

REVIEW

by Prof. Dr. Stoyan Stefanov Handzhiev, DM

regarding the competition for the academic position of Associate Professor at the Clinic of Gastroenterology of Acibadem City Clinic University Hospital, Field 7. Health and Sport, Professional field 7.1. Medicine, 7.2. Dentistry, 7.3. Pharmacy, 7.4. Public Health, 7.5. Health Care, .7.6. Sport

The competition procedure was followed and complies with the requirements according to the established rules. The only participant is Dr. Ani Hagop Chavushyan.

Biographical notes

Dr. Chavushyan was born on 02.12.1967 in Sofia. In 1994 she graduated with Medicine at the Medical Academy, Sofia. Her professional development began in 1995 at the Department of Internal Medicine at the Military Medical Academy, Sofia. She started her specialization in internal medicine in 1995 at the Medical Academy, Sofia. She acquired her specialty in Internal Medicine in 1999. Since 1999 she has been working as a resident physician at the V Hospital. In 2003 she acquired a specialty in Gastroenterology. She continued her medical practice at Tokuda Hospital. From 2012 to the present moment, she has been a physician-gastroenterologist in the system of Acibadem City Clinic University Hospital (Cardiology Center - until 2015; and Mladost).

Dr. Ani Chavushian has recognized specialties in Internal Medicine, Gastroenterology and Dietetics. She has completed specialty training in Abdominal Ultrasonography and Surface Structures Level I, Abdominal Ultrasonography Level II, Abdominal Ultrasonography (Interventional) Level III and Gastrointestinal Endoscopy with certifications in Abdominal Ultrasonography Level I, II and III and Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Level I and II. In 2001, she specialized in Arnhem and Zwolle, the Netherlands with completion of Advanced postgraduate course in Gastroenterology.

Science metrics

Dr. Chavushyan submitted for review 37 scientific papers which include a dissertation, one monograph and 35 publications in Bulgarian and foreign journals, as bonuses I accept her participation in 12 Bulgarian and 17 international forums as first author in 11.

The papers have been published in 30 journals - Bulgarian Hepatogastroenterology, Diagnostic and Therapeutic Ultrasound, Journal of Hepatogastroenterology. Surgery, Medical Magazine, World Journal of Gastrointestinal Pathophysiology, Molecular Syndromology and Journal of Gastrointestinal and Liver Disease with impact factor 13.2 .

The topics of the published papers are in the diagnostic and therapeutic fields:

- Chronic Viral Hepatitis;
- Autoimmune diseases of the liver;
- Porphyrias;

- Complications of liver cirrhosis;
- Primary hepatic carcinoma;
- Azathioprine and 6-mercaptopurine in patients including pregnant women with chronic inflammatory bowel disease;
- Gluten enteropathy;
- Abdominal ultrasonography in the differential diagnosis of patients with diverticular disease associated with ulcerative colitis;
- Intestinal endometriosis of the ileum and appendix;
- Mesenteric cysts and approach to diagnosis;
- Acute diverticulitis;
- Fistulas and diverticular disease;
- Sepsis in diverticular disease;

Most of the publications are of markedly practical and some of them of scientific and practical importance.

The candidate has presented papers at 30 congresses, of which 17 abroad. The topics are similar to those already mentioned.

The published papers are of high professional level, up-to-date, with good methodology, covering extensive clinical material, with modern statistical treatment of the results and competent discussions followed by adequate conclusions.

Dr. Chavushyan presents a contribution with one monograph of his own and a co-author in another.

Dr. Chavushian's research and practice interests are primarily related to inflammatory bowel disease and diverticular disease. Her dissertation on diverticulosis and diverticular disease of the colon is of particularly high scientific and practical potential. The dissertation discusses the risk factors for the development of diverticulosis and its progression to diverticular disease. It is confirmed that the main risk factors for the development of diverticulosis are impaired intestinal motility, age over 60 years and the tendency to herniosis.

For the first time, a specific genetic marker has been investigated as a risk factor for the development of complicated diverticulitis, and the results indicate that carrying certain alleles is not an independent risk factor for the development of surgical diverticulitis. A particular contribution of the thesis is the in-depth analysis of the socioeconomic aspects of diverticular disease in Bulgaria, resulting in an increase in the incidence of the disease and an increase in the costs of its diagnosis and treatment.

Of particular interest to the practical and scientific gastroenterology community is the monographic work "The Known and Unknown Diverticulosis and Diverticular Disease". Thanks to a wealth of own experience, consonant with that of leading international experts and teams, the current terminology and definitions of diverticulosis and diverticular disease are presented in detail. The candidate's experience with regard to imaging diagnostics and especially transabdominal intestinal ultrasonography for the initial diagnosis of the disease, complications and the possibility of long-term monitoring of the effect of treatment has been

demonstrated. The wide arsenal of applications (contrast-enhanced ultrasonography, Doppler and B-Flow modeling, as well as the high level of endoscopic expertise, define Dr. Chavushyan as one of the leading experts not only as a daily practitioner but also as a teaching specialist.

Teaching and training activities

Dr. Chavushyan's teaching activity is related to conducting exercises as a lecturer at the Medical Faculty of Sofia University in the Department of Internal Medicine, Pharmacology, Pediatrics, Epidemiology, Infectious and Skin Diseases. In specifics, it is stated that the teaching workload for the period 2019 - 2023 is a total of 585h, of which 580 - auditorium employment.

Public activities and membership of scientific organizations

Dr. Chavushyan is a member of:

- Bulgarian Medical Association;
- Bulgarian Association of Surgeons, Gastroenterologists, Oncologists;
- Bulgarian Society of Gastroenterology;
- Bulgarian Society of Gastroenterology, Gastrointestinal Endoscopy and Ultrasonography;
- Bulgarian Association of Ultrasound in Medicine;
- ECCO;
- ESGE;
- EFSUMB;
- IBUS Group.

Conclusion

Dr. Chavushyan is an eminent Bulgarian gastroenterologist. Her scientific and research activity is of high professional and intellectual level. Her contributions of theoretical, clinical and methodological nature are correctly noted and correspond to her multifaceted activity.

She is recognized as an authoritative and respected teacher of undergraduates, postgraduates and practitioners in their postgraduate training.

Dr. Chavushyan's professional and personal qualities warrant my positive evaluation regarding his selection as "Associate Professor" of Gastroenterology.

01.05.2024r. Signature:

Sofia

Prof. Dr. Stoyan Handzhiev

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