## **OPINION**

## by Prof. Dr. Dimitar Vassilev Takov, PhD.

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**Subject:** Competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the scientific specialty "Gastroenterology" for the needs of KGE at "Acibadem City Clinic University Hospital Tokuda" EAD Sofia.

The competition was announced in the State Gazette № 85 / 12.10.2021.

Within the set deadline, documents were submitted by Dr. Petko Karagiozov - Head of the Department of Interventional Gastroenterology at KGE at Acibadem City Clinic UMHAT Tokuda, Sofia.

From the submitted documents for reference it is evident that all procedures regarding the announcement, deadlines, criteria and discussion of the applications required by the law in the Republic of Bulgaria have been complied with.

Dr. Petko Karagiozov graduated from the Medical Faculty of the Medical University of Sofia in 2004. From 2005 to 2012, he specialized in "Internal Medicine" and "Gastroenterology" at the Military Medical Academy in Sofia, successfully acquiring the relevant specialties in 2009 and 2013. In 2016 - Master's degree in Public Health and Health Management.

The candidate has presented qualification certificates in diagnostic and therapeutic endoscopy 1-3 level, ultrasound tomography of abdominal organs 1-3 level, blind and targeted biopsy of abdominal organs and therapeutic procedures of the organs of the gastrointestinal tract.

He has specialized in leading international medical centers in Germany, the Netherlands, Japan, Israel and Italy, with emphasis on modern diagnostic and interventional methods in gastroenterology, combined echoendoscopic and X-ray procedures of the biliary and pancreatic pathways and percutaneous biliary interventions.

Since 2019 he has been a part-time lecturer at the Medical Faculty of Sofia University, and in 2020, after defending a dissertation for the degree of "PhD" on "Place of cholangiopancreatoscopy in the diagnosis and treatment of pancreatic-biliary diseases", he holds the academic position of Assistant Professor, specialty "Internal Medicine" at KGE at "Acibadem City Clinic UMHAT Tokuda" Sofia.

Fluent in written and spoken German and English.

Dr. Karagiozov's scientific output includes 83 scientific papers, of which 34 complete publications in the Bulgarian and foreign medical periodicals, participation in 2 monographs and one dissertation. He has participated in 39 scientific congresses in Bulgaria and abroad. 4 of the publications are in refereed journals and 19 abstracts from international publications, with Impact Factor. As an independent or first author, Dr. Karagiozov appears in 51.22% of scientific papers published in authoritative medical journals.

The main topics of the candidate's scientific output include the following areas: Diagnostic and endoscopic manipulations, treatment of iatrogenic complications of GIT and hepatobiliary system, echoendoscopic drainage manipulations and combined treatment approaches to achieve optimal therapeutic effect.

The candidate's participation in national and international conferences with demonstrations of endoscopic procedures "live", as well as the publication of review articles, algorithms, and participation in the compilation of monographs and manuals can not be overlooked. References for 35 citations are presented, of which 2 in Bulgarian and 33 in foreign journals. The total Impact Factor is estimated at 26,087.

Dr. Karagyozov's teaching activities include the training of students, specialists in ID and GE and monothematic courses for diagnostic and therapeutic manipulations. Digital manifestation of the workload from 2017 to 2021 is about 600 hours per year, of which 15-20 are with classroom employment.

The candidate is a member of the European Society of Gastroenterology, the American Society of Gastrointestinal Endoscopy, a privileged member of the American Society of Gastroenterology, a member of the Bulgarian Scientific Society of GE, the European Group for the Study of Cholangioscopy, the European Group in Endoscopic Ultrasound SpyGlass DC Boston Scientific for Eastern Europe.

## In conclusion:

- All required procedures of ZRASRB have been complied with, including the announcement, the documents, the mandatory requirements for the candidates, the deadlines for the various current procedures and the election of a Scientific Jury with a chairman.
- The candidate Dr. Petko Karagiozov meets the specific and scientometric criteria for the announced competition.
- The quantitative and qualitative assessment of the published scientific papers in authoritative specialized medical journals is impressive.
- The dissertation work of the candidate for obtaining the scientific degree "PhD" considers a modern aspect of the diagnostic and therapeutic approach in diseases of the biliary tract and pancreas, with obstructive syndrome.
- According to the submitted author's report, the candidate has met all national criteria for the individual quantitative indicators for holding the academic position of "Associate Professor".
- The presented contributions from the dissertation and the actual publications have mostly original scientific and practical orientation for our country after analysis of own material.
- The report on teaching load, quantitatively and by topics meet the requirements for holding the academic position of "Associate Professor".

Having in mind all the above, I strongly suggest to the esteemed Scientific Jury to give a positive vote for the election of Petko Karagiozov, MD, PhD for "Associate Professor" at Acibadem City Clinic UMHAT Tokuda Sofia.

January 7, 2022, Sofia.

Prof. Dr. D. Takov, PhD