TO

THE CHAIRMAN

OF THE SCIENTIFIC JURY

DETERMINED BY ORDER N15-05-85 / 28.04.2022

OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND

THE PROSECUTOR OF AJIBADEM CITY CLINIC UMBAL TOKUDA ​​- EAD

**OPINION**

**by Prof. Dr. Krum Katsarov, DSc**

**Head of the Department of Bile-Liver and Pancreas**

**surgery, transplantology and gastroenterology "**

**MMA - Sofia**

*Subject: Procedure for holding the academic position of "Associate Professor" in "Gastroenterology" for the needs of the Clinic of Gastroenterology, Department of Gastroenterology with a single candidate Chief Assistant Dr. Radin Tsonev Tsonev, PhD*

*The competition was announced in the State Gazette, issue 17 / 01.03.2022.*

Dr. Radin Tsonev, PhD graduated in medicine in 1988 at the Medical University - Sofia, then worked as an aviator (Count Ignatievo 1988-90) and resident in the Internal Medicine, Lom (1990-94). From 1994-2007 he was a resident gastroenterologist at the 5th Hospital (Sofia). Since 2007 he has been working at Tokuda University Hospital, successively holding the positions of resident, head of GED and chief assistant at the Gastroenterology Clinic.

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), Gemelli (Rome, three months - 1999). He holds a Certificate in Health Management (2017) and GCP Tokuda, 2008.

He has defended all levels of national certificates in conventional and invasive ultrasound and is one of the leading national specialists in this field.

Fluent in written and spoken English and Russian.

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

There are all the necessary documents corresponding to the content and number of those specified in the Regulations for the development of the academic staff of Acibadem City Clinic UMHAT Tokuda EAD for participation in a competition for the academic position of "Associate Professor".

The research activity of Dr. R. Tsonev is based on his daily work as a gastroenterologist and hepatologist with high specialization and professionalism. Participates in the competition with one dissertation, one independent monograph and 38 scientific papers, distributed as follows:

- Independent scientific works - 13 (34%)

- First author - 4 (11%)

- Second author - 9 (24%)

- Of which referenced in SCOPUS / Web of Science - 5

- Of those with IF - 4

- Publications in journals and collections:

Abroad - 3

In Bulgaria - 35

- Participation in textbooks and manuals - 2

- Monographs (co-authored and independent) - 3

- Participation in international forums - 2

- Participation in national forums with international participation 2

- Participation in national forums - 19

Scientific articles have been published in leading foreign and Bulgarian journals: International Journal of STD & AIDS; Journal of Crohns & Colitis; Journal of Hepatology; Ultrasound in Medicine and Biology

The total IF (Journal Citation Reports - CLARIVATE) of the publications presented by Dr. R. Tsonev is 19,865 (CMB reference for the period 2000 - 2020).

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)

Dr. R. Tsonev's scientific output reflects his versatility research interests in various fields of gastroenterology and hepatology.

Dr. R. Tsonev is a pioneer in the introduction of elastography in everyday practice, as an alternative to liver biopsy method for assessing the degree of liver fibrosis. The applicant's scientific publications in this field are among the main factors that led to the adoption of non-invasive assessment of fibrosis as a basis for building therapeutic behavior and monitoring the results of treatment in patients with chronic liver disease. In most of the works there is a critical analysis and comparison of own results and cited literature data. The publications of Dr. R. Tsonev on the problems related to the treatment of chronic viral diseases of the liver and the therapeutic problems encountered in the conservative treatment of chronic pancreatitis are impressive.

The publications on psychosomatics and gastroenterology are impressive. Emphasis is placed on the fact that in about 40% of the classical approaches to treatment in gastroenterology are not successful, due to the presence and underestimation of existing in these patients, etc. "Functional" (psychosomatic) disorders. Dr. R. Tsonev's efforts to "swim" in these "dark" waters and the thesis of building a diagnostic and therapeutic model of behavior integrating psychological and social parameters with those of somatic medicine, undoubtedly deserve support and admiration.

The results achieved by the candidate are directly related to his ability to work and "fit" into the multidisciplinary teams of the medical institutions in which he works.

The author's reference for the scientific contributions of Dr. R. Tsonev is a logical result of his work, I have no remarks on it.

The teaching staff of the candidate includes conducting planned exercises and seminars with students, interns and graduates at SU - 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 EAD.

Dr. R. Tsonev is an established gastroenterologist, with extensive theoretical training, acquired practical skills and available potential for future development in the academic community.

Given the relevance of the presented research papers (publications, dissertation), meeting the required scientific metrics, active teaching, teaching so far in professional and academic terms, I believe that the candidate, based on the information presented in the attached documents, meets the requirements of the Regulations for development of the Academic staff of Acibadem City Clinic UMHAT Tokuda EAD award of the academic position "ASSOCIATE professor".

Conclusion: I give my positive assessment and I suggest to the Honorable Jury to vote "FOR" Dr. Radin Tsonev Tsonev MD. to take the academic position of "ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR" in the scientific specialty "Gastroenterology" for the needs of the Clinic of Gastroenterology; Department of Gastroenterology of Acibadem City Clinic UMHAT Tokuda EAD.

16.05.2022 Prof. Dr. K. Katsarov, DSc

Sofia city ……………………………..