STANDPOINT

on behalf of Prof. Dr. Nikolay Margaritov Runev, PhD,
Cardiology Department at the Clinic of Propaedeutics of Internal Medicine
"Prof. St. Kirkovich "- University Alexandrovska Hospital,
Medical University - Sofia

Subject: Competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" in the professional field 7.1. "Medicine" and scientific specialty "Cardiology", announced in the State Newspaper, issue 27/02.04.2021 for the needs of the Cardiology clinic, Invasive electrophysiology ward in "Acibadem City Clinic UMHAT Tokuda"

Order No. 243 of June 1, 2021 of the Executive director of "Acibadem City Clinic UMHAT Tokuda" for appointment of a scientific jury

One candidate has been admitted to the announced competition for "Associate Professor" in Cardiology: Dr.Vasil Borislavov Traykov, PhD, Chief of the Invasive electrophysiology ward of Cardiology clinic in "Acibadem City Clinic UMHAT Tokuda".

The applicant has submitted all the documentation necessary for the preparation of the standpoint, in accordance with the requirements.

I. Research activity

Dr. Vasil Traykov has presented **an author's report** for acccordance and implementation of the minimum national requirements (MNR) for "Associate Professor", including publications, citations and research activities:

✓ Dissertation work for awarding the Educational and Scientific Degree (ESD) "Doctor" - "Catheter ablation in atrial fibrillation: procedural characteristics and role of the structures exhibiting trigger activity in the fibrillation process": **group A = 50 points (MNR - 50 p.)**

✓ Habilitation work - scientific publications (min. 10) in editions, referenced and indexed in worldwide databases with scientific information (SCOPUS and WEB OF SCIENCE): **group C = 151.28 points (MNR - 100 p.)**

✓ Publications in foreign and Bulgarian editions, referenced and indexed in worldwide databases with scientific information (SCOPUS and WEB OF SCIENCE): **gr. D7 = 119.6 points**

✓ Publications in non-peer-reviewed journals with scientific review or in edited collective volumes: **gr. D8 = 168.6 points**

✓ Published chapters of a collective monographs: **gr. D9 = 232 points**

Total number of points in group D = 520.2 points (MNR - 200 p.)

✓ Citations or reviews either in scientific journals, referenced and indexed in worldwide databases with scientific information or in monographs and collective volumes (SCOPUS and WEB OF SCIENCE): **gr. E10 = 105 points**

✓ Citations in monographs and collective volumes with scientific review: **gr. E11 = 40 points**

✓ Citations or reviews in in non-peer-reviewed journals with scientific review: **gr. E12 = 20 points**

Total number of points in group E = 165 points (MNR - 50 p.)

Total number of points in groups A, C, D and E = 886.48 points (MNR - 400 p.)

A report from CMB to MU-Sofia is presented for a **total number of citations 710**, of which in Bulgarian scientific journals - 20 and in foreign scientific editions– 690.

The total IF, calculated on the basis of the official report submitted by the CMB of MU-Sofia, **is 84.55**, and the calculated h-index is 10.

The main contributions of Dr. Traykov`s scientific work are in the following areas:

1. Study of the mechanisms of atrial fibrillation and catheter ablation as a therapeutic approach

✓ The role of the trigger structures for maintaining the fibrillatory process has been elucidated;

✓ The procedural characteristics, procedural success and the frequency of complications in the largest reported for Bulgaria group of patients with atrial fibrillation, included in a large European registry, are analyzed

2. Study of the electrophysiological findings in supraventricular tachycardias

✓ By analyzing the electrograms of the coronary sinus and the His bundle area in patients with focal atrial tachycardia, the origin of the focus (left atrial or right atrial) is established without the need for transseptal puncture and cartography of the left atrial and right atrial aspects of the septum;

✓ Based on the time for bi-atrial activation in atrial tachycardia, measured by

multipolar electrophysiological catheters inserted into the right atrium and the coronary sinus, a method has been developed to determine the mechanism of tachycardia as focal or macroreentry in tachycardias originating from the right atrium;

✓ The factors predicting the success of the catheter ablation in typical AV nodal reentry tachycardia are analyzed;

✓ For the first time in Bulgaria in a retrospective study the procedural parameters of ablation in patients with left-sided accessory conduction pathways using different ablation approaches - retrograde transaortic, transseptal or through the coronary sinus, have been compared

3. Analysis of the electrophysiological findings and the results of catheter ablation in atrial flutter

✓ Various mechanisms and circuits of atrial flutter have been studied in patients after open-heart cardiac surgery;

✓ A prospective study compares the procedural parameters and the success of ablation of the cavotricuspid isthmus with and without the use of intracardiac echocardiography to visualize its anatomy

4. Study on the infections of implantable electronic devices for heart rhythm control

✓ Algorithms for management of infections with different severity have been introduced in practice and guidelines are given for: type and duration of the antibiotic treatment, indications for explantation and time of reimplantation of new systems in patients with infections associated with pacemakers, cardioverter-defibrillators or resynchronization therapy systems

5. Treatment of ventricular tachyarrhythmias and prevention of sudden cardiac death

✓ For the first time in Bulgaria a methodology for intrapericardial insufflation of carbon dioxide after perforation of a coronary sinus branch has been introduced with subsequent access to the pericardium in patients with ventricular tachyarrhythmias in structural heart diseases;

✓ The results of catheter ablation in idiopathic left ventricular septal tachycardia have been reported for the first time in Bulgaria, demonstrating excellent long-term procedural success

6. Elaboration of consensus documents and position-papers on behalf of leading cardiology organizations. Dr. Traikov actively participates in the development of:

✓ consensus document initiated by EHRA for prevention and treatment of the infections associated with implantable electronic devices;

✓ EHRA consensus document on management of arrhythmias in emergency conditions associated with acute coronary syndrome and after revascularization;

✓ a document expressing the position of the Heart Failure Association, EHRA and European Association of Cardiovascular Imaging, regarding the application of cardiac resynchronization therapy

The quality of the presented publications fully meets the academic requirements.

Dr. Traykov is a member of: Bulgarian Society of Cardiology (BSC), Hungarian Society of Cardiology and European Society of Cardiology. He is President of the Bulgarian Professional Association of Electrocardiostimulation and Electrophysiology for a term of 2019-2022 and is being President Elect of BSC - term 2020-2022.

He was an active member of the EHRA Scientific Documents Committee (2017-2020) and currently participates in the EHRA National Societies Committee (2020-2022).

II. Teaching and learning activities

A report on the teaching and learning activities of Dr. Traikov as a part-time assistant at the Medical Faculty of Sofia University "Kliment Ohridski" is presented:

✓ During the academic year 2019/2020: practical exercises in "Propaedeutics of Internal Medicine" for 3rd year medical students - 30 teaching hours;

✓ During the winter semester of the academic year 2020/2021: practical exercises in "Propaedeutics of Internal diseases" for 3rd year medical students - 30 teaching hours

A certificate from "Acibadem City Clinic – UMHAT Tokuda" was presented in the assurance that for the period 2016-2021 Dr. Traikov had a teaching load:

✓ with trainees - 3945 equivalent hours and

✓ teaching on highly specialized activities - 482 equivalent hours

III. Diagnostic and therapeutic activities

Dr. Traykov is a very well-trained specialist in Cardiology and Invasive electrophysiology with significant experience, accumulated in two of the leading cardiology units in our country: MHAT "NKB" and "Acibadem City Clinic – UMHAT Tokuda". Since 04.2013 he has been appointed Chief of the Invasive electrophysiology ward of Cardiology clinic in "Acibadem City Clinic UMHAT Tokuda".

He has an excellent command and applies daily in practice the main invasive diagnostic and therapeutic methods in electrophysiology with a particular interest in the modern approaches for catheter ablation in atrial fibrillation and atrial flutter.

Dr. Traykov has acquired specialty in "Cardiology" from the Medical Faculty of the University of Szeged, Hungary and certificates for professional qualification in: "Invasive electrophysiology - basal and expert level" from MU-Sofia, "Invasive cardiology" from MU-Sofia, "Electrocardiostimulation" and "Interventional electrophysiology" from EHRA. He has a master's degree in "Public Health and Health Management" from MU-Sofia.

IV. Conclusion

I believe that with his qualification, research, teaching, diagnostic and therapeutic activities **Dr. Traykov fulfills (and even exceeds) the minimum national requirements** in the professional field "Medicine - Medical and Clinical Field" for the competitive position.

This gives me grounds **to vote in favour** and **to suggest to the esteemed members of the Scientific jury to support the election** of Dr.Vasil Borislavov Traykov, PhD, for "Associate Professor" in Cardiology for the needs of the Cardiology clinic, Invasive electrophysiology ward in "Acibadem City Clinic UMHAT Tokuda".

Sofia, 05.07.2021

Prof. Dr. Nikolay Runev, PhD