

OPINION

FROM PROF. ASSEN RACHEV GOUDEV, MD,DSc
HEAD OF CARDIOLOGY CLINIC, UMHAT "QUEEN JOANNA - ISUL" SOFIA

SUBJECT: COMPETITION FOR THE ACADEMIC POSITION OF "ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR" IN THE AREA OF HIGHER EDUCATION 7. HEALTH AND SPORTS, PROFESSIONAL FIELD, 7.1 MEDICINE, IN THE SCIENTIFIC SPECIALTY "CARDIOLOGY" FOR THE NEEDS OF THE CARDIOLOGY CLINIC OF "ACIBADEM CITY CLINIC UMHAT TOKUDA" EAD , PUBLISHED IN SG ISSUE 27 / 02.04.2021

By order № 245 / 01.06.2021 of the executive director and the procurator of "Acibadem City Clinic UMHAL Tokuda" EAD I was appointed an external member of the scientific jury. At the first absentee meeting, I was appointed to deliver an opinion. The opinion has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Law for development of academic staff in Republic of Bulgaria (LDASRB), the Regulations for its application and the Regulations on the terms and conditions for obtaining scientific degrees and employment to academic positions in Acibadem City Clinic MHAL Tokuda EAD. The conduct of the procedure is in accordance with the above-mentioned regulatory framework.

Only one candidate has submitted documents for participation in the competition - Valeri Lyubenov Gelev, MD, PhD.

I declare that I have no conflict of interest and do not establish evidence of plagiarism.

1. Professional data of the candidate

Valeri Gelev MD was born in 1964. In 1990 he graduated medicine from the Medical University - Sofia. In 1995 he acquired a specialties in Internal Medicine, and in 2000 - Cardiology. He obtained a certificate in Interventional Cardiology in 2003, and since 2009 he has a master's degree in "Health Management" FPH, MU-Sofia, Bulgaria.

In 2021 Gelev MD acquired the educational and scientific degree "PhD" after successfully defending a dissertation on "Retrograde access in recanalization of chronic occlusions of coronary arteries."

The candidate has worked consecutively as a district doctor in Kyustendil (1990), a doctor at the Clinic of Cardiology UMHAT "NI Pirogov" (1991 - 2001), Department of Invasive Cardiology NCH Sofia (2001 - 2009), head of department in invasive cardiology at UMHAT "NI Pirogov" (2009 - 2013). Since March 2013 he has been Deputy Head of the Cardiology Clinic in Acibadem City Clinic UMHAL Tokuda EAD. After a competition at UMHAT "NI Pirogov", Gelev MD has a total experience of 8 years and 9 months (12.1992 - 20.08.2001) for a position held and a succession successively by a research associate III - I degree. He is a part-time assistant at the MF of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" for the academic year 2019/2020 and for 2020/2021 for third year medical students.

He has a number of specializations in invasive cardiology in Paris (France), New York (USA), Novosibirsk (Russia).

2. Evaluation of the quantitative and qualitative indicators of the candidate

Gelev MD participated in the competition with a total of 90 scientific papers: 1 dissertation for educational and scientific degree "PhD", 68 scientific articles in peer-reviewed scientific journals, participation in 1 textbook and 2 monographs and 17 scientific papers with published abstracts. 36 scientific articles have been published in international scientific journals, of which 31 are with IF and 32 in Bulgarian journals. The first author is in 21.18% of the publications, and the second author - 27.06%. The scientific activity was presented with 17 scientific reports and announcements with printed abstracts, and a lecturer was invited to 32 congresses. A reference is presented for a total of **over 3000 registered citations**, of which Scopus - 1024, Web of Knowledge - 2721 and Bulgarian - 4.

The **total impact factor** from the scientific works of Gelev MD is **536,350**.

Gelev MD not only covers the minimum required points of Acibadem City Clinic UMHAL Tokuda EAD for the academic position of "Associate Professor", but for most indicators significantly exceeds them.

3. Basic scientific contributions

Gelev's MD scientific production is diverse and has an original character and high value. A number of significant cardiovascular diseases, their therapy, diagnosis and prevention have been studied, which have proven scientific-theoretical and scientific-applied contributions. The main directions are:

1) Chronic coronary occlusions, epidemiology, anatomical features, and indications and techniques for interventional revascularization. The place and significance of the retrograde approach are analyzed, as well as various aspects and tendencies for the successful recanalization of chronic occlusions. An algorithm for the indications and the way of application of the retrograde approach in recanalizations of HCV has been developed and tested. (1-7.9)

2) Percutaneous interventions in left main stenosis. The various aspects of the indications and indications for interventional treatment of the trunk of the left coronary artery are considered, as well as the techniques for achieving optimal results. (25,46,60,64, 67,68,73,76,80,81);

3) Transradial access in invasive coronary procedures. He is a member of the team that introduced transradial access in Bulgaria and is a co-author of a chapter in a manual for invasive cardiology, which discusses the advantages and features of transradial access, its use in specific cases and behavior in anatomical features and complications (8,10, 11.50, 52.53.54);

4) Complex coronary interventions. Scientific publications have addressed the problems of treating high-risk patients with complex coronary artery lesions. (12,26,56, 65,70,112,118,119);

5) Miscellaneous: Publications related to personal experience of endovascular treatment of lesions of the upper and lower extremities (33,47,69), of visceral organs in life-threatening conditions in gastroenterology (34) and urology (40). The review examines the occurrence of arrhythmias in patients with COVID-19 and provides practical guidelines for the prevention of proarrhythmia with antiviral drugs (86). Issues of modern treatment of acute coronary syndrome (58), heart failure (83,84), arterial hypertension (79) are considered.

5. Teaching activity

Certificate № 711 / 18.05.2021, issued by DER, Acibadem City Clinic UMHAL Tokuda EAD certifies the total workload from 01.01.2016 to 31.05.2021, a **total of 2751 eq. hours**, including training of specialists in cardiology - 2549 eq. hours, training in Interventional Cardiology - 74 eq. hours and continuing education - 128 eq.hours. Official note № 327 / 10.05.2021 from Sofia University "St. Kl. Ohridski" MF certifies the study load as a part-time assistant at the MF of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" for the academic years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021, a total of **60 students hours** of medical students in Bulgarian language III course "Propaedeutics of internal medicine".

6. Expert activity and research activity

Gelev MD is a member of a number of national and international scientific societies and organizations, and in some of them he holds leading positions, which is convincing proof of the great authority he enjoys among the guild at home and abroad. He is a member of BSC, and from 2020 he is a member of the Management Board; is a member of the European Society of Cardiology; the European Chronic Occlusion Club; The Bulgarian Society of Invasive Cardiology, with 2 terms as chairman (2015-2019); Director of BBK,

He is a member of the expert council on cardiology at the Ministry of Health.

He is a member of the editorial board of the journal Bulgarian Cardiology

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, in the competition Valeri Gelev, MD, PhD, presents materials that fully meet the requirements of LDASRB, the Rules for application of LDASRB and the Rules of Acibadem City Clinic MHAT Tokuda EAD for the academic position "Associate Professor" .

V. Gelev, MD, is a distinguished physician with extensive clinical, scientific, teaching and administrative experience. I highly appreciate his theoretical and practical contributions to the development of cardiology and interventional cardiology, as well as the high level of his scientific output.

In conclusion, based on the presented scientometric indicators, the overall scientific, social and teaching activities of Gelev, MD, I strongly recommend the esteemed members of the Scientific Jury to vote positively for the election of Valeri Lyubenov Gelev, MD. PhD, for holding the academic position "Associate Professor" in the scientific specialty

"Cardiology" for the needs of the Cardiology Clinic of Acibadem City Clinic University
Hospital Tokuda EAD.

02.08.2021

City of Sofia

Prepared the opinion:

(Prof. Dr. Assen Goudev, MD,DSc)

