OPINION by Assoc. prof. Tsvetan Radnev Minchev, PhD

Subject: Competition for the academic position of "Professor" in the field of higher education 7. Health and Sports, Professional field 7.1. Medicine, scientific specialty "Urology" for the needs of the Department of Urology, "Acibadem City Clinic University Hospital Tokuda", published in SG No. 33 / 20.04,2021

The opinion has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Law for Development of the Academic Staff of the Republic of Bulgaria (RASRB), the Regulations for its implementation (PPZRASRB) and the Rules for Development of the Academic Staff in ASK Tokuda Hospital.

My participation as a member of the Scientific jury is based on Order N_{\odot} 319 / 23.06.2021. of the Executive Director and of the Procurator of Acibadem City Clinic UMBAL Tokuda EAD. The deadlines for conducting the competition have been met and the procedure for it is fully compliant with the regulatory requirements.

The only candidate admitted to participate in the competition is Assoc. prof. Dr. Kaloyan Mihailov Davidov, PhD, Head of the Department of Urology at Acibadem City Clinic UMBAL Tokuda EAD.

1. Biographical data and professional development

Dr. Davidov was born on January 31, 1971. We have known each other since childhood. He graduated from the Medical University - Sofia in 1994. During the period 1996 -2000 is a clinical resident at the Hospital "Alexandrovska". In 2000 he was recognized as a specialty in urology, and from 2004 to 2006 is an assistant at the Department of Urology.

Since 2006 he has been the Head of the Department of Urology, since 2014 he has been the Medical Director of the Hospital. From 2018 holds the academic position of "Associate Professor".

2. Research activity

In 2017, Assoc. pProf. Davidov acquired ONS PhD in General Surgery after successfully defending a dissertation on the topic: "Comparative study of the effectiveness and safety of transurethral laser enucleation of the prostate with a diode laser (DiLEP) and transurethral resection of prostate (TURP) "as a doctoral student in independent training at the scientific organization Acibadem City Clinic Tokuda Hospital.

Of the presented total number of publications are 22 after holding the academic position of "Associate Professor", including a single monography, 21 real publications in scientific journals (7 of them in international journals, 3 of which are impact factor) and 18 participations in national scientific forums. The total number of scientific papers is 79, of which 1 dissertation for the acquisition of ONS "PhD", 40 are in scientific journals in Bulgaria and 11 - in international scientific journals. 6 of the publications abroad are in magazines with impact factor. Participations in scientific forums are 28, of which 4 are in international forums.

The total number of citations is 27, of which 12 are self-discovered, 1 is in Scopus. The total Impact factor is 20,942.

According to the requirements of the minimum national criteria for holding the academic

position "Professor" Assoc. Prof. Davidov has 730 points with a minimum requirement of 550 points according to the requirements of NACID.

The presented works, publications, citations and other scientific activities fully meet the current requirements of the Law for the development of the academic staff in the Republic of Bulgaria in the field of higher education 7. Health and Sports, Professional field 7.1. Medicine, scientific specialty "Urology" for the academic position "Professor".

The thematic areas and contributions reflected in the scientific papers are in the field of urology and can be grouped as follows:

1. APPLICATION OF ROBOT-ASSISTED SURGERY - ROBOT DA VINCI

For the first time in Bulgaria, a series of patients who underwent robot-assisted surgery was presented - Da Vinci robot in the field of urology for prostate, bladder or kidney cancer. **Contributions in this area are characterized** by the given detailed recommendations for the necessary equipment and the specifics for conducting robotic surgery of tumors in urology and especially of the kidney. The risk moments and the anatomical variations observed during its implementation are indicated. The surgical technique is presented in detail. As a result, in recent years, robotic surgery for tumors in urology, and especially for kidney tumors, has been performed in more and more centers with good success.

2. APPLICATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF LAPAROSCOPIC SURGERY IN CHILDREN'S UROLOGICAL DISEASES

For the first time in Bulgaria, a series of children with congenital hydronephrosis were presented, in which laparoscopic pyeloplasty was applied as an operative method. The method has been developed worldwide for two decades, as it is minimally invasive and with the same therapeutic efficacy compared to the gold standard - open pyeloplasty. Laparoscopic pyeloplasty is a significant challenge, requiring good experience in laparoscopic surgery due to the technical difficulties of performing the ureteropelvic anastomosis, especially in children. Laparoscopic pyeloplasty in children with congenital hydronephrosis has been found to be an effective and safe method associated with faster recovery of patients.

The contribution is in sharing the own surgical experience and the given recommendations for the necessary equipment and the specifics for conducting laparoscopic pyeloplasty in children with congenital hydronephrosis. The risk moments are indicated. The surgical technique is presented in detail.

For the first time in Bulgaria a series of children with cryptorchidism has been described, in whom the method of laparoscopic orchiopexy has been applied in clinical practice for operative correction.

The contribution is in the use of his surgical experience and on the basis of literature data for giving recommendations for the specifics of laparoscopic orchiopexy in children with cryptorchidism, as well as the proposed detailed surgical technique.

APPLICATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF ENDOUROLOGY AND MINI-INVASIVE SURGERY

The description of the initial experience, short-term results and the effect of the initial learning curve in the introduction of laparoscopic radical prostatectomy in clinical practice is of interest from a theoretical and practical point of view and offers appropriate methodological approaches in this field. The shared experience of the introduction into clinical practice of transurethral anatomical enucleation of the prostate by describing the method, surgical technique and advantages is a good prerequisite for the creation of appropriate algorithms.

3. SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS RELATED TO THE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF CERTAIN UROLOGICAL DISEASES

Through the description of abnormal perforation of the colon in percutaneous nephrolithotripsy, practices for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of perforation of the colon in percutaneous nephrolithotripsy have been established. The establishment of renal damage in diseases associated with the accumulation of iron - hemochromatosis and thalassemia major, is a contribution to expanding knowledge in the field of rare urological diseases. The study of the causes of erectile dysfunction of vascular origin also draws attention to the study of vascular causes of erectile dysfunction.

3. Teaching activity.

The teaching activity of Assoc. prof. Davidov includes training of specialists in urology, training of medical students.

In the academic year 2019/2020 he held 15 hours of lectures (equal to 45 hours of exercises) in Urology for students majoring in "Medicine" - in English, he tested 33 students.

In the school year 2020/2021 he also held 15 hours of lectures and the total school employment for the two school years is 109.8 school hours.

The total study load with graduates and continuing education at ASK UMBAL t Tokuda of 1298 eq. hours for the period 2016-2021. was realized with specialists 1236 eq. h. and 62 h. continuing education.

I have also witnessed the ongoing training of specialists in endoscopic surgery and various technologies in urology.

CONCLUSION

Based on the presented documents and evidence for research activity after taking the academic position of "Associate Professor", the results achieved, the scientific contributions and the workload, I believe that Assoc. prof. Dr. Kaloyan Mihailov Davidov, PhD. is a specialist, scientist and lecturer, innovator and outstanding surgeon, proctor in robot-assisted surgery with over 470 surgical interventions with Davinci.

The report on the fulfillment of the national minimum requirements for holding the academic position "Professor" shows that the total sum of points from all scientometric indicators of the candidate significantly exceeds the set minimum criteria. The scientific production has a scientific-applied character, without repetitions and plagiarism.

This gives me reason to convincingly give my positive vote and to recommend to the members of the esteemed scientific jury to vote positively for the election of Dr. Kaloyan Mihailov Davidov, PhD for holding the academic position of "Professor" in the scientific specialty "Urology".

Prepared the opinion:

(Assoc. Prof. Ts. Minchev)

Date 01.08.2021