograph, and 30 scientific papers and communications. Of these: 12 are articles in refereed and indexed journals; 8 are published in international journals indexed in Scopus and Web of Science (4 with an Impact Factor); 4 are in Bulgarian refereed and indexed journals; and 18 are in non-refereed journals (10 Bulgarian and 8 foreign).

He has presented papers and reports at Bulgarian and international conferences, being the first or sole author in seven of them. He has also presented three poster sessions at international scientific events. According to an official report from the National Library "St. St. Cyril and Methodius", there are 53 citations of his works — 3 in Bulgarian sources and 50 in foreign ones (Scopus – 43; Web of Science – 25, with partial overlap). The same number is confirmed by the National Centre for Information and Documentation (NACID). Four of his articles are in journals with Impact Factor. His h-index is 3 in Web of Science and 4 in Scopus.

His scientific research focuses on contemporary and relevant issues, such as:

- development of systems for evaluation and analysis of surgical treatment in scoliosis;
- diagnostic algorithms for children with spinal deformities;
- introduction and application of various surgical techniques for severe spinal deformities in childhood;
- application and analysis of intraoperative neurophysiological monitoring;
- investigation of mechanisms underlying adolescent idiopathic scoliosis (AIS);
- effects of spinal deformities on the function of other organs and systems;
- assessment of surgical factors in fractures of the lateral tibial plateau and the introduction of clinical algorithms;
- development of educational programs for general medical practice in Bulgaria.

IV. Conclusion

Based on his qualifications, research achievements, teaching activity, and clinical work, I conclude that Dr. Evgeni Nedev Vlaev, MD, PhD meets the minimum

requirements for the academic position of Associate Professor in Orthopaedics and Traumatology.

Therefore, I vote positively and recommend that the esteemed members of the Scientific Jury support his appointment to the position of Associate Professor in Orthopaedics and Traumatology for the needs of the Department of Orthopaedics and Traumatology at Acibadem City Clinic University Multiprofile Hospital Tokuda, Sofia.

Date: October 1, 2025

Sofia

Prepared by:

(Prof. Vasil Yablanski, MD, PhD)

