

To
The Chairman of the Scientific Jury
Appointed by Order No. 15-03-141#2/12.06.2026
of the Executive Director of
“ACC UMHAT Tokuda” JSC, Dr. Venelina Atanasova
and of the Procurator of
“ACC UMHAT Tokuda” JSC, Mr. Bugra Susam

S T A T E M E N T

by Prof. Kiril Vasilev Draganov, MD, DSc
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MHAT “Tokuda Hospital Sofia” AD

Re: Competition for the academic position of “ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR” in higher-education field 7. Healthcare and Sport, professional area 7.1 Medicine, scientific specialty “Oncology”, for the needs of the Clinic of Medical Oncology, “Acibadem City Clinic UMHAT Tokuda” JSC, announced in State Gazette No. 35/14.04.2026.

Comments on the procedure

By Order No. 15-03-141#2/12.06.2025 of the Executive Director of “ACC UMHAT Tokuda” JSC, Dr. Venelina Atanasova, and of the Procurator of “ACC UMHAT Tokuda” JSC, Mr. Bugra Susam, I have been appointed a member of the Scientific Jury for the above competition.

At the first non-attendance session of the Jury, I was selected to prepare a statement.

The sole candidate in the competition is Dr. Tanya Lyubomirova Zlatanova, MD, PhD.

The deadlines for conducting the competition and the procedure thereunder have been observed in accordance with the Act on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria (ADASRB), the Regulations for the Implementation of the ADASRB at “ACC UMHAT Tokuda” JSC, and the Regulations on the Terms and Procedure for the Award of Scientific Degrees and the Holding of Academic Positions at “ACC UMHAT Tokuda” JSC.

I received, within the deadline and in accordance with the established procedure, the complete set of documents of Dr. Tanya Lyubomirova, MD, PhD, which are fully consistent with and comply with the requirements of the national regulatory framework in force, as set out above.

Brief professional and biographical data

The candidate in the present competition, Dr. Tanya Lyubomirova Zlatanova, MD, PhD, graduated from the Medical University of Sofia in 2001. Dr. Zlatanova began her professional career as a resident in Internal Medicine at the Military Medical Academy, Sofia (2002–2007). She subsequently worked as a ward physician in the Internal Medicine Department of MHAT “Ihtiman” EOOD (2004–2009) and as a physician at “Tokuda Hospice”, Sofia (2009–2012). Since 2012 to the present she has been part of the team of the Clinic of Medical Oncology of “ACC UMHAT Tokuda” JSC.

A good testament to the candidate’s scientific interests and to the standing she enjoys is her membership in a number of national and international societies, unions and associations – ESMO, ASCO, IASLC, ESCO, BSSIO.

Postgraduate fellowships and courses. Participation in scientific and organising committees. Expert activity.

Dr. Tanya Zlatanova, MD, PhD, holds two specialties – “Internal Medicine” (2008) and “Medical Oncology” (2017). Her desire for continuous professional development and advancement does not stop there. Evidence of this is provided by the numerous qualification courses and postgraduate fellowships at a number of leading, internationally recognised centres and institutions, which, owing to the limited length of this statement, I am unable to list in full, as well as by her participation as a lecturer at numerous national and international scientific forums.

In recognition of her achievements and of the standing she enjoys within the profession, Dr. Zlatanova has taken part in a number of expert groups (programme accreditation of the doctoral programmes “Diagnostic Imaging” and “Plastic Surgery” with the NEAA, as of April 2026), scientific and organising committees (Scientific Conference on Immuno-Oncology with international participation, IO 365 v.2, 21–23.10.2022 and 20–23.11.2025), the MORE Expert Board (2024, 2025), and health technology assessment committees with the NCPRMP (as chair).

A prerequisite for the postgraduate qualifications undertaken, the participation in international scientific forums and the memberships in international organisations is Dr. Zlatanova’s sound language proficiency. She has written and spoken command of English and uses German and Russian.

Scientific output. Citations. Impact Factor.

Dr. Tanya Zlatanova obtained the educational and scientific degree “Doctor” (PhD) in 2024 as a doctoral candidate in independent preparation, following the successful defence of a dissertation entitled: “Markers of systemic inflammation and the effectiveness of immunotherapy in patients with metastatic non-small-cell lung cancer”. One publication is associated with the dissertation, and these are not subject to review here.

In the present competition Dr. Zlatanova submits a list of a further 35 scientific works:

- monograph – 1;
- publications in peer-reviewed international scientific journals referenced in world databases, with an Impact Factor – 4;
- publications in peer-reviewed national scientific journals referenced in world databases, without an Impact Factor – 5;
- publications in peer-reviewed journals not referenced in world databases – 23;
- chapters in collective monographs, handbooks and teaching aids – 2.

In 21 of the publications (58.8%) the candidate is first or sole author.

Dr. Zlatanova’s scientific activity additionally includes 30 presentations at Bulgarian and international oncology forums, of which: international (as lecturer) – 8; national with a printed abstract – 1; national without a printed abstract – 21.

According to a reference issued by the Central Medical Library of the Medical University of Sofia (No. 407/24.04.2026), Dr. Zlatanova’s scientific works have been cited in the databases a total of 39 times, of which 11 in foreign sources (Scopus – 5, Web of Science – 6), 25 in Bulgarian sources from the holdings of the Central Medical Library, and 3 self-identified citations in Bulgarian sources included in the National Reference List.

The total impact factor of Dr. Zlatanova's scientific works, calculated on the basis of the official reference submitted by the Central Medical Library of the Medical University of Sofia, is 35.4.

Research activity. Contributions.

The subject matter of the scientific output of Dr. Tanya Zlatanova, MD, PhD, in the field of medical oncology is diverse. The approaches and analyses in her scientific work are thorough and are characterised by innovation, practical orientation and a striving to examine the problems from various aspects and in sufficient detail. This is a prerequisite for contributions of both a confirmatory and an original nature, which may be systematised into the following directions:

- (1.) The role of markers of systemic inflammation and the increased risk of thromboembolism in patients with oncological diseases (publications Nos. 1, 2, 10, 11, 28, 29, 31 of the list of scientific output);
- (2.) Diagnosis and treatment of lung cancer (publications Nos. 1, 3–7, 9, 10, 19–21, 24, 26, 27, 29, 31 of the list of scientific output);
- (3.) Publications in the field of immuno-oncology (publications Nos. 1, 6, 7, 14, 21, 26, 27, 32);
- (4.) Diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer (publications Nos. 8, 12, 13, 16, 17, 22, 23 of the list of scientific output);
- (5.) Diagnosis and treatment of malignant diseases of the gastrointestinal tract (publications Nos. 32, 33, 35 of the list of scientific output);
- (6.) Treatment of gynaecological tumours (publications Nos. 25, 34, 36 of the list of scientific output);
- (7.) Diagnosis and treatment of prostate cancer (publication No. 15 of the list of scientific output);
- (8.) Presentation of clinical cases (publications Nos. 3, 7–9, 18, 30, 32 of the list of scientific output).

Participation in research projects and clinical trials

Dr. Tanya Zlatanova, MD, PhD, is a principal investigator in two phase III clinical trials – IMGN853-0417 / SORAYA (in patients with ovarian, fallopian tube or peritoneal carcinoma) and CR187-18 / AXIS (in patients with stage IIIB/IV NSCLC).

Teaching activity

Dr. Tanya Zlatanova, MD, PhD, is a Chief Assistant Professor and a lecturer at the Faculty of Medicine of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski". In that capacity, and according to a reference issued by the Faculty for the period 2020–2025, she has delivered a teaching load with medical students amounting to 1,095 hours of classroom contact time.

A certificate issued by "ACC UMHAT Tokuda" attests to a total teaching load with residents in continuing training amounting to 855.5 equivalent hours.

CONCLUSION

Dr. Tanya Lyubomirova Zlatanova, MD, PhD, is a very good and highly qualified medical oncologist.

The reference on compliance with the minimum national requirements shows a total of 838.34 points across all indicators, against 400 points required.

In the course of my examination and review of the evidentiary material, I found no repetitions, nor any evidence of plagiarism established in the prescribed manner.

In conclusion, and on the basis of her diverse and purposeful diagnostic and therapeutic, research and teaching activity, my overall assessment of Dr. Tanya Lyubomirova Zlatanova, MD, PhD, is that she is a fully accomplished oncologist, scientist and teacher.

I take the liberty of recommending that the esteemed Scientific Jury award Dr. Tanya Lyubomirova Zlatanova, MD, PhD, the academic position of "ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR", for which I confidently vote "IN FAVOUR".

Statement prepared by:

/Prof. Kiril Vasilev Draganov, MD, DSc/

12.07.2026

Sofia