

TO

The Chairman of the Scientific Jury

Assigned by Order No. 15-03-95#2/16.04.2026

of the Executive Director and the Procurator

of "ASK UMBAL TOKUDA" EAD

To your protocol No. 1/11.02.2025

I hereby submit 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: Prof. Dr. Stefan Nedev Stefanov, MD, PhD

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The review was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Act on the Development of Academic Staff, in implementation of Art. 4, para. 2 and Art. 25 of the Act on the Development of Academic Staff 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 the 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.

All documents for the competition are presented according to the requirements of the Regulations for the implementation of the ZRASRB, well arranged, in good aesthetic form and supported by the required evidentiary material.

PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATE

Dr. Radka Tsokova Maslarska, MD, PhD

Biographical data and professional development

Dr. Radka Tsokova Maslarska was born on 10.10.1962 in the town of Ugarchin. She graduated in 1986 from Medicine at the Medical University, Pleven.

Professional path: From 1987 to 1992 she worked in the Department of Neonatology, MHAT, Lovech. 1992 - 1995 she was the head of the Department for Premature Children, UMHA "Georgi Stranski", Pleven. 1995 - 2005 worked at the Neonatology Clinic, USBALDB, Sofia, and from 2005 to 2006 was the Head of the Neonatology Department, Second City Hospital, Sofia.

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

In 2023, he defended his dissertation on the topic "Hemangiomas in infancy and early childhood - innovative treatment and follow-up" and obtained the scientific degree "Doctor of Medicine".

In 1992, he obtained the specialty "Children's Diseases", and in 2003 - the specialty "Neonatology".

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

He holds a certificate for good clinical practice GCP and participation in 5 clinical studies.

He speaks English and Russian.

Membership in organizations and expert activity

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

From the above information, an opinion is formed that Dr. Maslarska is developing upward – career, research and clinical-diagnostic, her aspiration to expand knowledge in the field of pediatrics and neonatology is visible.

Assessment of teaching and teaching activity

Dr. Radka Maslarska has five years of experience as a teacher.

She holds the academic position of "Chief Assistant" from 1.02.2024.

A Report on the academic workload of "Acibadem City Clinic UMBAL Tokuda", Sofia for the period 1.01.2021 - 31.12.2025 has been submitted.

Dr. Maslarska has implemented a teaching workload with residents (in equivalent hours) in the amount of 1858 hours. She is also the supervisor of 6 residents.

Evaluation of scientific and research activities

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

Publications:

Total number of scientific works - 83, of which - 1 dissertation, 33 scientific publications and 49 scientific communications.

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

Publications with impact factor – 7 pcs.

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

Dissertation – 1 pc.

Dr. Maslarska is the first or sole author in 36.4% of the publications.

There is a total impact factor of the publications - 10.62.

Citations, H-index (Scopus):

From the submitted reference of the CMB, the total number of citations of Dr. Maslarska'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 pcs.

The reference of the CMB to MU-Sofia additionally indicates citations from the scientometric databases Scopus and Web of Science, 967 and 949 respectively, for publications of research groups of which Dr. Radka Maslarska is a member.

Participation in scientific projects:

Dr. Radka Maslarska has participated in 5 scientific studies:

2004 – monoclonal antibodies for RSV

2009 – Clinical study for a new food by Nestle

2016 – Phase 3, human monoclonal antibody, for protection against RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus) infection

2016 – Phase 2b, monoclonal antibody with extended half-life against respiratory syncytial virus in healthy premature newborns

2017 – Phase III, quadrivalent influenza vaccine

Reference for the competition indicators.

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

Dr. Radka Maslarska has a total number of points of 599.05, which exceed the required minimum of 400 points, namely:

Accordingly by indicators:

- Indicator A - 50 points.
- Indicator B - 102.17 points
- Indicator D - 351.88 points
- Indicator D - 95 points

Dr. Radka Maslarska meets the requirements for scientific and teaching activities.

Habilitation work

As a habilitation work, Dr. Radka Maslarska has presented 16 articles published in journals that are referenced in international databases. Additionally, she also participated in the competition with 17 articles published in non-refereed journals, mainly in the field of neonatology.

Scientific contributions:

The works submitted for review have achieved scientific and applied results and have investigated problems with contributions in the following areas and directions:

According to the topic, the works can be divided into the following groups:

Dissertation work - on the topic "Hemangiomas in infancy and early childhood - innovative treatment and follow-up".

The following contributions from the dissertation work are presented:

1. Contributions with methodological significance:

✓ The typology of the disease infantile hemangioma has been analyzed according to a number of parameters and factors.

✓ The causes of infantile hemangioma, related to maternal and fetal factors, have been established.

✓ The main lines of influence of clinical behavior and therapeutic approach on the progression of the disease have been outlined.

✓ Data from long-term treatment and follow-up of children with infantile hemangioma have been derived for the Bulgarian hospital sector.

✓ Multidisciplinary approaches and an algorithm for the timely identification and in-depth diagnosis of infantile hemangioma have been comprehensively applied among a wide patient population.

2. Contributions of practical significance:

✓ A clinical multidisciplinary algorithm has been developed for the recognition, diagnosis, treatment and follow-up of children with infantile hemangioma in Bulgaria.

✓ Factors related to the mother and those of the fetus that increase the risk of developing the disease have been identified.

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

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

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

✓ 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 legislative action.

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

The author's scientific interests are directly related to and reflect his career in the field of medicine, pediatrics and neonatology. They are mainly concentrated in the field of intensive care, neonatology, pediatrics, etc., namely:

1. Infantile hemangiomas - diagnosis, treatment, follow-up (dissertation topic and 3 publications): methodological contributions to diagnosis, multidisciplinary approach and behavior; an algorithm for behavior and active treatment of children with infantile hemangiomas has been developed.
2. Pulmonary ventilation and surfactant therapy (8 publications): Presents modern trends 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 the case of persistent ductus arteriosus in premature infants are presented.
3. Enteral and parenteral nutrition in at-risk newborns (2 publications): Own data and modern trends in 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. In 4 publications, the problems of newborns conceived through ART are considered: behavior during pregnancy; maternal morbidity; risk of congenital anomalies, problems associated with multiple pregnancy and premature birth.

6. Neonatal infections - 6 publications. Own experience and behavior in maternal-fetal and nosocomial infections, frequency, causative agents are presented, recommendations for treatment and risk reduction are made.
7. Retinopathy of prematurity: In 1 publication, experience is shared about modern trends in the treatment of retinopathy of prematurity, guidelines for prevention, screening and behavior are given.
8. Rare clinical cases – Clinical cases are presented in 5 publications. The emphasis is on rapid, timely diagnosis and behavior in subsequent cases.
9. Vaccine prophylaxis in healthy and at-risk newborns – 2 publications.
10. Emergency surgical conditions in newborns. In 4 publications, the behavior in congenital diaphragmatic hernia is considered. The emphasis is on the multidisciplinary approach, including prenatal diagnosis, fetal surgery, neonatal behavior and postnatal surgical intervention.

Other main topics in the publications are also presented, namely:

11. Pain in the neonatal period:
12. Effect of Covid-19 in pregnant and newborn children
13. Organization of work and improving the quality of care in a neonatal intensive care unit
14. General pediatrics – 13 publications.

The diversity of the candidate's thematic developments and publications, his erudition and knowledge in various fields of neonatology, pediatrics, including organizational problems in neonatology, is impressive. They have been presented at national and foreign conferences and congresses as reports or posters.

Clinical and diagnostic activities

Doctor Radka Maslarska is a specialist with almost 40 years of experience in the field of neonatology. She also has very good general pediatric training. He leads and actively participates in the treatment, diagnostic and consultative activities of the neonatology department of Acibadem City Clinic UMHAL 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 appears as a doctor with broad scientific interests and great potential. With an interest in the latest in diagnostics and treatment in neonatology, pediatrics. With diverse scientific activity - neonatology and pediatrics.

From the presented presentation it is clear that Dr. Radka Maslarska is a trained teacher and specialist in neonatology and pediatrics. She has sufficient clinical and teaching experience and has acquired the necessary organizational experience that allows her to cope with daily practical tasks and cases.

Dr. Radka Tsokova Maslarska meets all mandatory conditions, exceeding the minimum requirements for scientific and teaching activity for holding the academic position of "associate professor" in Professional field 7 - "Healthcare and Sports" in professional field 7.1 - "Medicine" and scientific specialty "Neonatology" for the needs of the Department of Neonatology of "Acibadem City Clinic UMHAL TOKUDA" EAD, announced in the State Gazette no. 18/17.02.2026

Based on the above, I recommend to the members of the scientific jury, appointed by Order No. 15-03-95#2/16.04.2026, to award Dr. Radka Tsokova Maslarska, MD, PhD 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.

08.05.2026

Sofia

Reviewer:



Prof. Dr. Stefan Nedev Stefanov, MD, PhD