

## OPINION

Regarding the competition for the academic position of "Professor" in the field of higher education 7. "Healthcare and Sports", professional direction 7.1. "Medicine", scientific speciality "Oncology" for the needs of the Medical Oncology Clinic at Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda Hospital EAD, announced in the State Gazette, issue No. 12/11.02.2025.

By:

**Corresponding Member Prof. Dr. Nikolay Stefanov Gabrovski, MD, PhD, DSc.**  
Head of the Neurosurgery Clinic, University Hospital "N.I. Pirogov", Sofia.

Appointed as a member of the Scientific Jury by Order No. 15-05-82/27.03.2025 of the Executive Director and Procurist of Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda Hospital EAD, Sofia.

The competition for the academic position of "Professor" was announced in the State Gazette, issue No. 12/11.02.2025, under professional direction 7.1. "Medicine", scientific specialty "Oncology", for the needs of the Medical Oncology Clinic at Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda Hospital EAD, Sofia. Documents were submitted on time by one candidate – Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jeli azko Iliev Arabadjiev, MD, PhD Associate Professor at the Medical Oncology Clinic of Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda Hospital EAD.

### 1. Candidate's Biographical Data

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jeli azko Iliev Arabadjiev, MD, graduated in medicine in 1997 from the Medical University – Varna. He holds a specialty in Medical Oncology (since 2014) and a Master's degree in Healthcare Management. In 2020, he defended his doctoral thesis on the predictive and prognostic value of tumor-infiltrating lymphocytes in breast cancer. Since 2018, he has been the Head of the Medical Oncology Clinic at Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda Hospital EAD and, since 2021, an Associate Professor at the same clinic. He actively participates in national and European scientific initiatives, including as a member of the Board of the Cancer Mission of the European Commission.

### 2. Publications and Competition Materials

The candidate submitted 68 scientific works, including:

- 38 research articles,
- 4 textbooks and study guides,
- 2 scientific reports with published abstracts.

Of these, 14 are in international peer-reviewed journals. He is the author or co-author of multiple publications contributing to modern immuno- and targeted therapy. The total number of citations is 163, with a cumulative impact factor of 21. He has participated in 4 research projects (2 international and 2 national) related to personalized cancer treatment and immune responses to therapy. A list of 26 lectures and plenary reports was provided (9 at international forums and 17 at national forums with published titles).

### 3. Scientific Contributions

Assoc. Prof. Arabadjiev's main contributions are in:

- Immuno-oncology,
- Biomarkers in breast cancer,
- Modern diagnosis and treatment of lung carcinoma,
- Immunotherapy for skin and gastrointestinal tumors,
- Development of clinical protocols for targeted and personalized therapy of solid malignant tumors,
- Participation in the creation of national guidelines and medical standards.

#### 4. Citations

A report from the Central Medical Library of MU-Sofia confirmed 163 citations of Assoc. Prof. Arabadjiev's works:

- 62 in Bulgarian sources,
  - 101 in international databases (Web of Knowledge and Scopus).
- Self-citations were not included in the report.*

#### 5. Teaching and Educational Activities

Assoc. Prof. Arabadjiev actively participates in teaching as a honorary teacher at the Faculty of Medicine, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", and trainer for residents at Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda Hospital. Over the past 4 years, he has conducted over 2,000 hours of lectures and extracurricular activities. He has supervised 2 PhD students and 4 medical oncology residents. He organises annual national trainings and conferences in immuno-oncology.

#### 6. Overall Assessment

The report confirms that the candidate exceeds the minimum national requirements for the position of "Professor" – of the required points: 550, the Candidate's points scores 1,795 points. His scientific, teaching, and expert work far surpass the requirements of both national standards and Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda Hospital EAD.

#### Conclusion

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jeliazko Iliev Arabadjiev, MD, PhD has provided evidence that fully meets and exceeds foreseen in the Law for development of academic staff in Republic of Bulgaria and the ordinance for law's application at Acibadem City Clinic UMHAT Tokuda EAD requirements for the position of "Professor" in Oncology. He is a distinguished specialist with active contributions to clinical practice, teaching, and research.

Based on the submitted documentation, I convincedly giving my positive evaluation and recommend that the honorable Scientific Jury to vote "YES" for Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jeliazko Iliev Arabadjiev, MD, PhD appointment for Professor in Oncology.

Sofia, 08.05.2025

(Corresponding Member Prof. Dr. Nikolay Gabrovski, MD, PhD, DSc.)

