

STATEMENT

By Assoc. Prof. Dr. Dilyan Valentinov Ferdinandov, MD, PhD
Clinic of Neurosurgery, St. Ivan Rilski University Hospital,
Department of Neurosurgery, Faculty of Medicine, Medical University – Sofia

REGARDING: Selection procedure for an academic position “Associated Professor” (one position) in the field of higher education 7. "Health and sport", professional direction 7.1. "Medicine" and scientific specialty "Neurosurgery" for the needs of Acibadem CityClinic UMBAL Tokuda EAD, announced in State Journal No. 47/04.06.2024.

By Order No. 15-05-99 #1/19.08.2024 of the Executive Director and Procurator of Acibadem CityClinic UMBAL Tokuda, I have been confirmed as a member of the Scientific Jury under the procedure for occupying the academic position "Associate Professor", as at the first meeting of the Scientific Jury has been appointed to submit an opinion regarding a single candidate, Dr. Toma Yuriev Spiriev, approved by the eligibility committee.

Dr. Toma Yuriev Spiriev was born on 25.11.1984 in Sofia. He completed his secondary education at the 9th French Language High School in 2003 in Sofia. In 2009, he graduated "Medicine" with honors from Medical University - Sofia. He specialized in neurosurgery at UMBAL Tokuda, and at the end of 2015 he was recognized as the relevant specialty. He continues to work in the same hospital as a neurosurgeon. Holder of the prestigious European Diploma in Neurosurgery since 2018. In the middle of 2019, he successfully defended a PhD in the scientific specialty "Neurosurgery". He holds a master's degree in "Public Health and Health Management", acquired in 2020 from Medical University-Sofia. Fluent in English, French and German. He has excellent communication skills and the ability to work in a team.

Dr. Spiriev's leading research and practical interests are in the field of 3D planning and simulation of neurosurgical cranial accesses, microneurosurgery, skull base surgery, vascular neurosurgery, neuroanatomy, neurooncology. He is a participant in significant scientific projects, 7 in total, of leading universities in Europe and Japan, mainly in the field of cranial three-dimensional anatomy. There are numerous courses, clinical internships, and specializations in this field in leading hospitals in England, the USA, France, Switzerland, Denmark, Austria, Germany, Japan, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Romania, and Serbia. He has been repeatedly awarded by leading organizations

in the country and abroad. Dr. Spiriev participated in more than 30 scientific conferences in the country and abroad, providing a list of 42 reports and posters, 29 abroad and 13 in Bulgaria. He contributes to the application of 3D visualization systems in the training of neurosurgery residents and medical students; integration of virtual and mixed reality systems in preoperative planning of neurosurgical interventions; creation of an online 3D photorealistic atlas of neurosurgery and neuroanatomy with open access.

Dr. Spiriev is the author and co-author of 64 publications in Bulgarian and international scientific journals, and for the current procedure, he provides a list of 32 titles (minimum requirements 25), of which 30 are referenced and indexed in Scopus and/or Web of Science, and 29 have an Impact Factor (minimum requirements 4). Of these, he is the first author in 14, second and subsequent in 18 publications. He is a co-author in 4 chapters of books and textbooks on neurosurgery in English. The number of citations exceeds 680. The scientific output of Dr. Spiriev has been evaluated at 9598 points (minimum requirements 400 points).

Dr. Spiriev is a part-time assistant in anatomy at the Department of Anatomy, Histology, Pathoanatomy and Forensic Medicine of the Faculty of Medicine at Sofia University. From 01.08.2022, he has been a chief assistant in the Clinic of Neurosurgery at Acibadem CityClinic UMBAL Tokuda (minimum requirement is two years). He presents a certificate from the Faculty of Medicine of Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski for 261 study hours for the academic years 2021/2022, 2022/2023 and 2023/2024.

Based on the above, I believe that Dr. Toma Yuriev Spiriev meets the quantitative and qualitative criteria according to the Regulations for the Implementation of the Law on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria and the Regulations for the Development of the Academic Staff of Acibadem CityClinic UMBAL Tokuda EAD of the academic position "Associated Professor". I vote positively to appoint the candidate to the specified position.

02.10.2024
City of Sofia

Prepared the opinion:


Assoc. Prof. Dr. Dilyan Ferdinandov, MD, PhD