

## STATEMENT

of

Prof. Dr. Lyuben Dimitrov Stokov, MD

External member of the Scientific Jury

According to Order No. 15-03-221#2/3.09.2025

*Subject: Announcement of a competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education 7. Healthcare and Sports, professional direction 7.1. Medicine, scientific specialty "Orthopedics and Traumatology" for the needs of the Clinic of Orthopedics and Traumatology of "Acibadem City Clinic UMBAL Tokuda" EAD - Sofia., announced in the „State Gazette“ No. 54/04.07.2025.*

Dr. Evgeni Nedev Vlaev, MD, has been admitted to the competition.

The candidate has submitted all the necessary documents for participation in the competition, which fully comply with the conditions established in the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff of the Republic of Bulgaria and its Rules of Implementation. The required diplomas, certificates, lists and copies of scientific publications and participation in scientific forums, references for citations, and contracts as adjunct assistant are available.

### **1. Brief presentation of the candidate**

Dr. Evgeni Vlaev was born in 1971 in the town of Tryavna. He graduated from the Medical Institute in Stara Zagora in 1995. He started working as a physician in the Pediatric Department and Emergency Center in the town of Chirpan. In the period 1998-2006, Dr. Vlaev worked as an assistant at the Department of General Medicine, Faculty of Medicine at Trakia University, Stara Zagora. Since 2006, Dr. Evgeni Vlaev has been appointed as a specialist physician at "Acibadem City Clinic UMBAL Tokuda" EAD – Sofia, at the Clinic of Orthopedics and Traumatology, where he continues to work to this day.

He acquired a specialty in Orthopedics and Traumatology at the Faculty of Medicine at Trakia University, Stara Zagora in 2004.

In 2022, he obtained the educational and scientific degree "PhD" after defending a dissertation on the topic: "Surgical treatment of scoliosis in childhood - methods for evaluation and analysis of the achieved results" at "Acibadem City Clinic UMBAL Tokuda" EAD, Sofia.

Since 2019 Dr. Evgeni Vlaev, MD, has been an adjunct assistant at the Department of Orthopedics and Traumatology, Faculty of Medicine, Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski". He conducts practical classes for students, trainee doctors and residents in orthopedics and traumatology.

## **2. Scientific works and teaching activities**

Dr. Evgeni Vlaev submits in the present competition a dissertation, an authored monograph and a list of 30 published articles (14 in Bulgaria and 16 in international scientific journals), of which in 4 he is the first author. Of the submitted articles, 12 are in refereed and indexed publications, and 4 of them have an impact factor.

He has presented 22 participations in scientific forums (16 in Bulgaria and 6 international), of which in 4 he is the first author. The submitted works have not been used in participations in previous competitions.

The total number of citations according to the reference from the National Library and NACID and from the SCOPUS and Web of Knowledge databases is 53.

With 400 points required by the national minimum criteria for occupying the academic position of "Associate Professor" Dr. Evgeni Vlaev, MD, presents 551.88 points achieved.

The main areas of scientific research and practical activity of Dr. Evgeni Vlaev, MD are related to the diagnosis and surgical treatment of children suffering from scoliosis. All submitted works are based on his own scientific research and scientific-practical conclusions.

His dissertation work is aimed at introducing a qualitatively new approach for evaluating the effectiveness of the surgical treatment of this disease. The monograph is a successful attempt to systematize scientific knowledge and practical methods and develop a standardized approach in the diagnostic process of the disease. The attached publications show a clear interest in this pathology, participation in various studies related to scoliosis, and desire for improvement and enhancement of the treatment of this severe and insufficiently studied disease.

The scientific output provided is sufficient in volume, exceeds the national minimum requirements for occupying the academic position of "Associate Professor" and demonstrates significant original and scientifically applied contributions to practice.

### **Conclusion**

All procedures regarding the announcement of the competition and the admission of the candidate to participate in the competition have been observed and complied with. The documents submitted by Dr. Evgeni Vlaev, MD show that he meets all scientometric requirements for holding the academic position of "Associate Professor".

For the above reasons, I confidently give a positive evaluation of the candidate Dr. Evgeni Nedev Vlaev, MD.

I propose to the esteemed members of the Scientific Jury to vote positively for the holding of the academic position of "Associate Professor" by Dr. Evgeni Nedev Vlaev, MD for the needs of the Clinic of Orthopedics and Traumatology of "Acibadem City Clinic UMBAL Tokuda" Sofia, higher education area 7. "Healthcare and Sports", professional direction 7.1. "Medicine" and scientific specialty "Orthopedics and Traumatology"

20 September 2025.

Sity of Sofia

Prepared the statement:..........

/Prof. Dr. Lyuben Stokov, MD/