

OPINION

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REGARDING: COMPETITION FOR THE ACADEMIC POSITION "PROFESSOR",
IN THE FIELD OF HIGHER EDUCATION 7. HEALTH AND SPORTS, PROFESSIONAL
DIRECTION, 7.1 MEDICINE IN THE SCIENTIFIC SPECIALTY
"GASTROENTEROLOGY" FOR THE NEEDS OF THE GASTROENTEROLOGY CLINIC
AT "ACIBADEM CITY CLINIC UMHAT TOKUD", SOFIA

1. Information about the procedure

The competition for the academic position "Professor" - one position in the field of higher education 7. Health and Sports, professional direction, 7.1 Medicine, in the scientific specialty "Gastroenterology" for the needs of the Gastroenterology Clinic, "Acibadem City Clinic UMHAT Tokuda", Sofia was announced in the State Gazette, issue 12/11.02.2025. By order No. 15-05-83/27.03.2025 of the Executive Director and the Procurator of the hospital, I was appointed as an internal member of the Scientific Jury and the decision of the first absentee meeting was to present an opinion.

All procedural requirements for announcing the competition, the deadline for submitting documents and for selecting the Scientific Jury have been met. Only one candidate submitted documents for participation in the competition – Assoc. Prof. Dr. Petko Ivanov Karagyozev, PhD, who meets all the requirements of the LDASRB, the Regulations for its implementation and the Regulations for the development of the academic staff at ACC UMHAT Tokuda.

In connection with the materials provided to me for the preparation of a review, I declare that I have not identified any evidence of plagiarism and I have no conflict of interest.

1. Candidate's professional data

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Petko Karagyozev, PhD, graduated from the Medical University - Sofia in 2004. He worked consecutively from 2006 to 2011 as a doctor in the Clinic of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Military Medical Academy Sofia, then from 2011 - in the Clinic of Gastroenterology and Pulmonology of the ACC UMHAT Tokuda, and since October 2022 he has been the head of the Clinic of Gastroenterology. He has acquired specialties in Gastroenterology - December 2012, as well as HSW in medicine: from 2013 - "Conventional ultrasound - abdominal ultrasound and surface structures", "Abdominal Doppler ultrasound" and "Interventional and endoscopic abdominal ultrasound" and from 2020 - "ERCP and related interventional endoscopic procedures - third level". He has a Master's degree in "Public Health and Health Management" since 2016.

In 2020, Assoc. Prof. Karagyozev was awarded the ESD "PhD" based on a defended dissertation on the topic "The Place of Cholangiopancreatography in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Pancreatobiliary Diseases".

In February 2022, he was elected Associate Professor of Gastroenterology.

Assoc. Prof. Karagyozev has completed a number of qualification courses and trainings in Bulgaria and abroad in the field of gastroenterology and interventional gastroenterology.

2. Assessment of the candidate's quantitative and qualitative indicators

Assoc. Prof. P. Karagyozev participated in the competition with a total of 90 scientific papers, of which one is a dissertation thesis for the acquisition of the educational and scientific degree "PhD". Scientific production after occupying the academic position "associate professor" includes 89 scientific papers. Of these, 57 are scientific articles, he is a co-author of 4 national textbooks, as well as 28 participations in scientific conferences and congresses, with abstracts published in journals with IF. 12 scientific articles have been published in scientific journals indexed in databases with scientific information Scopus and Web of Science (of which 8 are with IF), and in journals not indexed in the indicated databases - 45 articles, of which 44 are in Bulgarian journals and 1 - in a foreign one.

An official citation report from the Central Medical Library for the period (2022-2025) has been presented for a total of 222 registered citations, of which 97 citations in Scopus, 125 citations in Web of Knowledge.

The total impact factor of the scientific works of Assoc. Prof. P. Karagyozev for the period after Associate Professor is 345.9, and the individual IF is 70.085.

Assoc. Prof. Karagyozev participated in a national scientific project at the Medical University of Plovdiv on the topic: "Endoscopic ligament ligation of esophageal varices and placement of an esophageal prosthesis on a porcine model - techniques, benefits, risks".

Assoc. Prof. P. Karagyozev significantly exceeds most indicators for the minimum required points of the ACC UMHAT Tokuda and the minimum national requirements for holding the academic position "Professor".

3. Main scientific contributions

The scientific production of Assoc. Prof. Karagyozev is diverse and of original character and high value. They are mainly related to the application and introduction of new methods in interventional gastroenterology. A number of significant diseases in gastroenterology, their diagnostics and treatment have been studied.

The scientific research and scientific applied contributions can be grouped into several main areas:

I. DIGITAL ORAL CHOLANGIOPANCREASCOPY (DOCP) IN THE DIAGNOSTICS AND TREATMENT OF PANCREO-BILIARY DISEASES

II. SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS RELATED TO INNOVATION:

➤ Introduced for the first time in the country:

- o Endoscopic biliary drainage
- o Echoendoscopic pancreatocolectomy
- o Echoendoscopic gastroenteroanastomosis
- o Endoscopic ultrasound in liver diseases - endohepatology

II. CONTRIBUTIONS IN OTHER AREAS OF INTERVENTIONAL ENDOSCOPY:

- Iatrogenic lesions of the bile ducts
- Endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography combined with endoscopic ultrasound
- Endoscopic treatment of peripancreatic pseudocyst and necrotic collections (WOPN)
- Endoscopic papillectomy
- Endoscopic therapy of perforations and fistulas
- Emergency endoscopy

III. THE ROLE OF THE GASTROENTEROLOGIST AND ENDOSCOPIST IN THE MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH IN :

- Treatment of esophageal leiomyomas
- Treatment of epiphrenic diverticula
- Treatment of esophageal duplication cysts
- Treatment of complications after robot-assisted surgical interventions on the gastroesophageal junction
- Precise preoperative diagnosis in pancreatic tumors and robot-assisted distal gastrectomy and esophagogastroplasty
- Indications for intraoperative endoscopy and management of complications

The contributions are of scientific-theoretical and scientific-practical significance, as they lead to the expansion of the diagnostic and therapeutic capabilities of endoscopic procedures in diseases of the gastrointestinal tract and pancreatobiliary-hepatic diseases, as well as the performance of complex procedures, jointly with thoracic and/or general surgeons and other specialists.

4. Teaching and learning activities

Assoc. Prof. Dr. P. Karagyozev actively participates in the training of medical students in Bulgarian and English, as well as of residents and postgraduate training in gastroenterology. He has been a part-time lecturer at the Faculty of Medicine of Sofia University "St. Kl. Ohridski" since 2019. A certificate has been presented from the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of Sofia University "St. Kl. Ohridski" for the total teaching load for the period 2022 - 01.2025 for teaching the III year of propaedeutics of internal diseases, IV year and VI year (trainee doctors) of gastroenterology for 1112.5 hours. A Certificate has been provided from the ACC UMHAT Tokuda with a realized teaching load for the training of residents in gastroenterology in the amount of 1415 equiv. hours for the period 01.01.2020-31.12.2024.

Assoc. Prof. Karagyozev is the scientific supervisor of two doctoral students.

He also has significant extracurricular employment, giving lectures on the continuing medical education of gastroenterologists, general practitioners and specialist doctors at symposia and conferences in our country and abroad.

The presented teaching and teaching activity is significant and exceeds the requirements for holding the title of "professor".

5. Expert activity

Assoc. Prof. Karagyozev is a member of the State Examination Commission for the acquisition of a specialty in gastroenterology (since 2024). He is a member of the Operational Council under the Minister of Health for the implementation of the National Plan to Combat Cancer (since 2024).

Since 2018, he is a member of the Management Board of the Bulgarian Scientific Society of Gastroenterology (BSG), and since 2021, he is a representative of the BSG in the European Society of Gastroenterology (UEG Meeting Members). Since 2021, he is a privileged member of the American Society of Gastroenterology

Assoc. Prof. Karagyozev is a trainer in cholangiopancreatography with the SpyGlass system Boston Scientific for Eastern Europe.

He is a reviewer for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy (GIE), Therapeutic Advances in Gastroenterology, World Journal of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, UEGW.

CONCLUSION

The candidate Assoc. Prof. Dr. Petko Karagyozev, PhD, fully meets the requirements of the LDASRB, the Regulations for the LDASRB and the Regulations of the ACC UMHAT Tokuda for holding the academic position of "Professor".

Assoc. Prof. Karagyozev is a well-established physician - gastroenterologist, endoscopist, with extensive clinical experience, with sufficient scientific activity, with high quality indicators and real theoretical and practical contributions. He possesses a number of personal qualities that make him a worthy member of the national and international gastroenterological community. He has introduced methods for endoscopic diagnosis and treatment of gastroenterological, pancreatic and hepatobiliary diseases. He is a lecturer who trains doctors in interventional gastroenterology - basic and expert level. As the Head of the Gastroenterology Clinic, he also has administrative management experience.

Considering the above, I strongly recommend that the esteemed members of the Scientific Jury vote in favor of the election of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Petko Ivanov Karagyozev, PhD, to occupy the academic position of "Professor" in the field of higher education 7. Health and Sports, professional field, 7.1 Medicine, in the scientific specialty "Gastroenterology" for the needs of the Gastroenterology Clinic at "ACC UMHAT Tokuda".

02.05.2025
Sofia

Prepared the opinion:

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