OPINION

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ACIBADEM CITY CLINIC UMHAT TOKUDA ​​EAD

Regarding: competition for occupation of an academic position "Associate Professor" in the field of higher education 7. Health and sports, professional field 7.1 Medicine in the scientific specialty "Gastroenterology" for the needs of the Gastroenterology Clinic at Acibadem City Clinic UMHAT Tokuda

1. Information about the procedure

The competition to hold the academic position of "Associate Professor" in higher education 7. Health and Sports, Professional 7.1 Medicine, in the scientific specialty "Gastroenterology" for the needs of the Clinic of Gastroenterology of "Acibadem City Clinic University Hospital Tokuda" EAD was announced in SG, issue 17 / 01.03.2022 with order №15-05-85 / 28.04.2022 I have been appointed a member of the Scientific Jury of the Executive Director and the Procurator of Acibadem City Clinic UMHAT Tokuda and the decision of the first absentee meeting is to present an opinion.

Only one candidate has submitted documents for participation in the competition - Chief Assistant Dr. Radin Tsonev Tsonev, PhD, who meets all the requirements of ZRASRB, the Rules for its implementation and the Rules for the development of AC in "Acibadem City Clinic UMHAT Tokuda “EAD.

2. Professional data about the candidate

Dr. Radin Tsonev graduated in medicine in 1988 at the Medical University - Sofia, then worked as an aviator (1988-90) and resident in the Internal Medicine Department, Lom (1990-94). From 1994-2007 he was a resident gastroenterologist at the 5th Hospital (Sofia), and since 2007 he has been working at Acibadem City Clinic, Tokuda Hospital, successively holding the positions of resident, head of the Department of Gastroenterology and Chief Assistant ( 2020) at the Clinic of Gastroenterology.

Dr. R. Tsonev acquired a specialty in "Internal Medicine" in 1995, and a specialty "Gastroenterology and Dietetics" in 1998. He defended his dissertation on "Assessment of liver fibrosis and quality of life in patients with chronic C-viral hepatitis and cirrhosis" in 2019.

Dr. R. Tsonev has specialized in leading European institutes - Grant (Vienna, 1998), Arnhem (Netherlands, 1999), Gemeli (Rome, 1999). He has a certificate for participation in a health management course (2017).

He holds numerous national and international certificates for successful training in conventional, Doppler, interventional ultrasound and a certificate from a course in biliopancreatic endoscopy from Gemelli Hospital, Italy (1999). In 2006 has taken part in the Legal Health Care Center course and holds a certificate. Presents an up-to-date Good Clinical Practice (GCP) certificate and has participated in 10 phase 1-3 clinical trials.

He is a member of the following professional and scientific organizations:

- Member of the Board of the Bulgarian Society of Hepatology (BASL)

- BDGE (Bulgarian Society of Gastroenterology)

- BAU (Bulgarian Association of Ultrasound in Medicine)

- EASL (European Association for the Study of the Liver)

- Member of the Board of the National Program for Screening, Prevention and Treatment of Chronic Viral Hepatitis

- Bulgarian Medical Association

Fluent in written and spoken English and Russian.

The candidate is undoubtedly an excellent gastroenterologist with a long and diverse clinical activity, well known and recognized by his colleagues, both in the gastroenterology community and other related disciplines of the internal medicine, including oncology.

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

Chief Assistant Dr. R. Tsonev presented himself at the competition with a total of 38 scientific papers and one dissertation for the educational and scientific degree "PhD". The candidate is the author of 1 independent monograph and co-author of 2 others, 2 scientific manuals, 33 scientific articles in peer-reviewed scientific journals and 25 scientific reports. Of the 33 scientific articles published for review, 30 are in Bulgarian and 3 in an international scientific journal indexed in the Scopus database and has an impact factor. The total impact factor amounts to 19,865.

Dr. R. Tsonev is an independent author of 1 monograph in Bulgarian and co-author of two, also in Bulgarian, co-author of 2 scientific manuals for gastroenterologists and specialists. In 14 of the articles Dr. Tsonev is the first or independent author (49.8%). The scientific activity of the candidate includes 25 scientific reports and announcements presented in Bulgarian and international scientific forums. In 12 of them he is the first author (48%) and reporter. The citations (according to the references from CMB - Scopus, Web of Science) are a total of 237 (17 Bulgarian citations; Scopus -115; Web of Science - 102; other databases - 3)

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Group of indicators | Content | Requirements for Associate Professor | Points of the candidate |
| А | Indicator 1 | 50 | **50** |
| Б | Indicator 1 | --- | **---** |
| В | In Indicator 3 or 4 | 100 | **100** |
| Г | Sum of indicators from 5 to 9 | 200 | **534.7** |
| Д | Sum of indicators from 10 to 12 | 50 | **1725** |

 Total:400 Total for the candidate:**2459**

The comparison of Dr. Tsonev's data with the national minimum requirements for holding the academic position of "Associate Professor" shows that he covers them, and in a number of points exceeds them.

4. Major scientific contributions

Dr. Tsonev's scientific contributions are diverse and affect various gastrointestinal pathologies of diseases, their diagnosis and treatment. There are three main areas in which Dr. Tsonev has mainly focused his research interests - general gastroenterology, hepatology and psychosomatic medicine.

In the field of gastroenterology, Dr. Tsonev, in a series of scientific publications has examined the problems of acid-related diseases, functional dyspepsia, reflux disease and cholecystokinetic problems in some diseases. Articles dedicated to the current assessment of the individual microbiota, its role in the development of diarrhea are especially relevant. Dr. Tsonev has described and published a rare case of atypical familial Mediterranean fever and differential and diagnosis of Crohn's disease. Of particular interest to me is the unique for Bulgaria technology, introduced by Dr. Tsonev and co-workers, for the treatment of ascites refractory to diuretic treatment in patients with malignant diseases with devices specially designed for this procedure. The method has been used in over 120 patients with complications of cancer with concomitant carcinoma of the peritoneum and is a convenient and reliable alternative to paracentesis.

- In the field of hepatology, Dr. Tsonev has long and lasting scientific interests and you correspond to this number of scientific publications and communications. Impressive is the fact that Dr. Tsonev has contributed to the introduction and validation of non-invasive diagnosis of chronic liver disease through transient elastography in Bulgaria and the associated elimination of the need for liver biopsy for the diagnosis of hepatitis-C. On the other hand, completely in the context of the high gastroenterological competence of the candidate, Dr. Tsonev has many years of experience with invasive diagnosis in patients with autoimmune liver disease, non-alcoholic steatosis, patients with primary liver cancer and metastatic liver disease, of drainage manipulations of abscesses in the liver. An interesting specificity for me in the scientific production of the candidate is the studies of the specific hepatotoxicity of antiretroviral treatment of HIV-infected patients. Together with a team of infectious disease specialists, Dr. Tsonev is a co-author of a significant publication in the International Journal of STD & AIDS, and the authors' conclusions have led to the development and updating of algorithms and consensus for therapeutic behavior in these patient populations.

- In the third field in which the candidate of psychosomatic medicine works, the co-authorship of Dr. Tsonev in a monograph can be considered a significant scientific contribution, where he describes the quality of life of patients with chronic viral C-hepatitis and cirrhosis and the role of chronic liver disease quality of life diseases as part of psychosomatics.

I consider as a scientific contribution the independent monograph of Dr. Radin Tsonev on "Immunomediated side effects of the gastrointestinal tract in the course of therapy in malignant diseases", where the author presents a multidisciplinary model for diagnosis and treatment of gastrointestinal complications from immunotherapy with "chenotherapy" “Cancer inhibitors. After the introduction of modern immunotherapy in 2018 there was a real revolution with the creation of new molecules, so. Checkpoint inhibitors which, in addition to having a significant anti-cancer and immunomodulatory effect on various tumors, also lead to immunomediated adverse reactions of varying severity. Dr. Tsonev presents every aspect of diagnosis and proposes a therapeutic algorithm for successful prevention or treatment of unwanted gastrointestinal toxicity from treatment with immune checkpoint inhibitors in cancer.

5. Teaching and learning activities

The teaching staff of the candidate includes conducting planned exercises and seminars with students, interns and graduates at MU - Sofia and Acibadem City Clinic University Hospital Tokuda EAD. According to the academic report on the study workload of the candidate for the period 2017 - 2022, issued by the Department of Educational Activities, the study employment of Dr. R. Tsonev, according to the accepted criteria, is over 250 hours. These indicators fully cover the requirements for teaching and learning work in the competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor" at Acibadem City Clinic University Hospital Tokuda.

CONCLUSION

Based on the submitted documentation for participation in the competition, I believe that the candidate, Chief Assistant Dr. Radin Tsonev Tsonev, PhD, fully meets the requirements of ZRASRB, Rules for implementation of ZRASRB and Rules for the development of AC in "Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda University Hospital” for the academic position of Associate Professor.

Dr. Tsonev is an established doctor - gastroenterologist, with many years of diverse clinical experience, with sufficient volume and quality of scientometric indicators and real theoretical and practical contributions to his research. Dr. Tsonev also has managerial experience as Head of the Department of Gastroenterology at Acibadem City Clinic UMHAT Tokuda, and is a valuable expert in the multidisciplinary teams at the Hospital.

CONSIDERING THE ABOVE, I GIVE MY POSITIVE ASSESSMENT AND I CONVINCELY RECOMMEND TO THE DEAR MEMBERS OF THE SCIENTIFIC JURY TO VOTE RADIN TSONEV TSONEV TO HOLD THE ACADEMIC POSITION "ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR" IN THE SCIENTIFIC SPECIALTY "GASTROENTEROLOGY" FOR THE NEEDS OF THE CLINIC OF GASTROENTEROLOGY OF "ACIBADEM CITY CLINIC UMHAT TOKUDA”.

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City. Sofia / Assoc.prof. Dr. Zhelyazko Arabadjiev, PhD /.